

Wheathampstead Magazine



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June 2026



Charity Music Festival
Fancy a Local Allotment?
Great British Garden Party

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THE SWAN

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WELCOME

It's always obvious when blue skies and summertime are approaching as the content for the magazine begins to change and there's definitely more about various things happening outside.

This month we hear about an interesting and probably rather exciting fun event called the Bubble Rush, which is more or less just how it sounds, i.e. rushing through bubbles, although there are more details on page 17.

There's also some details about the start of Alfresco dining at one of our favorite places, that's the Potting Shed Café at Carpenter's Nursery and the NGS has plenty of suggestions for hosting your very own great British Garden Party to help to raise funds for various charities.

There's also news of a charity music festival, JOCAfest, held each year and if you've ever fancied the idea of keeping a plot on an allotment, we have some details about what's available locally.

Aside from that, we hear from local tax experts Origami Accounting about HMRC changes and we heard from the local branch of the Royal British Legion about collections for the poppy appeal later in the year.

As usual, there's plenty to do and see in and around our area in the What's On section, including a special concert by a local choral society.

Eve X

eve@minimagazines.co.uk

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Useful Phone Numbers

Doctors Surgery: Marford Road
01582 832258

Dentist: Marford Road 01582
833 408

Gas Emergency: 0800 111 999

Electricity Emergency: 0800
404 090

Power Cuts: 105

Healthline: 111

Police non emergency: 101

Parish Council: 01582 832541

County Council: 0300 123 4040

Local Pharmacy: 01582 832102

Help Lines

Mind: 0845 766 0163

Advice for Mental Health Issues

The Samaritans: Freephone 116123

Confidential non-judgemental
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Alcoholics Anonymous:

0845 769 7555

Stroke helpline: 0845 303 3100

Advice from the Stroke Association

Age Concern: 0800 00 99 66

Frank: 0800 77 66 00

Advice about drugs from professional
advisers

Beating Eating Disorders:

0845 634 1414

Cruse Day by Day: 0844 477 9400

Help and support for people who are
bereaved

Macmillan CancerLine:

0808 808 2020

Autism Helpline: 0845 070 4004

58 Years Ago

In June 1968, Robert F. Kennedy was shot and mortally wounded while in Los Angeles. Allied with the plight of the poor and disadvantaged in America, he spoke out against racial discrimination, economic injustice and the Vietnam War. In March of 1968, he had announced his candidacy for the presidency and with the win in California, appeared to be headed for the nomination.



Did you know...

It seems that June really is a great month for open gardens as there are plenty to see in and around our area. Check out some great gardens that are open to the public this month near you at National Garden Scheme (NGS) <https://ngs.org.uk/>

Bank Holidays

Now we've got the bank holidays of Easter and May out of the way, it's time to get back to gardening at the weekends, but if the weather is kind, some might be keen on evening gardening too. Our friends at Carpenter's Nursery have a smashing array of bedding plants, bushes, trees and more available to dress up every garden.

Thought for June

Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.

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What's On... regularly

• Foodbank

Confidentiality is assured. We now hold this at the Memorial Hall in Marford Road, still every Thursday but from 11:30am - 1:30pm. Tel: 01727 613019

• Recreation for the Retired

The Chapel Halls Brewhouse Hill All welcome. Various activities available. 2pm-4pm most Fridays

• Bluebell Memory Cafe

Activities for those people living with memory-related conditions and their supporters Meets at the Mead Hall every 1st and 3rd Wednesday (except August). All welcome. Enquiries to: Isobel Poole, 07949 630228.

• W.A.S.P.S. After School Play-Scheme

Fantastic, affordable and experienced child-care before and after school each day, Beech Hyde Primary School, www.wasps-asc.org

• Quiz

The Swan Wheathampstead. Wednesday 10th and 24th June, 7.30.

• Herts Musical Memories

Singing for people with dementia & their carers/loved ones. Monday mornings 10.30am - 12.00 midday. Memorial Hall Call Wendy Hyams 07483 307545 or Kerry Brabant 020 8950 5757

• Silver Moon Café

Alone/divorced/widowed/isolated, we welcome any age, free hot/cold drinks, & cakes. Socialise, meet new people & make friends. 11-12.30 last Wednesday of the month, Mead Hall, East Lane.

• Community Library

Wheathampstead Community Library Monday - Thursday 2pm - 6pm and Saturday 9am-1pm. Knit Natter & Know Craft group every Wednesday 10am-Noon. Fire Station and Library Marford Road Wheathampstead.

• Roast & Meat Raffle

Weekly Sundays at The Swan, Wheathampstead

• Swan Bingo & Pizza

It's Eyes down once again for a great night of Bingo Fun at your favourite local pub in Wheathampstead Village 4th June, 7.30 with pizza and burgers at The Swan,

• Harpenden Riding for Disabled (RDA)

Lessons to local people (over the age of 5) with physical disabilities or learning difficulties. Wednesdays 4.15-5.00 pm & 5.00 -5.45pm early Spring through Autumn. Sandridgebury equestrian centre, Sandridge. Contact harpendenrda@yahoo.co.uk and via FB

Please contact event organisers for full details, ticket prices and availability.

What's On This Month

• Worldwide Travel Showcase – 2nd June

Thinking about your next holiday? Join APT Travel Group for a relaxed, informative event and get a clear understanding of where to go, what to expect, and how to choose the right trip for you. You can expect a relaxed sit-down session where you can hear directly from travel experts, ask questions about destinations and travel styles, get clear, practical guidance (no hard sell). Spaces are limited — register now to secure your place. Tuesday 2 June Aldwickbury Park Golf Club, Piggottshill Ln, AL5 1AB www.travelmarvel.com/en-gb/connect-with-us/events

• Live Music 6th June

Live music from rock covers band Stoneheart Come on down to the Swan in Wheathampstead Village on Saturday 6th June 9pm. Free entry.

• Bubble Rush 14th June

Gadebridge Park in Hemel Hempstead will be transformed into a sea of colourful bubbles for The Hospice of St Francis' annual Bubble Rush bubbly family fun day! You can walk, toddle, dance or skip your way through eight bubble stations and enjoy the party atmosphere in the park. The event village will be open with food, drink and fun activities for all the family. Book your place at; www.stfrancis.org.uk/bubblerush Sunday 14th June.

• Harpenden Choral Society Concert 20th June

This concert brings together two contrasting yet complementary works Puccini; Messa Di Gloria & Rutter; Magnificat, conducted by Musical Director John Andrews. Tickets are available at Thompsons Close Café, Thompsons Close, Harpenden AL5 4ES and from tickets@harpendenchoralsociety.org or online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/harpendenchoralsociety Saturday 20th June at 7.30 pm St John's, Church, St John's Road, Harpenden, AL5 1DJ.

• Music Festival JOCA 20th June

Annual charity music festival in aid of Just One Click Away (JOCA) stages with Lots of great local bands performing. Food stalls, Pimms Bar, Prosecco Bar, Gin Bar, bottled beer etc as well as bouncy castle and Face painting. Why not bring a Picnic. Please go along and support this very worthwhile cause and enjoy a great day out too, on Saturday 20th June from 1 pm – till late at Welwyn Rugby Football Club, Hobbs Way, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6HX. For tickets www.eventbrite

• Father's Day Special 21st June

Treat your dad and bring the family to a special scrumptious Roast Lunch in the friendly atmosphere of the Swan Pub in Wheathampstead Village 12 - 3.30 Sunday 21st June, Call 01582 833110.

• Wheathampstead u3a 25th June

The speaker will be Nick Blatchley. His talk is entitled "Wicked Ladies & Pie Men – Highway Robbery in Hertfordshire". Nick is a lifelong storyteller and writer; and has published novels, short stories and poetry. He has had a varied career, including bookselling, engineering and copywriting – and he has even been an artist's model. Thursday 25th June, Memorial Hall at 2:00 for 2:30pm.

• Folk Night 25th June

Live Folk music in the ever-popular Folk Night. Come on down to the Swan in Wheathampstead Village on Thursday 26th May 8pm. Free entry.

• Luton Bead Fair 27th June

Bead show with semi-precious gemstone beads and pearls for making great jewellery. New beads just imported Free admission and free refreshments to early visitors. Saturday 27th June 11am to 4pm. mrbeadshop.com/pages/luton-bead-fair tel 07576134264;

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Please Note: Events, dates and times correct at time of going to press.

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Local Update



Royal British Legion Local Poppy Appeal

The Royal British Legion has been supporting Service men and women, ex-serving personnel and their families since 1921 and the tradition of a Two Minute Silence had been established since then too.

The first ever Poppy Appeal was also held that year. The poppies sold out almost immediately and raised over £106,000; a considerable amount at the time.



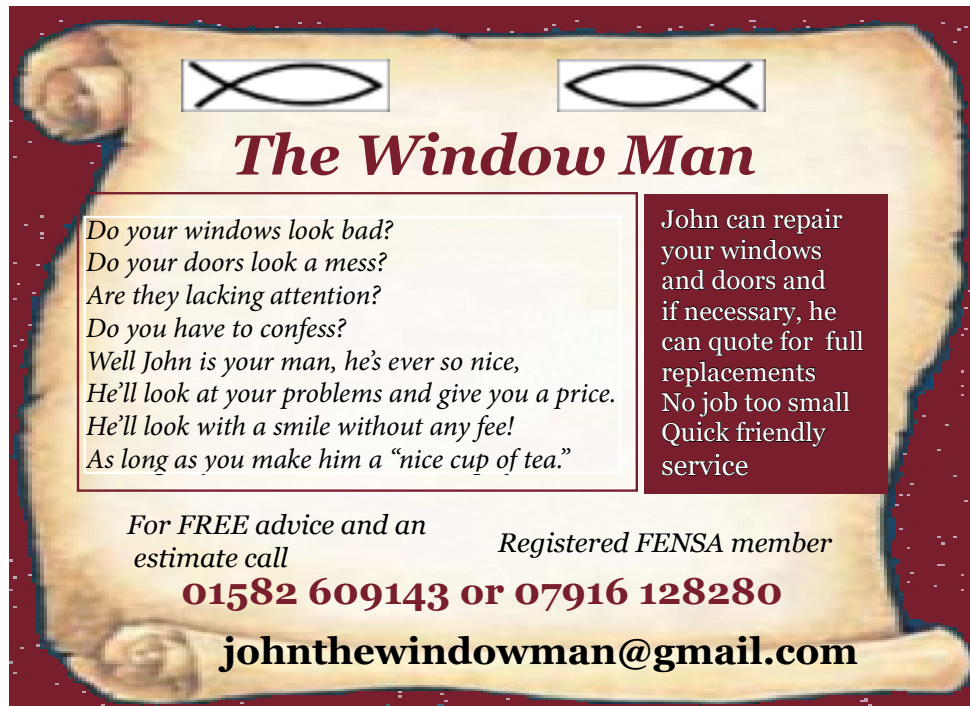
This money was used to help WW1 veterans with employment and housing. Their support is a lifeline for thousands of serving and ex-serving personnel and their families. The Royal British Legion is working hard to support the most vulnerable in our society, be it older veterans that we care for, those who suffer from social isolation, or those who are simply overwhelmed by the challenges associated with the cost-of-living crisis. The red poppy is the symbol of Remembrance. It remembers the sacrifices of those who have served their nation. It

shows support for today's Armed Forces community. It represents hope for a peaceful future.

For more than a century the poppy has been worn, collected in wreaths, its petals dropped, and represented in countless ways as a mark of respect and Remembrance. To wear one is a personal choice and is greatly appreciated by the Royal British Legion. The Royal British Legion Harpenden Poppy Appeal Organiser, Rosemary and her team of helpers have now taken on arranging for Poppies to be available in Wheathampstead. The collecting period for the 2026 Appeal is Saturday 24th October to Saturday 7th November. Supplies are delivered to and collected from business premises by a team member.

Rosemary said: "We would like to thank the businesses, schools etc who have already supported us. If you are a business who is not already on our list and would like to have a collecting tin and Poppies in your premises for the two weeks of Remembrance please contact Rosemary on 07983 429771 by 31st August, 2026. All monies collected enable the Royal British Legion to continue their welfare work supporting Veterans, Serving Personnel and their families during their time of need.

If you are a Veteran, know of a Veteran or are a Serving Personnel who may need help or support please call the contact centre on 0808 802 8080 which is open 7 days a week 8am to 8pm.



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Local Allotments

Allotments offer a wide range of physical, mental, and environmental benefits, and can act as a real stress buster. Allotments are a great source of fresh food, a hub for community meet ups as well as being great for connecting with nature and getting some regular exercise too.

While setting up a new plot can be hard work, tending a plot is a rewarding, full-body workout involving digging, planting, and weeding. The long-term rewards can be extremely worthwhile and create a budget-friendly way to get high-quality produce as well as being a cheap relaxing hobby. Growing your own food from seed provides immense satisfaction, especially when trying to grow varieties not found in shops. You can grow your own fresh, organic fruit and vegetables, knowing exactly what has gone into the soil, which often means healthier, pesticide-free food.

Understandably perhaps, it seems that Allotments are very popular across the UK, with demand surging in recent years to the point where many people are on waiting lists to actually get a plot of their own to work with.

With four allotments in total, Wheathampstead does have vacant plots. There are two allotments in Marford road, one in Gustard Wood and another in the Folly, and some of these do have vacant plots of various sizes.

If you don't have a garden of your own or even if you do and you'd like to have your own plot to develop, grow things and take care of in a local allotment, just contact the parish council.

They will arrange for someone to show you around the allotments and point out those plots that are vacant.

It seems that the people that tend plots in allotments are a friendly bunch and have



their own Facebook page too. If you can imagine sharing in the joy of growing things like Courgettes and Tomatoes as well as various exotic types of fruit and veg, perhaps it's time to find yourself a local plot. Parish Council <https://wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk/allotments-and-grazing/>

Local help for Making Tax Digital

Starting in April this year, the first tranche of sole traders and landlords are required by law to keep digital records to comply with the requirements of Making Tax Digital (MTD) for income tax. This is undoubtedly the biggest shake-up to the UK income tax system in the last thirty years. We spoke to Amy Good-Chin at local accountants and tax specialists, Origami Accounting & Advisory Limited to find out more.

Amy (pictured over) explained that the driving forces behind the overhaul are modernisation of the tax system, reduction of administrative errors and closing the tax gap (the gulf *Continued on page 12*)








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between the amount of tax owed and what actually ends up in the coffers). In HMRC's words, the new approach is designed to "help customers avoid errors and make submitting their tax returns easier."

This is a fundamental change to the way sole traders and landlords report their results to HMRC and will eventually apply to almost everyone who receives income from self-employment and/or property.

How will changes affect me?

Amy told us that in order to comply with the requirements, taxpayers will need to



use software, apps or spreadsheets to keep digital records; file quarterly summaries of their income and expenses using MTD-compliant software; and complete a final annual submission of taxable profit for the accounting period at the end of the year. This will replace the current self-assessment tax return.

The quarterly updates will be a summary of income and expenses from your digital records. You will not be required to make accounting or tax adjustments to the figures unless you choose to. If you discover an error in the previous quarter's update you can correct it in the next one, as quarterly updates are cumulative. The deadlines for

submitting quarterly updates will be 7th August, 7th November, 7th February and 7th May each year.

HMRC is not providing its own record-keeping software or platform. Instead, taxpayers must choose from a list of MTD-approved software providers. Your accountant will be able to recommend the right commercial software solutions that meet the MTD requirements for you.

When do I need to join?

If you are self-employed or a landlord and your combined income from trading and/or property before expenses ('qualifying income') is over £50,000 a year you will be required to meet the MTD requirements from April 2026. MTD will extend to those with qualifying income over £30,000 from April 2027 and £20,000 from April 2028. An individual needs to comply with MTD from April 2026 if the qualifying income reported on their 2024/25 self assessment tax return is over £50,000. You can use HMRC's online eligibility checker at GOV.uk to decide when you will be required to join MTD. If you are trading as a limited company or partnership, you will not be required to join MTD.

Amy who is fellow of the ICAEW and Founder of Origami Accounting and Advisory Limited said: "We have been preparing to help our clients navigate the changes for some time, so contact us without delay to discuss what you need to do to get your business MTD-ready." See page 18.

Time for Alfresco

It's June and it seems that suddenly the weather is warmer and the skies are more blue too. That surely means that it must be time to start thinking about Alfresco dining!

They say that eating and drinking in



outdoor settings can reduce stress, enhance flavours, and provide a welcome change of scenery from traditional indoor settings. So, if you are looking for somewhere to take advantage of fresh air, natural light, scenic views as well as great food and drink choices, plan a visit to The Potting Shed Café at Carpenters Nursery & Farm shop. Alfresco dining is now available on their lovely patio. There's drinks and cakes and you can choose from both main and bistro menus.

There are also new summer specials on offer as well as various popular dishes such as peach salad and confit of Carpenter's own grown tomatoes & duck waffle. Oh, and don't forget to ask about their new range of absolutely scrummy summer desserts and cheesecakes... but save some for me! *Eve*

Continued on page 17



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Winners - Car Care Centre of the Year 2022 Winners - Customer Excellence Award 2022



It's a Bubble Rush

If you are wondering what that is all about, it's simple really – just rushing about in foamy bubbles! It's something for everyone from tots to teens and grown-ups to grandparents who can enjoy the masses of multi-coloured pink, yellow, green and blue foamy bubble stations on the 5km bubble-filled fun run route whilst raising funds for local hospice care at the Hospice of St Francis

Shannen Avis, Events Manager at The Hospice of St Francis said, "On Sunday 14th June, come join us and 2000 local people for our bubbly family fun day! You can walk, toddle, dance or skip your way through eight bubble stations and enjoy the party atmosphere in the park. Our event village will be open with food, drink and fun activities for all the family. By joining us you will be helping us raise much-needed funds to support people living with life-limiting illnesses."

Rebecca Sladden, who is a doctor at the Hospice, sees the day as a perfect blend of fun, family time and meaningful support for a cause close to her heart. She said: "I'm

so excited to finally experience Bubble Rush with my family this year. My kids can't wait, and it feels wonderful to be supporting the Hospice in a way that's joyful, active and full of laughter."

Besides bubbles, there will be zorbing, entertainment, music and tempting food trucks in the event village. With everything from burgers and chips to candyfloss and ice cream, the flavours of summer will delight visitors young and old.

Registration for Bubble Rush is now open so book your place today: stfrancis.org.uk/bubblerush

See *What's on* page 7 for more details.

Great British Garden Party

The National Garden scheme (NGS) has announced a big garden get-together and everyone's invited. NGS suggest having a gathering of friends, family and colleagues for a garden get-together as part of the NGS Great British Garden Party this year.

They said: "Think sunshine, cake and flowers! Gather your friends and family for a garden

Continued on page 18



get-together in aid of some of the UK's best-loved nursing and health charities.

Why hosting a Great British Garden Party means so much

Every penny raised through the annual fundraiser, the 'Great British Garden Party'

makes a difference to the vital nursing and health charities that are supported by NGS. As the single largest funder of Marie Curie's work, the longest standing partner of Macmillan Cancer Support and a key funder for Hospice UK, Carers Trust,

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Parkinson's UK and The Queen's Institute of Community Nursing, the consistent and generous funding by the NGS is of significant importance to the continuing operations of these charities.

So, if you want to help, get your family and friends together for a small-scale event. A cake sale or plant sale at your front gates or an afternoon tea in the garden. Every penny raised makes a difference. For more information and to get involved visit <https://ngs.org.uk/gardenparty>

A Great Local Festival

The Amazing charity music festival in Welwyn, JocaFest, is scheduled again this year in June. It's live music from a number of local bands, plus family entertainment, fantastic food & drink but, most importantly, great company and all

to support the fantastic work done by local charity Just One Click Away (JOCA). Founded, following the tragic and sudden

Suicide is the biggest killer of young men in the UK, every 16 minutes someone takes his own life, leaving behind a ripple of devastation that affects family, friends, teammates and work colleagues forever.

loss of three young playing members of Welwyn Rugby Club through suicide, JOCA offers round the clock support for those suffering from Mental Health issues. Joca continues to grow and is now in many Rugby clubs in Herts, Essex, Beds and Cams. Totally self-funded and run by volunteers, JOCA can offer access to one of



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three specialist Counsellors free of charge, something that they are understandably proud of.

A Joca spokesperson told us: “Raising money for the JOCA cause is good, but not the sole aim of the event as we want to bring people together and raise awareness and better understanding of mental health. As a bi-product, we raise money and it ALL goes to provide free and immediate access to our counsellors.”

This time at the festival there will be a Prosecco Bar, an Aperol Bar, a Pimms Bar as well as a Gin Bar! There will be various food stalls, bouncy castles and Face painting. Bring a Picnic. Come along and support this very worthwhile cause and enjoy a great day out too.

See What’s On page 7 for more details.

Choral Society Concert

Harpden Choral Society will be presenting a concert bringing together two contrasting yet complementary works. Conducted by Musical Director John Andrews with the King’s Sinfonietta, soloists Susanna MacRae, Lawrence

Thackeray, Felix Kemp and organist Richard Gowers.

Puccini’s *Messa di Gloria*, written when he was just 21, shows the early brilliance of a composer who would later become one of opera’s great storytellers. Full of sweeping melodies, lively choruses and warm, expressive solos, the music is rich, dramatic and instantly appealing.

John Rutter’s *Magnificat*, first performed in 1990, is bright, rhythmic and uplifting. Inspired by the vibrant festival celebrations in Spanish speaking countries, it sparkles with energy and moments of calm reflection. Although written more than a century apart, both works bring sacred texts to life with memorable melodies, expressive choral writing and a shared spirit of joy and praise.

This season marks the Harpenden Choral Society’s 50th Anniversary. The choir has gone from strength to strength in the last 50 years performing a wide range of works from all periods to audiences in Harpenden and the local area. A spokesperson said: “We hope you can join us for this final concert of the season as we celebrate this significant milestone.”

See *What’s On* page 7 for more details.





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Clubs and Groups

Tennis

We are a friendly Tennis Club with plenty of opportunities to play social and competitive tennis. We offer a comprehensive coaching programme for Adults and Children from the age of 4. Members and non-members welcome. For more information pop down to Club night on Wednesday evening, or to Sunday morning social. Alternatively check out: www.wltc.org.uk or email us on: wheatltc@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you on court soon.

Thursday Club

A friendly, volunteer-run companionship and support Club for Wheathampstead residents who are over 60 and unable to access other activities without support. The Club meets every Thursday from 10am-2pm. Tea/Coffee is provided upon arrival, followed by a home cooked meal and then we finish with some form of entertainment. Transport to and from the Mead Hall can be arranged. To find out more, or if you have any questions, call Val Hughes on 01582 629682 or Michael Corley on 01582 833018.

The Village Surgeries PG.

The objective of the group is to contribute wherever possible to the health improvements in Wheathampstead and Harpenden. We are now arranging monthly medical talks on-line. There are also newsletters 4 times a year where members can gain information about local initiatives. We are always looking for new members and it is free to join and participate. To be included and receive the newsletter and get details of the talks please send a request to chair@thevillagesurgeriesppg.co.uk

Archery

Wheathampstead Archery club was founded in 1956, and has about 70 members. Always happy to welcome newcomers; beginners or experienced. Beginners will need to complete

a beginner course run by our Archery GB qualified club coaches. There is a Junior Section for under-18s, but the minimum age is 10. <http://wheathampsteadarchery.org.uk/>

Forging Friendship Club

Affiliated to the Men's Sheds Association, this new club has recently formed in Wheathampstead. Members meet socially and form friendships while facilitating creativity, passing on skills and learning from each other. Meet weekly on Wednesday at 10am to 12 pm in the Old Forge building near the entrance to the Meads. To join or find out more email: forgingfriendshipsclub@gmail.com

Wheathampstead Baby & Toddler Group

We are a relaxed and friendly group for 0-4 year-olds and their parents and carers, run by parent-volunteers. We provide toys, craft, music, snacks, hot drinks and the chance to get to know other local people. We meet every Friday during term time, 9:45-11:15am at The Memorial Hall on Marford Road.

Find us on Facebook or contact wheathampsteadtoddlergroup@gmail.com

Wheathampstead Community Group (WCG)

WCG seeks to support anyone in the Parish of Wheathampstead who is looking for assistance. If you or anyone that you know needs help, or you wish to volunteer for WCG, please call 07539 176481.

If you need transport to hospital or the doctor, please call 07918 136870.

www.wheathampsteadwcg.org
email: Secretary@wheathampsteadwcg.org

Kimpton Bowls Club

Bowling for everyone- Come and try bowls. 'Beginners Welcome' *Continued on page 24*

Useful Contacts

Emotional & practical support

www.hertshelp.net

03001234044

Health advice and information

www.nhs.uk/coronaivrus

Local council services

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/

coronavirus

Domestic abuse

www.hertssunflower.org

Hertfordshire Domestic Abuse

helpline

08 088 088 088

Financial Advice

www.hertforshire.gov.uk/benefits

Citizens Advice

03444111 444

www.hcas.org.uk

National Debtline

0808 808 4000

www.nationaldebtline.org

Avoiding Scams

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www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/updateme

Volunteering

www.volunteering.org.uk

Friendly members to help you play. Woods provided but flat shoes please. Come and have fun.

For further details contact John 07785960353

Business Group

Wheathampstead Businesses (known as WEB) has a mission to Promote, Protect & Support local businesses and the local community. BILLY the Bee is our mascot promoting Buy It Locally. Twice monthly networking meetings provide an opportunity to collaborate, learn from each other and gain customers. For more details contact Ginny Cooper, Chairman: chair@wheathampsteadbusinesses.co.uk

Cricket

Wheathampstead Cricket Club has five adult teams and an expanding colts section. Cricket is played on Nomansland Common on Saturday and Sunday throughout the season, with occasional mid-week and evening fixtures. WCC really is a club on the up and we now have some of the best cricket facilities in the county. New players and spectators are always welcome:

www.wheathampsteadcc.hitscricket.com

Wheathampstead Dramatic Society

The Dramatic Society is always looking for new members who would like to join this friendly group. For information about our next planned production visit our website: www.wheathampsteadramaticsociety.co.uk

Wheathampstead & District Preservation Society

The aims of the group are to protect what's best about the village, make the best use of its assets, object to inappropriate planning applications and take part in community initiatives. The more members we have, the louder is our voice. To join, please see our website:

www.wheathampsteadpreservation.org.uk or call 01582 833789.

Mead Quilters

We are a long established, forward looking and friendly quilting and patchwork group who meet at the Mead Hall in East Lane, Wheathampstead, AL4 8BP.

We meet on the first Tuesday morning of each month 10.00-12.00pm, and the 3rd Tuesday evening 7.30-9.00pm. Visitors are welcome at both sessions. For further information see our website

www.meadquilters.org:

Wheathampstead W.I.

Lively, interesting and varied meetings. Every 2nd Wednesday 7.30pm at the Mead Hall in East Lane W/stead. Social events and outings throughout the year. See W.I Noticeboard in the High Street for more information or contact our Secretary Gillian Keen:

wheathampsteadwicommittee@outlook.com New members always welcome.

Herts and Middx Badger Group

We look after badgers and their habitat across the two counties. We are involved in badger rescues, surveys, monitoring, education, advice, campaigning and upholding the law relating to badgers. Meet 1st Tuesday of the month from 8pm in the Mead Hall in Wheathampstead. Emergency line. 07860 210414

Enquiries. info@hmbadgergroup.org.uk or visit <https://hmbadgergroup.org.uk/>

Football

Wheathampstead Wanderers was formed in 1990 by a small group of families from the village to promote and support youth football for the benefit of children and young people in Wheathampstead and surrounding areas. An FA Charter Standard Club, granted in 2008, with around 300 boys and girls playing football.

www.wheathampsteadwanderersfc.co.uk

Horticultural Society

Meets: St. Helen's School, Wheathampstead AL4 8AN. 7.30pm, first Wednesday of the month.

A friendly village gardening club welcoming everyone of all ages and enthusiasm- even armchair gardeners! A wide range of speakers [some selling plants], socials, visits to interesting gardens, a Plant Sale on 3rd Sunday in May - all are on the agenda. Affiliated to the R.H.S. Occasional meeting on Zoom. For more information please e mail whortsoc@gmail.com or phone Jill on 01582 460394

Bluebell Memory Cafe

Friendship coffee activities and outings for those living with memory-related conditions and their supporters. 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, 10.30 to noon at the Mead Hall, East Lane AL4 8BP. Call Isobel Poole, 07949 630228 All Welcome

Brownies and Rainbows

1st Wheathampstead Brownies meets at St. Peter's in Gustard Wood on a Tuesday. 3rd Wheathampstead brownies meet at the Scout Hut on a Thursday.

1st Wheathampstead Rainbows meets at the Scout Hut on a Tuesday 5.15 to 6.15. There are currently spaces available so, if you would like your daughter to join please visit: go.girlguiding.org.uk to register your interest.

One of the leaders in the village will be in touch when a space becomes available. Registering your daughter earlier rather than later will mean she will be added to our waiting list and when a place becomes available at the right age, she will be offered a place.

Squirrels Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

All popular and meet regularly at the Scout Hut in Mead Lane, Wheathampstead as follows: Squirrel *Continued on page 25*



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Delaport Cub Pack Wednesday 6:30 to 8:00
Lamer Scout Troop Friday 7:30 to 9:00
Explorer Scouts Tuesday 8:15 to 10:00
If your child would like a place, please contact:
wl1stweathampstead@outlook.com

Music and Singing

Introducing the Clover Singing Club, a new concept in ensemble singing for ladies, with emphasis on laughter and relaxation. Try us out - first session free. No need to read music. Sessions are term time on Mondays 1.15-3.15 p.m., Mead Hall, Wheathampstead.
Contact Charlotte 07791 741233.

The Hardyng Choir

The Hardyng Choir is keen to help people experience the joy of choral singing, and welcomes new members of all voices whatever their previous experience. We rehearse on a Monday evening, 7:45pm - 9:45pm during school term time at St Helen's C of E Primary School in Wheathampstead. Email Jenny Burley at: membership@hardyngchoir.org

Wheathampstead U3A

Wheathampstead U3A is open to anyone who is retired or semi-retired. No qualifications are needed, and none are given. Make friends, learn new skills or refresh old ones through our wide range of interest groups. Enjoy first-rate speakers at monthly meetings in the Memorial Hall and participate in organised outings to places of interest. Find out more at: <https://u3asites.org.uk/wheathampstead/home>

Wheathampstead History Society

The society meets at 7.15pm, the third

Wednesday of each month, in the Mead Hall, East Lane.

It offers a programme of talks promoting local history & heritage, undertakes research projects and encourages and supports members' research.

For further information visit our website www.wheathampsteadheritage.org.uk

Wheathampstead Warriors

Your local running club, all abilities welcome! The best way to find out more about the Warriors is to come and join one of our club runs on a Tuesday or Thursday evening. Currently all runs need to be booked in advance but please contact us on wheatywarriorsmembership@gmail.com and we'll be able to arrange for you to join us for a run. More information can be found on our website -

<https://wheathampsteadwarriors.co.uk/>

Positive Movement

On-line classes twice per week (term time) via Zoom, Tuesdays at 2pm and Thursday at 10.30. Classes are for those with reduced mobility. Gentle, chair-based exercises to improve Posture, Balance, Strength and Stability.

Call Lynn on 07866 168242 to arrange for a trial class.

Wheathampstead Wine Club

Friendly social group that meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 7:30 at the Mead Hall except for July, August and December. You don't need to know anything about wine. Members can learn about the wines that they are sampling and get wine shopping and price advice too from the various tastings and presentations that take place during meetings. If this sounds like your type of social evening, call Alan 07866 953971 or email wiggintonalan@gmail.com or just come along - you will be very welcome!



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