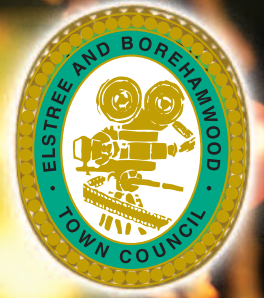


ELSTREE & BOREHAMWOOD TOWN CRIER



The magazine for Elstree & Borehamwood residents

Merry Christmas to all our residents!

To mark the festive season Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council are bringing some festive cheer to the Town with the annual Christmas Lights Switch On event on 4th December.

The family fun event takes from 2pm-7pm behind All Saints Church on Shenley Road. Free entertainments include the ever-popular Ice Rink, sponsored by our local community bank - MetroBank, a vintage Carousel and more. All Saints Church plays host to local primary school children singing carols from 3pm before mulled wine, mince pies and the Borehamwood Brass Band warm up the crowd for the main event. At 4pm Sandra Parnell, Mayor of Elstree and Borehamwood, will turn on the lights illuminating Shenley Road, Manor Way, Leeming Road, and Elstree High Street, formally marking the start of the season. It's a chance for the Town Council to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and for families to have some fun together. We hope to see you there!
See centre pages for more info...



Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Letter from the Mayor...

Welcome to the Winter edition off the Town Crier, in a year that saw the Town Council continue to move from strength to strength - introducing new talent, improving the services we provide whilst supporting and celebrating the community of our Town.

It's been a whirlwind year with so much to look back on but I want to pay particular tribute to those of you that give your time and efforts for the benefit of our local community. Even in these times of economic uncertainty there are many generous people in our Town trying to help those around them - some of whom you will read about in this edition. It's truly inspirational. Keep up the great work!

It was amazing to see how many people turned out for one of the biggest Fireworks displays the Town Council has ever hosted on 5th November. To be able to conduct the countdown on the night was very exciting and the display itself was spectacular. The last event in our calendar for 2011 is the Christmas Lights on 4th December and I'm looking forward to meeting more of you there as well as seeing some familiar faces in the crowd. We have some great events lined up for 2012 - the year of the Olympics and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee - and plan further improvements to our services. On behalf of all at Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council, I wish you all a peaceful, joyous season and a happy new year.



Cllr Mrs Sandra Parnell (Town Mayor)

How to send articles

Email towncrier@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk as soon as you can whenever you think of something. Remember to include photos or images if you have them. You don't have to send a fully-written article but it does help! General guidelines are:

- Keep articles to 300 words or less
- Use plain text, word or email
- Typed or legible hand written articles will be accepted if you do not have access to a computer
- Photos, logos, images to be sent as jpg, pdf, bmp or tif file formats by attachment or CD
- To include upcoming events in your article please ensure you allow for deadline and delivery schedules. For example, the Summer edition will detail events from June to August so events falling outside those times are unlikely to be of interest!

Delivery

If you know of any residents in the Elstree and Borehamwood area that did not receive a copy of this, or if you received more than one, please contact us to let us know.

Contact

For all enquiries please note the Town Crier can be contacted via the following methods:

Phone: 020 8207 1382

Email: towncrier@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

Address: Elstree & Borehamwood Town Crier
Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT

For more information on the Elstree & Borehamwood Town Crier, FAQs and Guidelines visit our website:

www.elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk/towncrier



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Advertising in the Town Crier is welcomed, with priority given to local, reputable businesses. We will limit ad space to contribute towards costs only - Elstree and Borehamwood Town Crier is not a profit making enterprise.

90mm x 128mm

£90
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How to supply adverts

Call us to book a space in the next edition. Any artwork must be submitted as pdf or jpg format and correctly sized for the space required as the illustration shows.

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Discounts available to annual advertising - please call to discuss.

64mm x 90mm

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+VAT

First Impressions

The long awaited wall sculpture was finally installed at Elstree & Borehamwood Train Station as part of the ongoing First Impressions Project.

To commemorate this (and other aspects of the TV and film themed project which has brought improvements throughout Borehamwood Town centre) First Capital Connect also recently unveiled a train named "Elstree Studios" on 2nd September.

The Project Board met recently to consider new opportunities to build on the achievements of Stage One, including more plaque panels, landscaping of overgrown areas in the Town and even heritage-themed signage for Elstree and Borehamwood.

Said Bob Redman, Chair of the project and Secretary of Elstree Screen Heritage: "The Project Board has been greatly encouraged by the positive response of Councilors, community groups and local companies. With their active support we're confident that Stage Two will help create an ever better 'first impression' of our Town."

First Impressions is a partnership between Hertsmere Borough Council, Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council, Hertfordshire County Council, First Capital Connect and Elstree Screen Heritage.



A proud tribute to those that work behind the scenes

All aboard the Elstree Studios...



Youth Council finds its voice

At the recent meeting of the Youth Council (2nd November 2011) new members were asked to think about what issues they believed were important to the youth in Elstree & Borehamwood.

Out of the discussion that followed many of the young people felt there was a need to improve the general perspective of youth culture. Recognising that change doesn't happen overnight the Youth Council is aiming to create an agenda that will help them dispel negative opinions and popular misconceptions of young people. Now with almost 20 active members the Youth Council can really begin to turn ideas into action and are planning several initiatives, such as a local environment campaign to keep litter off the streets and improve local green spaces. Some members already began the effort by volunteering their time to a "Community Clearance" Project at Woodcock Hill for Mitzvah Day 20th November.

The Elstree & Borehamwood Youth Council currently meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 6.30pm and young people aged between 10 and 19 who live, work or go to school in the area are welcome to join at any time. For more information contact the Town Council on 020 8207 1382 or visit the website.

Crystal Moon

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cj.danze@hotmail.co.uk
www.inspiringherts.co.uk

Diamond Jubilee event

Marking the 60 years since her Royal Highness ascended the throne (6th February 1952) Elstree & Borehamwood will host a **Diamond Jubilee Cadet Tattoo** to be held on **Sunday 12th February 2012 at 3:00pm at Allum Hall, Allum Lane, Elstree.**

The celebration event will showcase our uniformed youth organisations and also honour local veterans. The event is fully supported by the Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire and Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council. It will be free to attend (although a small donation on entry is welcome as all proceeds from the event will go toward The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal). It is hoped that this will give our community an opportunity to celebrate HM sixty years on the throne with some pomp and ceremony! For more information please contact the Town Council.

2012 is the official year of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and will see events all over the country celebrating Her Majesty's 60th Year as Queen of England over the bank holiday weekend 2-5 June.



Come and join the Air Cadets

Air Cadets offer Flying, Gliding, Band, Model-making, Shooting, Camping, Sports, First Aid, Radio Communications, Leadership Training, Drill and much, much more!

If you are aged 13-17 and want to have fun, meet new friends and even gain Duke of Edinburgh awards or earn qualifications in Aviation, Band or Public Service then contact the 1372 Elstree & Borehamwood Squadron who meet Monday & Thursday 7pm-9.30pm at The Cadet Centre, Rossington Avenue, Borehamwood, WD6 4LD or call 020 8207 1046/07970 927843.



Symphony Environmental Technologies

Driving past Elstree Gate you wouldn't think that number 6 is the headquarters of a global company providing environmental technologies to 92 countries around the world through 68 Distributors.

Based in Borehamwood for many years, Symphony Environmental Technologies Plc is listed on the AIM market of the London Stock Exchange and employs 35 people at Head Office. In addition to management and administration Symphony has its scientific research and development in Borehamwood, together with test and experimental facilities at Telford in Shropshire and Gt. Yarmouth in Norfolk.

Symphony has developed an amazing technology called d2w, which converts ordinary plastic at the end of its useful life into a biodegradable material, which will be bio-assimilated in the environment in the same way as a leaf. Symphony's CEO, Michael Laurier, has been a resident of the area for 30 years and has a wife, Michelle, and two adult children. He says "d2w is a kind of insurance policy. We don't encourage people to throw plastic waste away, but we know that some of it will always find its way into the environment, where it would otherwise lie or float around for decades. But if it is made with d2w it would harmlessly degrade and disappear in a much shorter time."

Symphony additionally has a technology called d2p, which makes plastic hostile to bacteria. It can be put into computer keyboards,

telephones, door handles, table-tops etc when they are being made, where it will help prevent the spread of infection. The company has also developed a hand-held device called d2Detector, which can see what is inside a piece of plastic and can tell whether it is a genuine product or a fake.

Michael Laurier says "Symphony is proud to be employing local people and earning foreign currency for Britain, whilst at the same time solving some of the world's environmental problems." And all this right on your doorstep!

Symphony is just one of many internationally significant companies based locally that bring employment and prestige to the area.





The Prince's Trust

The Prince's Trust works with unemployed Young People between 16-25 to develop their skills and confidence for the market place. The second 12 week Prince's Trust Team programme in Borehamwood. Started at the end of September

Team members gain a Certificate in Teamwork, employment skills, as well as skills in problem solving, meet new people and improve their chances of getting a job.

The present 12 week session will culminate with the young people raising funds for, organising and providing a Christmas party for the Borehamwood Seniors. The party for about 40 older folk in the community will be held on 9th December from 2pm to 4pm at Farriers Way Community Centre.

Earlier in the year the Princes Trust recruits worked on a wild life garden for Meryfield school. They presented a session on the work they had accomplished over the 12 weeks to invited guests at the Civic Offices in July.

For more information please contact Anna on 07977 927193



What happens to your Poppy Money



Borehamwood residents are very generous when it comes to Poppy Day, but how many people understand what happens to the money they put in the tins.

Last year the Royal British Legion answered more than 160,000 calls for help from Service personnel both past and present. It is there to assist not just the service people but also their dependants, not just once but for the future.

The Legion also offers advice to personnel who have had to leave the Service enabling them to adjust to civilian life, helping them to adjust to life with disabilities incurred in active service, offering start up aid in setting up their own businesses, easing them and their families through the difficult adjustments they face. The Legion also provides grants for assistance in many ways – for instance in the last 3 months over 700 grants for electric-powered vehicles were provided.

Over £50 million has been pledged to the Defence Recovery Capability. This will be used to fund the operating costs of the four PRCs in the UK and a Personnel Recovery Facility in Germany. It will also be used to create and operate the Legion's Battle Back Centre, which will be located in the West Midlands and will use adaptive sport and adventurous training to aid recovery.

The building of three Recovery Centres at Catterick, Colchester and Tedworth House (Tidworth) is being funded by Help for Heroes, with the Legion funding the operating costs for the next ten years. They will be operated by the Army but will be open to personnel from all three Services.

There are also the 6 Poppy Homes these homes are exclusively for ex-service personnel so there is a unique camaraderie, these homes provide either short or long term care.

The Legion also ensures that those who have given their lives are never forgotten, anyone who has visited the National Memorial Arboretum, (over 300,000 each year) will tell you that it is a very moving, and beautiful site. It is too easy to think of the Legion as being just a bunch of old people remembering the two World Wars. Sadly, the Legion is just as relevant today as it always has been, with more and more of today's Service Personnel turning to them for assistance.

Membership of the Legion is open to all you don't have to have an Armed Forces background to join.



Classes held in **Disco Freestyle, Street & Hip Hop**
for children aged 4 - 18 on Tues, Weds & Thurs Evenings
at Maxwell Community Centre, Maxwell Road, Borehamwood.
Payment per class per week - No Monthly or Term Charges
Please call 07949 336210 or 07896 537971 for further details



or go to www.maxwellpark.co.uk



Fairway Hall

Located in Brook Close, off Brook Road, Borehamwood, Fairway Hall is available for hire at competitive rates. This attractive and modern



facility has a fully equipped kitchen, cloakroom, toilets and small stage - making it ideal for weddings, barmitzvahs, children's parties, lectures and meetings. For more information, please call 020 8207 1382

Living on a farm?

If you are an Elstree or Boreham Wood resident living in a 20th century house you can be almost certain that it was built on farmland.

Before the railway came to Elstree in 1868 the area was practically all farmland. The parish population was less than 500.

By 1868 most of the parish farmland consisted of enclosed fields surrounded by hedgerows. The two main landowners were Lord Aldenham and the Earl of Strafford. The Church of England also had a significant holding.

After the railway became established in the area, the population grew, slowly at first, but as new industries were introduced more houses and roads were required, Drayton Road being the first in Boreham Wood. Developers began buying plots of land, mainly off Shenley Road. Whitehouse Farm began to shrink.

Many of the enclosed farm fields had been given names, such as 'Straw Meadow' and 'Two Acre'; these were often shown on land sale maps of that era.

At the time of the first world war, road building off the north side of Shenley Road reached as far to the east as Clarendon Road, but did not intrude greatly on adjacent farmlands.

Between the wars, the founding of the film studios and work starting on the Laings estate off Elstree Way, resulted in large areas of farmland being lost. Despite this, by WW II, most of the early farms were still operating.

During WW II, these farms were utilised to their limit, with many other open spaces being put to agricultural use.

A major change came shortly after WW II. The London County Council needed land to house London's 'population overspill' and made a compulsory purchase of Laing's land off Elstree Way, as well as farmland to the east of Theobald Street. At the same time Elstree Rural District Council and Herts County Council, were building new estates in the district. All of this building work engulfed most of the remaining farms in the area.

Farms which disappeared include Manor, Cranes, Oak, Bullbaiters (Bullhead) and Thrift. All of these are remembered with a road name. Among others that were lost were Tilehouse, Theobalds, and Hill top (Elstree).

Do you know which farmland your house is built on? Do you know the name of the field? Why not pop into Elstree and Boreham Wood Museum in Drayton Road, we may be able to tell you.

Map of Whitehouse Farm showing enclosed, named fields. The road running from top to bottom is Furzehill Road.

ELSTREE & BOREHAM WOOD MUSEUM
new calendar

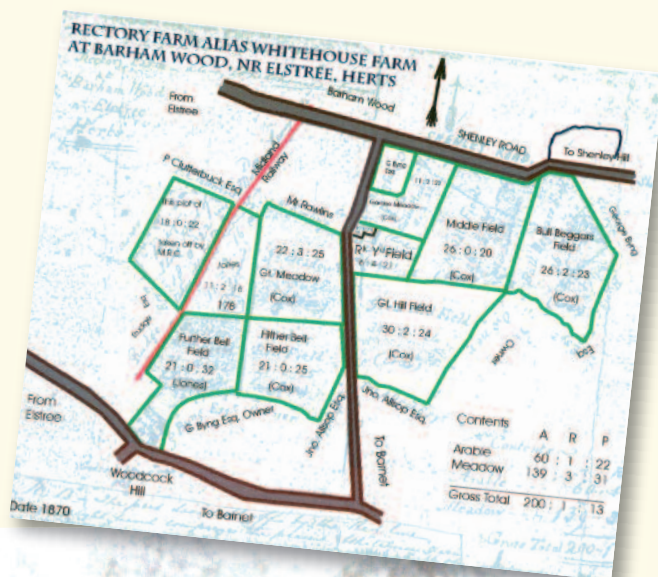


Photo of Manor Farm farmhouse and barns (c 1900).



CHILD UK

John Manitaro: "The project was devised to counteract the youth related anti-social behaviour problems in Borehamwood."



After spending a considerable time consulting with our partners; CHILD UK, Affinity Sutton (who kindly sponsored the project) police, local authority, councillors, Youth Connexions, local residents, and young people.

The current project has been an enormous success and has attracted more than 60 young people to attend weekly BMX, skateboarding and scooter freestyle and competitions, and followed by Moonlight Football sessions later on.

The young people have established their own code of conduct and rules, with good behaviour being prevalent across an inclusive group of young people from all backgrounds. The multi-ethnicity of the project has seen new friendships develop and flourish. Another very positive outcome has been the support of young people's families who often come along with comments of appreciation, and wish to volunteer."

PC Ross Paybody stated that the project has attracted some of the targeted vulnerable young people who have previously been involved in anti-social behaviour.

Cllr Susan Maughan: "I came to visit CHILD UK's Friday Night Project, and I now feel part of the team and I am enjoying the fun and community atmosphere of this project."

Sean 14: "The project gets me off the streets and makes me feel safe."

Mouad 15: "I have made new friends and have fun, including a laugh with the CHILD UK guys who look out for us."

Poster competition

Schools from across the county took part in an annual poster design competition, to create official posters for 2011 that helped everyone to stay safe and enjoy Halloween and Bonfire Night.

Hertfordshire's schools were invited to participate and almost 1,000 designs from more than forty schools were submitted for judging.

Students from Saffron Green Primary School, Borehamwood, worked extremely hard to produce excellent artwork. This was linked to PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) lessons, in which students discussed safety and behaviour issues during the Halloween and fireworks season, before designing their own posters. The School is very proud to have two runners up: Brandon Bevas (year 5) and Harrison Green (year 3) as well as one regional winner, Walid Saadat (year 5).



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Christmas Tradition in Germany

During Advent, streets are brightly lit. Lights and colourful ornaments hang everywhere. In kitchens, beautiful cooking fragrances waft.

Many children have advent calendars (sometimes chocolate!). Mothers and children also make Adventskalenders and fill them with goodies. In homes, holiday advent crowns are found. A new candle is lit on each Sunday of Advent. The children sing: "Advent, Advent, a light is burning, first one, then two, then three, then four, then the Christ child is coming." (In Offenburg, Christmas gifts come from the "Christ Child").

On 6 December (St. Nicholas Day), children put boots or shoes outside their door in hope St. Nicholas fills them with candy and fruit. Santa Claus sometimes also goes to houses or through the city, dressed in a large cloak and bishop's mitre, with a rod for bad kids and gifts for dear children. Sometimes he is accompanied by his servant Rupright. On 24th morning of December, the Christmas tree is decorated and gifts are found there in the evening.

The first Offenburg Christmas market started in the 70's and markets are held every year from 1st Advent to Christmas

(this year: 29/11/11 - 23/12/11). There is a large ice rink and many stalls promote culinary specialties and goods e.g. the sweet Striewile (fat in baked waffle) and mulled wine. As a large wine growing region, Offenburg has its own mulled wine. Clubs and organisations take part and musical/folkloric groups perform.

In recent years, Offenburg's Christmas market has experienced a highly valued supplement: The adjacent Vinzentiusgarten at the old city wall. Here you can enjoy water games or stories for children and/or adults. Last year, a visitor from Borehamwood went there to read children English Christmas stories as part of a group of 30 citizens from Borehamwood-Elstree who visited the Christmas market.

Merry Christmas!



Christmas Market stall in Offenburg



Eltree & Borehamwood Christian Council



Celebrate Christmas with us

Roman Catholic Parishes of Borehamwood

St Teresa of the Child Jesus, 291 Shenley Road & SS John Fisher & Thomas More, 28 Rossington Avenue

Saturday 17th 10am-1pm: Extended Confession time (St Teresa's)
 Saturday 24th 6pm: FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS
 Family Mass with Nativity (St Teresa's)
 11.30-12pm Carols (SSJFTM)
 12pm Midnight Mass (SSJFTM)
 Sunday 25th NATIVITY OF THE LORD
 9am Mass (SSJFTM)
 11am Mass (St Teresa's)
 Monday 26th, Tues 27th, Thurs 29th & Fri 30th:
 9.15am Mass (St Teresa's)
 Saturday 31st 7TH DAY CHRISTMAS OCTAVE
 6pm Mass (St Teresa's) -Epiphany
 Sunday Jan 1st SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
 8.30am Mass (SSJFTM)
 10am Mass (St T)
 12pm Mass (SSJFTM)



International Christian Fellowship

Manor Way, Borehamwood WD6 1QY
www.icfellowship.org email: icf@icfellowship.org

Sunday Dec. 18th 10.00am What is the Truth behind Christmas?
 The True Christmas Story. Followed by mince pies etc.
 Christmas Day Dec. 25th 10.00am The Scandal of Christmas
 New Year's Eve. Jan 31th 10.30pm New Year Watch Night Service

Church of England, Team Parish of Elstree & Borehamwood

Parish Office (020) 8905 1365 Weekdays a.m.
www.borehamwoodchurches.org.uk

All Saints Church
 Shenley Road, WD6 1EB Revd Tim Warr (020) 8207 6603
 Sunday 18th December 11.00am Lessons and Carols
 12.15pm Holy Communion
 Christmas Eve 6.00pm Crib Service
 11.30pm Midnight Mass
 Christmas Day 10.00am Family Communion
 Sunday 1st January 11.00am Parish Communion

Holy Cross Church
 Balmoral Drive, WD6 2QU (020) 8953 2183
 Sunday 18th Dec. 9.30am: Family Communion with Christingle
 Christmas Eve & Joint services with All Saints
 Christmas Day

St Nicholas Church
 Elstree High Street, WD6 3EW Revd Karen Gardiner (020) 8953 1411
 Sunday 18th December 6.00pm Nine Lessons and Carols
 Christmas Eve 4.00pm Crib Service
 Christmas Day 9.30am Christmas Service

St Michael & All Angels Church
 Brook Road, WD6 5EQ Revd Richard Leslie (020) 8953 2362
www.achurchnearyou.com
 Christmas Eve 5.00pm Christmas Story and Christingle
 11.30pm Midnight Communion
 Christmas Day 10.00am Family Communion

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

St. Paul's Close, corner of Cranes Way & Furzehill Rd.
 Borehamwood, WD6 2DB
www.stpaulslutheran.co.uk Tel: 020 8953 3308

Sunday 18th Dec. 6:00pm: Nine Lessons & Carols by Candlelight
 with special music sung by the Junior Choir & Choristers
 Saturday 24th Dec. 6:00pm: Christmas Eve Service by Candlelight
 Sunday 25th Dec. 10:00am: Christmas Day Service



St. Andrews U.R.C Church

Aycliffe Road, Borehamwood

Sunday 18th December at 10:15am Nativity play
 Wednesday 21st December at 8pm Carols by candlelight
 Christmas Day service at 10-15am.



Borehamwood Baptist Church

Furzehill Rd., Borehamwood

Sunday 18th December 6:30pm: Carols by Candlelight
 Sunday 25th December 10:30am: Christmas morning service.
 There will be NO service at 6.30pm.

Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council
presents



Christmas 2011

Sunday

4 December 2-7pm

FREE ice rink

sponsored by 

**FREE vintage
carousel**

Popcorn
Candy floss

**Christmas
Carols**

All Saints Church
3pm

with mulled wine
and mince pies

Music by the

**Borehamwood
Brass Band**

Official switch
on of the
Festive Decorations
by the
Town Mayor
4pm

Everybody welcome!

Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council members

There are 13 elected members who all volunteer to serve the Town Council on behalf of their ward. You may contact any of the Councillors via the Town Council offices on 020 8208 1382 or by any of the details listed on this page.

Borehamwood Brookmeadow



Clive Butchins

Conservative

72 Milton Drive, Borehamwood, WD6 2BB
 cllr.clive.butchins@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
 Tel 020 8207 1382



Sam Dobin

Conservative

Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT
 cllr.sam.dobin@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
 Tel 07737219318



Simon Rubner

Conservative

Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT
 cllr.simon.rubner@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
 Tel 07870 648227

Borehamwood Cowley Hill



Ernie Butler

Labour

4 Thirsk Road, Borehamwood, WD6 5AX
 cllr.ernie.butler@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
 Tel 020 8207 1382



Richard Butler

Labour

6 Monksmead, Borehamwood, WD6 2LQ
 cllr.richard.butler@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
 Tel 07706 079439



Graeme Franklin

Labour

1 Stapleton Road, Borehamwood, WD6 5BS
 cllr.graeme.franklin@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
 Tel 020 8953 1973 - 07724 086976

Borehamwood Hillside



Mayor

Sandra Parnell

Conservative

Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT
 cllr.sandra.parnell@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
 Tel 020 8953 0832 - 07736 809015



Deputy Mayor

Charles Kelly

Conservative

Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT
 cllr.charles.kelly@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
 Tel 020 8207 1382



Pat Strack

Conservative

Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT
 cllr.pat.strack@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
 Tel 020 8386 3151 - 07790 305 428

Borehamwood Kenilworth



Susan Maughan

Labour

Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT
 cllr.susan.maughan@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
 Tel 020 8386 3274 - 07904 375 256



Kerri Prince

Labour

Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT
 cllr.kerri.prince@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
 Tel 07969 805 433

Elstree



Anne Mitchell

Conservative

14 Lodge Avenue, Elstree, WD6 3ND
 cllr.anne.mitchell@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
 Tel 020 8953 2223



Farida Turner

Conservative

Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT
 cllr.farida.turner@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
 Tel 07977 380173

Allotments - Growing from strength to strength

The 1st of October marked the start of the new Allotment Year and the Council wishes all of its plot holders at the Melrose (Furzehill Road) and Allum Lane (Watling Street) sites a bountiful harvest over the next twelve months. It is appreciated that at this time of year, much work is needed to prepare the ground well.

Since April, at the direction of the Environment and Planning Committee, Council Staff, Contractors and Plot Holders themselves have been working hard to bring both sites up to a high standard by:

- clearing overgrown or abandoned plots for new use;
- welcoming new tenants on board and streamlining the application and rental payment system; and
- improving the site security (including new user friendly padlocks).

In addition, the Council has made a commitment to create more allotment plots at Allum Lane by clearing an area that had become heavily overgrown with contractor help. To keep costs down, grant funding is being sought for this exercise.

The Council recognises that the benefits of having an allotment include:

- a cost effective source of fresh fruit and vegetables, and therefore a healthy diet;
- an opportunity to spend time outside enjoying nature and a good form of exercise;



- a sense of achievement and well-being;
- helping community spirit and an opportunity to meet people; and
- providing green spaces and wildlife habitats.

If you are interested in joining the waiting list for an allotment plot (or half plot) or would like to discuss what is involved in greater detail, please contact the Council Offices on tel: 0208 207 1382.

Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council meetings

Forthcoming meetings open to the press and public as follows:

6 December 2011	Events Forum	Fairway Hall	6.30pm
7 December 2011	Youth Council	Civic Offices	6.30pm
7 December 2011	Transport Forum	Civic Offices	8.00pm
19 December 2011	Town Crier Sub-Committee	Fairway Hall,	6.45pm
19 December 2011	Entertainments Committee	Fairway Hall	7.30pm
4 January 2012	Youth Council	Civic Offices	6.30pm
10 January 2012	Town Crier Sub-Committee	Fairway Hall	6.45pm
10 January 2012	Entertainments Committee	Fairway Hall	7.30pm
17 January 2012	Environment & Planning	Fairway Hall	7.30pm
25 January 2012	COUNCIL	Civic Offices	7.30pm
1 February 2012	Youth Council	Civic Offices	6.30pm
7 February 2012	Town Crier Sub-Committee	Fairway Hall	6.45pm
7 February 2012	Entertainments Committee	Fairway Hall	7.30pm
15 February 2012	General Management Committee	Fairway Hall	7.30pm
21 February 2012	Environment & Planning	Fairway Hall	7.30pm

Note: Times and venues of meetings may be changed at short notice. A full meeting schedule and further details available online or on request.

School swimming

The Town Council assists local primary schools with funding to provide swimming lessons and has done since the late 1970s.

Most primary schools in the Town take advantage of this and Hearn's Coaches take young children to the Venue Leisure Centre to learn to swim or improve existing abilities every day during the school term.

The Town Council believes that by supporting our schools in this way we are able to promote an active and healthy lifestyle alongside a potentially life-saving skill. So far this year the Town Council has spent over £13,000 towards achieving those aims. The children certainly enjoy it!





Affinity Sutton Homes have a dedicated Community Investment team to support residents to improve their neighbourhoods, provide assistance to get back into work or help you manage your money.

Looking for work or training opportunities?

The Work and Enterprise team can help residents get into work, training or volunteering. The team offer a range of courses, job clubs and grants to support you. For an initial discussion contact Sean McGinn on 0300 100 0303 or customerservice@affinitysutton.com

Need help with money?

Affinity Sutton also provide assistance with learning how to manage your money, ideal for residents concerned with the change in benefit payments due in 2012. Contact Miriam Facey from the Financial Inclusion Team on 0300 100 0303 or customerservice@affinitysutton.com

Got an idea to improve your community?

We could help get your project off the ground. We offer community grants from £300 up to £5,000 to charities and community organisations delivering projects that benefit people in areas where Affinity Sutton operates. Here are a few examples of the projects that have been supported in the Elstree and Borehamwood area:

- Involving young people in positive activities like Child UK who have received funding to run Friday night activities in Aberford Park and Borehamwood Football Club.
- Supporting children and their families like the Vibe Youth project who have run activity days for families in Borehamwood to give a chance to have a day out together and try something new.
- Promoting equality and diversity in communities like the Borehamwood & Elstree Twin Town Association who ran a Barn Dance with an international flavour to raise awareness of their group and bring people together.

The grants can also support estate regeneration and environmental initiatives, projects helping health and wellbeing, activities to bring communities together or that promote community safety. What does your community need? The next closing date is 27 January 2012. More details on how to apply are available at www.affinitysutton.com/ccf. Alternatively you can discuss your idea with Kate Beeching on 0300 100 0303 or customerservice@affinitysutton.com.

Are you bereaved?

Do you know that Cruse Bereavement Care Hertfordshire provides free one-to-one support, in your own home?

For more information, or to speak to someone about your situation, please phone one of our help lines on:

Adult Helpline: 01707 278 389
Children and Young People's Helpline: 01707 264 293

Both these numbers are answer phones; if you leave a message someone will get back to you.

Administration: 01707 269 497
office@cruse-hertfordshire.org.uk
www.cruse-hertfordshire.org.uk
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An estimated 7000 people turned up on the 5th November for one of the biggest displays the Town Council has ever put on.
 We hope you all enjoyed the show!

Photo courtesy of Councillor Clive Butchins

Town Crier - Back next year

Although this is officially the last Town Crier for the current financial year we are already planning 4 editions for 2012/13 (Summer, Autumn, Winter and Spring). To ensure that the Town Crier remains a vital publication we need your input! We encourage feedback on any aspect of the publication and always welcome more of your articles.

To get involved or for any other information please email towncrier@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

Play is an adventure at Aldenham

Children and young people with disabilities will be able to access an adventure playground designed specifically for children with disabilities, now the Aldenham Adventure Playground has opened

The playground, situated inside Aldenham Country Park, is run by the charity, KIDS, and provides a range of static play equipment including climbing frames, water play, sand play and a cable ride. The advantage of being inside Aldenham Park means there are also natural wild areas which are linked together by accessible pathways.

A spacious custom built indoor play area in the playground also provides a self contained sensory room, a quiet room fully equipped kitchen and a toilet and washing area with a baby changing table. Perfectly suitable for parties and family sessions, this is also available for hire for private parties over weekends.

Regional Director of KIDS, Warren Koehler said: "We're really excited about the opening of the playground, as it's completely unique. We hope it will provide a fun, family environment that helps to build skills and confidence for disabled and non-disabled deliberately started with a minimal environment so that we can work with children and parents to develop the play offer to meet the requirements of those using the playground.

"This is by no means a finished product and we look forward to hearing how you would like to see the playground grow. Our skilled and registered playworkers can provide one to one support and will be on hand at the launch to assess children's requirements, so we encourage

as many families as possible to come along to help shape the future of the playground."

KIDS is keen to ensure the facility is used as fully as possible, and may provide after school sessions, evening youth clubs, weekend and Holiday play schemes in the future if there is demand.

About KIDS

KIDS' vision is a world in which all disabled children and young people realise their aspirations and their right to a community which includes them and their families.

For more information about KIDS, visit our website at: www.kids.org.uk

For interviews with a KIDS spokesperson, please contact Carly Brown on 020 7359 3073 or carly.brown@kids.org.uk. For more information about the adventure playground, please contact Dale Sloan on 07818 593602.



Do you know someone that needs care?

Our Elstree and Borehamwood team offers specialist Live-in Care, enabling those who wish to remain within the comfort of their own home the opportunity to do so.

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A Christmas Carol

Do you need some help getting in the festive spirit? Well look no further and book your seats at the music-fuelled interpretation of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol at The Ark Theatre, Borehamwood.

It's Christmas Eve and terrible miser Scrooge is miserable, lonely and unhappy. He is visited by ghosts who show him the past, present and future but will he ever change his miserly ways? A rollercoaster story of highs and lows but ultimately an uplifting tale for the whole family – so book now! The production takes place for one night only on Wednesday 21 December.

After Christmas, an exciting spring lies ahead at The Ark with one highlight being the world premiere of There Was an Old Woman Who Swallowed a Fly during February half-term.

Theatre Manager, Tom Lagden, said: "The Ark strives to provide drama, dance, music, comedy, children's theatre and film as well as work produced by the community, for the community. We have a fabulous facility so come and see us soon!"

Book tickets online at www.thearktheatre.co.uk or call 020 8238 7288.

Reach out - join in

This is the motto of the Hertsmere Acoustic Music Club.

For ten years they have been holding their free 'Singarounds' in local pubs. Secretary, Nick Male says: "We get together to play music and to sing. All ability levels and styles of music are welcome. Our ages range from eighteen to eighty. Anyone who just wants to listen is equally welcome. Blues, folk and country are some of the musical treats we've enjoyed, not to mention our German accordionist who also plays Russian music. Another lady sings French songs. We've even been known to try a bit of Hebrew."

Come along and see for yourself. We meet in the lovely 15th century Waggon and Horses on Watling Street (WD6 1AA) Second Wednesday of every month 8.30pm to 11pm and last Sunday of every month 5pm to 8pm.

For more details contact Nick on nick.male2@btinternet.com or phone 020 8953 5231.

We look forward to meeting you there.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

By Charles Dickens A pocket panto told by Mike Maran



The Ark Theatre, Borehamwood

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Box Cleva

Box Cleva started as a twice-weekly initiative from the 8th February this year at the Hertswood Leisure Centre.

Watch Commander of Borehamwood Fire Service Bob Williams, who coordinates the scheme, told us more: "The sessions provide non-contact boxing related training with equipment and venue funded by The Vibe (a youth charity that runs in conjunction with Community Action Hertsmere) as well as money from Tesco, Community Safety Partnership, the Joint Action Group and locality budgets.

Qualified, experienced trainers who either run ABAE (Amateur Boxing Association of England) gyms or were involved in the sport help train the children who attend. They end up working with these young people not just as coaches, but mentors as many who come along are from single parent families, with no prominent male role model.

Supported by the local Tesco store in Borehamwood, who supply healthy food and water, attending children are given healthy eating and nutrition advice. A total of 52 different children have taken part between the ages of 9 and 15. In all we have seen 432 attendees over the last 36 sessions.

The response from the parents has been overwhelming. One parent told me that since being on the course her daughter 'no longer hits her or her brother'. Another mother commented that her son goes home to bed after the session and no longer stays out until midnight as he used to - the child is 11 years old.

Due to limited funding we had to drop down to one day a week back in July but we still get around a dozen children attending the 90 minute session.

At the moment these sessions promoting fitness, discipline, respect, persistence, self-esteem, confidence and fairness are run every Tuesday from 5pm until 6.30pm at Hertswood centre, potters lane, Borehamwood.



We now have enough funding to run up until the Christmas holidays thanks to Valerie Kane and the Joint Action Group. We have the trainers, the children, the venue, and the support to continue in to the future. What we really need is the funding." For more information on the Box Cleva initiative please contact Joy Nichol at The Vibe 07757 413958.

Otters Swimming Club

Founded by Ann Bence and George Male in 1968 the Otters Swimming Club took its name from The Otter in Bushey, a popular public house known by the pair.

The Club meets every Saturday at The Venue Swimming Pool for an hour from 4.30pm. The pool management provide lifeguards at no cost to the club which is open to people of all ages with special needs or recovering from an operation. Currently the youngest member is 4yrs old and the oldest is 90! The club is run entirely by volunteers.

All this means that the sessions are provided for free and even allows members' families to enjoy a swim too. With social events and a Christmas party the club also offers much more than water based fun. For more information please contact Pat Brown 0208 207 6521.



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Borehamwood Youth Football Club

Borehamwood Youth FC was founded in 1976. Pat and Barbara Cass were the head members until Pat passed away in April 2009 and Barbara passed in September this year. Both are fondly remembered.

Pat and Barbara were passionate about providing football for the community and keeping boys and girls off the street. In memory of Pat a plaque can be found on the wall of the club and another is on the way for Barbara.

The present Chairman, Colin Hudson, has moved the club further forward to support football for young people of any standard between the ages of 7-18.

With 16 boys' and 2 girls' teams the club prides itself on being a multicultural organisation that welcomes all.

The club is based at its own grounds and club house which opened in September 2006 and enjoys excellent facilities including 6 changing rooms and disabled access. There are 4 football pitches ranging from mini soccer to a senior size pitch.

Committee meetings are held on a monthly to share ideas, discuss fundraising and plan social events.

Borehamwood Youth FC are affiliated to Herts FA, Watford Friendly league and Hertfordshire girls partnership football league and is a FA chartered standard club. For more information please contact the club secretary Lorraine Clements on 07788 240878 or email secretary@bwyfc.org.uk

Elstree and Borehamwood Table Tennis Club

The Table Tennis Club as it currently stands began back in 1951. When Allum Hall was purchased by the community the same year the Table Tennis Club took residence in a small hut behind the main building.

Later, the Social Hall was built, replacing the hut, with parquet flooring and improved lighting. The Club then joined the Barnet Table Tennis League and today has four teams entered.

After the redevelopment of Allum Hall, and demolition of the Social Hall in the mid-1990s the Club moved to Maxwell Park Community Centre which proved to be the ideal venue, with good storage facilities to house the 5 tables and equipment and space enough to allow 4 matches to be played to

ETTA standards. When there are no matches all 5 tables are in operation for practice. The Club is now flourishing with the recent addition of new lighting and flooring. Grants from the Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council and HBC have also allowed the purchase of new tables. With the Fifty-Plus group joining in too there are some 55 people playing regularly each week.

If you are interested and would like to come and play, phone Chris Anderson for more details, on 020 8953 0997. All abilities welcome.



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