

## Parish News - AUGUST 2024

### HELLO AGAIN

**W**elcome to the August edition of your Parish Council Newsletter! In this issue we have lots to tell you, including information about Remembrance Sunday, a few 'save the dates' (think Christmas!) and news about the airport and public rights of way. Read on!

### GOOD NEWS ABOUT CATNEY VILLAGE HALL

**F**ollowing the discovery of the leaking the roof on one of the outbuildings, a contractor was appointed and the roof replaced. In addition, the lead coping on the top of the entrance posts has been repaired and repainted and the hall chimney has been capped to stop resident jackdaws from nesting and pecking at the mortar. Now that the building is dry, work to eliminate the leak will be arranged as soon as possible.



As you are likely aware, this year saw the 80th anniversary of the D Day Landings when so many young men lost their lives and others went on to bravely fight for the liberation of France and Europe. **On Remembrance Day this year (the 10th November), Catney Village Hall will revert to being a Church for a Remembrance Day Service when we will pay our respects to the brave men of the D Day landings as well as the heroes from our Village who lost their lives during WW1 and WW2.** Our local hero's names are commemorated on the Font and Jug, the Catney Village War Memorials, in the Village Hall.

### REMEMBRANCE DAY - 10TH NOVEMBER 2024

**A**n early reminder that this year's Remembrance Day service and procession in Hampton-in-Arden will be on Sunday 10th November. **As with previous events Meriden Road/High Street/Solihull Road will be closed to vehicular traffic (regardless of the weather) between the train station and Eastcote Lane from 10.00am and 12.00 noon to allow the procession from the church to the War Memorial and then the service at the war memorial to proceed safely. Restricted vehicle access to Fentham Hall car park (for the church) will be possible up to 10.30am.**

In the case of bad weather, the service may be moved to the church at short notice but the road closures will remain

in place to allow those who wish to attend the war memorial to do so. It is hoped that residents will be able to access the Recreation Ground via Shadowbrook Lane but this is dependent on the expected (partial) re-opening of Catherine-de-Barnes Lane by Skanska/Highways England. Volunteer marshals will be deployed to control traffic. Logistically this is complex and we really need and appreciate the help we receive. **If any residents would like to volunteer to be a marshal on the day, then please contact the Parish Clerk.**



### SAQIB BHATTI RE-ELECTED AS OUR MP

**A**t the General Election held on 4th July Saqib Bhatti was re-elected as the MP for Meriden and Solihull East but with a greatly reduced majority. The full result was as follows:

- Saqib Bhatti (Conservative): 16,972
- Sarah Alan (Labour): 12,208
- Malcolm Sedgley (Reform UK): 8,753
- Sunny Virk (Liberal Democrats): 3,353
- Shesh Sheshabhtter (Greens): 2,929

The Conservatives majority was 4,584 and the turnout was 60%.

Elsewhere, Solihull West and Shirley was held by the Conservatives and Birmingham Hodge Hill and Solihull North was held by Labour.

### BUTTY BREAKFAST - SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY 5TH OCTOBER

**T**here will be a 'Butty breakfast' at Catney Village Hall commencing 10.15 am until 12. Noon on Saturday 5th October. Catney Residents Association Members are welcome to a complimentary bacon or sausage butty with a tea or coffee. However all non-members welcome to join for a small charge of £3.



*Hampton-in-Arden Parish Council*

## HAMPTON IN ARDEN FESTIVAL 2024

**O**ur small village certainly put on a BIG show this year...we didn't let the wet weather early on dampen our spirits, with the car show and stallholders out in force, then we moved into football mode with the addition of the large screen allowing everyone to enjoy the England game.



What an atmosphere! A huge thank you to Warren Fisher and Urban Audio Productions for sourcing this, along with the stage etc, and to those who have kindly donated towards the cost of the screen. It's not too late - if you enjoyed watching the game outdoors in the summer sun then feel free to contribute. Contact the organisers via the Festival Facebook page or the website: [www.hamptoninardenfestival.weebly.com](http://www.hamptoninardenfestival.weebly.com)

Once the football was over, we still managed to cram in a whole lot of music, culminating with our headliners – **2 Weeks Notice, and our fabulous firework display!**

**This event doesn't just happen, so a massive thank you to everyone who contributes to the planning, build up, managing & organising, provision of resources, acting as compere, sponsorship etc...there are too many to mention, but you know who you are.**

We are still working out exactly how much has been raised and will share this with you soon, but there will be plenty going back into our village, so thank you.

## CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON EVENT – SAVE THE DATE!

**W**e are thrilled to announce that Hampton in Arden will once again be hosting its highly anticipated Christmas Light Switch on Event at the Village Green on **Friday, December 6th.**



Get ready for an evening filled with festive cheer as we gather to witness the magical moment when the Village of Hampton in Arden is illuminated with beautiful Christmas lights. But that's not all! The event will be graced with the presence of Santa Claus himself, along with other special guests who will add an extra sprinkle of joy to the festivities.

*Mark your calendars and bring your family and friends along to join us. We can't wait to see you there!*

## PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY – PROGRESS AND REPAIRS!

**T**here have been some important successes of late in getting repairs made to a couple of our most-used footpaths. **In particular, the boardwalk on the approach to the Packhorse Bridge.** This is now once again in good condition. Some of the overhanging vegetation needs clearing, and that will be attended to by ourselves in conjunction with Berkswell Parish Council. Another bridge in Catherine de Barnes, that over the River Blythe

on Ravenshaw Lane, has also been repaired. The new permissive footpath from the recreation ground to Bickenhill and beyond will open once the M42 link road works are completed. This is expected to be in early 2025.

*We continue to monitor all paths and highlight any problems for notification to Solihull Council. Your feedback via the Clerk is always welcomed.*

## AIRPORT NIGHT FLYING POLICY RENEWAL

**T**he night flying policy for Birmingham Airport is due for renewal this October as part of the airports ongoing planning conditions. Your Parish Council representatives along with other local community groups have been attending meetings with the airport via the Airport Consultative Committee to understand the airport plans for the updated policy and to put forward the needs of local residents.

We have put pressure on the airport to write the new policy with the local community in mind, particularly with respect to the number of flights and the type of aircraft that are allowed to fly at night. Unfortunately, this engagement is only consultative and we have no direct right of veto so ultimately the policy approval will be decided by Solihull Council. Birmingham airport is a 24-hour operation and has seen significant and ongoing growth which is expected to continue both day and night.

## SCHOOL GOVERNOR VACANCY

**T**he George Fentham Trust are looking for a volunteer to fill the current vacancy as one of their eight appointed school governors at the George Fentham Endowed School which is a single form entry primary school of approximately 240 pupils.

**This is an excellent and rewarding opportunity to be involved in the education of local children within our Parish.**

*If this is something that is of interest to you, or you know someone who might be interested, please email Claire Hawkes, the Clerk to the governors at [chawkes@solgrid.org.uk](mailto:chawkes@solgrid.org.uk), who can provide more details or answer any initial queries about the post.*

## A FEW REMINDERS...

- **Parking on pavements:** Please avoid parking on pavements if at all possible. If you do have to park using the footpath, please bear in mind that mums with prams/buggies and people using mobility scooters need to be able to get past.
- **Dog Fouling:** Dog fouling bins are provided for your use (along with bags should you have run out of them on your walk or forgotten them at home). The Parish Council have arranged for these bins to be emptied twice weekly. Please make use of them. Thank you.
- **Hedgerow Cutting:** Please can we remind residents to trim any hedgerows or vegetation that overhangs onto public rights of way or footpaths (particularly along the High Street where footpaths are particularly narrow). Of course, please ensure that you are able to do this safely.

## WHERE TO FIND YOUR PLANNING NEWS

Details of current planning applications and their status, and the Parish Council's responses, can be viewed on our website <https://hamptoninarden.org.uk> under the headings 'Your Parish Council' and then 'Planning'.

## GEORGE FENTHAM TRUST UPDATE

- In his will, George Fentham left a sum of £20 per year to pay for a schoolmaster in the Parish of Hampton-in-Arden. Fast forward 325 years and the village now has a thriving village school which continues to receive support from the Trust. At our last meeting, the Trustees approved a request to commit to funding for the school of £80,000 per annum for the next three years.
- Due to the very wet weather in the Spring, we were unable to re-seed the original wildflower meadow area this year. However, two new areas were created near the pond which will hopefully provide a wonderful display later in the summer.
- The Trust funds and runs the Wednesday Day Club for elderly village residents. The Day Club recently visited Webbs of Wychbold Garden Centre near Bromsgrove and enjoyed a carvery lunch at The March Hare in Boughton Hackett for their summer outing. Our thanks, as ever, to the team of volunteers who help to run the Club and provide them with home cooked puddings, cakes and scones.
- The Trust was established to support the residents of Hampton-in-Arden village. The Trust may be able to provide financial and/or practical support to any village resident who finds themselves in hardship. Applications for assistance must be made in writing and sent to the Clerk either by post to George Fentham Meeting Room, Marsh Lane, Hampton-in-Arden, Solihull B92 0AH or by email [clerk@georgfenthamtrust.org.uk](mailto:clerk@georgfenthamtrust.org.uk)

## THE HAMPTON IN ARDEN SOCIETY: SAVE THE DATE – 13TH SEPTEMBER - QUIZ WITH FISH 'N CHIP SUPPER

**T**he Hampton Society is organising a quiz night at Fentham Hall on the 13th September at 7pm and invites you to arrange a table of up to 6 friends or allow us to allocate you to a table and introduce you to other residents from the village. There will be several general knowledge rounds including one to test your local knowledge of Hampton and a fish and chip supper half way through the evening.

*Tickets will go on sale in August and be available from the Corner Shop and our other usual outlets. Further details to follow on the Hampton in Arden Facebook page.*



## CLUBS SECTION

- **Hampton-in-Arden Sports Club** - Contact [committee@hamptonsportsclub.org.uk](mailto:committee@hamptonsportsclub.org.uk). For more details on the individual sections, Pétanque, Cricket, Hockey, Tennis, Squash, and Pickleball, go to the website <https://hamptonsportsclub.org.uk>
- **The Hampton Health & Fitness Club** - Contact Gareth Thomas [gareth@thehampton.co.uk](mailto:gareth@thehampton.co.uk)
- **Hampton Badminton Club** - Contact Mary Daymond - [randmdaymond@hotmail.com](mailto:randmdaymond@hotmail.com)
- **Hampton Bowls Club** - Contact peter.j.green@live.co.uk
- **Hampton Rainbows, Brownies, and Guides** - Contact Fiona Bubb [fiona@bubb.net](mailto:fiona@bubb.net)
- **Hampton-in-Arden Gardening Club** - Contact David Bixby [davidbixby59@gmail.com](mailto:davidbixby59@gmail.com)
- **The Conservation Group** - Contact Alan Seal [alanseal@hotmail.com](mailto:alanseal@hotmail.com)
- **The Hampton Beekeeping Group** - Contact Sarah Rickard [sarahmrickard@icloud.com](mailto:sarahmrickard@icloud.com)
- **Catney Craft Club** - Contact Lesley Cuthbert [cuthbertlm@me.com](mailto:cuthbertlm@me.com)
- **The Hampton Singers** - Contact [www.hamptonsingers.co.uk](http://www.hamptonsingers.co.uk)
- **Hampton Wine Society** - Contact Margaret Elsy at [hamptonwinesoc@gmail.com](mailto:hamptonwinesoc@gmail.com)
- **Solihull Scale Model Club** - Contact Alexander Clayson [a-clayson@hotmail.com](mailto:a-clayson@hotmail.com) or visit their Facebook site.
- **The Hampton Probus Club** - Contact [peter.j.green@live.co.uk](mailto:peter.j.green@live.co.uk)
- **The Local History Group** - Contact [info@hamptoninardenhistory.org](mailto:info@hamptoninardenhistory.org)

## LIBRARY NEWS AND EVENTS

**Opening Hours: Tuesday 2pm – 5pm, Thursday 2pm – 5pm, Friday 2pm – 5pm.**

- **A Warm Welcome:** As part of offering a warm welcome to everybody who comes through our door, Hampton Library are providing both warm and cold drinks to library customers. There is no charge for this, but donations are welcome if you wish.
  - **2024 Summer Reading Challenge - Marvellous Makers:** Every year, the Summer Reading Challenge helps children to keep up reading through the summer holiday. They just need to read six books of their choice to complete the challenge and there are rewards along the way to make it extra fun. This year, the theme is Marvellous Makers, celebrating creativity and firing up children's imaginations! We will have activities throughout the summer holidays too. **Children can join the Summer Reading Challenge starting Tuesday 9th July, and if they're not already a library member, all you need is something official with an adult guarantor's name and address.**
  - **Drop-In Crafts: Marvellous Making:** This summer, to celebrate the 2024 Summer Reading Challenge, Marvellous Makers, we will have a drop-in craft table with customisable crafts where you can show your creativity to the world! All crafts will be suitable for ages 5 and up, and there will be simpler activities for younger children too. **The craft table will be running: Tuesday 20th August, Thursday 22nd August, and Friday 23rd August.**
  - **Stories & Painting for Under 5s:** Every Tuesday at 2:15pm, we read a fun story and do some painting or colouring to go with it! Suitable for under 5s. Warm water to wash hands is provided, but we recommend wearing clothes that can get messy.
  - **Drop-In Crafts: Creepy Creations for Half Term:** Drop in to our craft table to make some special spooky things for Halloween. All crafts will be suitable for ages 5 and up, and there will be simpler activities for younger children too. The craft table will be running on: Tuesday 29th October, Thursday 31st October, and Friday 1st November.
  - **Readers Tea and Talk:** Join us for a hot drink and a chat about any books we've read each month. We have a monthly theme to kick off conversation but talk about any books are welcome. We meet every month on a Friday at 2:15pm. Dates and themes are Friday 9th August (Overseas) and, Friday 13th September (Fire) Friday 18th October (Short stories).
- All information here is accurate at the time of writing. See [www.solihull.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/libraries) and [www.facebook.com/hamptoninardenlibrary](https://www.facebook.com/hamptoninardenlibrary) for the latest updates.*

## AVERAGE SPEED CAMERAS COMING SOON TO HAMPTON!

**We are delighted to report that average speed cameras will be installed in the village this summer.**

In addition, the Parish Council is liaising with the Highways team at Solihull Council on a number of matters within the

Parish including parking difficulties, overhanging vegetation and road surface issues.

We will continue to keep you up to date via our website and social media channels.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **24th August:** Hampton Wombles Litter Pick (meet at 11am in White Lion car park)
- **2nd September:** Catherine-de-Barnes Residents Association (RA) Committee Meeting
- **11th September:** Parish Council Meeting (7.30pm at George Fentham Meeting Room)
- **14th September:** Hampton Wombles Litter Pick (meet at 11am in White Lion car park)
- **7th October:** Catherine-de-Barnes RA Committee Meeting
- **12th October:** Hampton Wombles Litter Pick (meet at 11am in White Lion car park)
- **Residents Association Committee Meetings:** *Any changes to the date will be notified on social media/and our website. Meetings take place at 7.30pm. Any resident wishing to raise an issue with the Committee can do so, at least 48 hours before the meeting, by contacting [secretary@catney.co.uk](mailto:secretary@catney.co.uk). Any items of importance discussed at the meetings or decisions made, are communicated to members via Catney News, which is distributed to members only.*

## THANK YOU TO THE HAMPTON SOCIETY!

**We** would like to say a huge thank you to the Hampton Society who have provided a new bench at the Under 7s playground at the Recreation Ground.

*Doesn't it look fantastic?!*



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

**D**on't forget to check out our website ([www.hamptoninarden.org.uk](http://www.hamptoninarden.org.uk)) and Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/pg/HamptonInArdenParishCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/pg/HamptonInArdenParishCouncil)) for up to date information between Newsletters.