

ELSTREE & BOREHAMWOOD **TOWN CRIER**



The magazine for Elstree & Borehamwood residents



Elstree and Borehamwood Pull Together to Administer Covid-19 Vaccine

See page 24 and 25





Hear ye! Hear ye!

Letter from the Mayor...

I think most of us are pleased to see the back of 2020. The pandemic has dominated our lives since last March affecting not only our health and wellbeing, but also our jobs and our children's education.

My heart goes out to those residents who lost loved ones to Covid last year with best wishes for a speedy and full recovery to those that are suffering from this horrible virus.

Residents have made sacrifices by self-isolating and staying away from loved ones. Others have volunteered and joined to form groups that have been instrumental in supporting the vulnerable, isolated and those in need of assistance.

Key workers have been rightly praised throughout for their incredible dedication under severe pressure.

Councillors and council officers have been busy working as usual for the community during the lockdowns, providing Covid compliant services and activities.

I have continued my association with Gratitude, drawing the Gratitude Christmas Raffle. The Chanukkah Lighting in the Borehamwood Shopping Park car park on 13 December was an amazing success. The Town Council was one of the main sponsors of this fantastic event. I also attended the virtual Samaritans AGM alongside a virtual Goods for Good event. The Town Council put on a virtual event to turn on our Christmas lights with the help of our neighbours in Albert Square.

Partnering with Borehamwood and Elstree Synagogue and the Studios Rotary Club I was pleased to help coordinate an emergency drive to donate brand new underwear to be distributed to recently arrived refugees.

Trustees of the Elstree and Borehamwood Community Charity, have raised £4,000 to pay for defibrillators in Howard Drive, Hartford Road and Elstree High Street.

Thank you for your continuing generosity to help others. Without the help of dedicated volunteers very little could be achieved.

My thanks to the Trustees of Allum Manor for providing the venue for vaccinations and to Thameslink for additional car parking spaces to enable increased capacity at Allum Manor.

In the meantime, I look forward to attending Borehamwood's Got Talent and meeting residents at the Annual Parish Meeting in March.

Before I sign off, my thanks go to the Town Council staff for working so diligently during these unprecedented times.

I wish you all of us a healthy and safe 2021, and please remember to stay home, protect the NHS and save lives, even if you have received your vaccine.

Cllr Simon Rubner
Mayor of Elstree and Borehamwood



For Mayoral enquiries please email the Mayor's Secretary at admin@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

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Virtual Christmas Switch On 2020

For the last six years Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council have had specially invited guests take part in our Christmas Lights Switch On event marking the start of the Christmas period.

This year we were unable to hold the event due to the current Covid-19 restrictions. Instead a very special video was produced featuring the Mayor of Elstree and Borehamwood, Cllr Simon Rubner, Borehamwood

Brass performing with Musikverein Rammersweier E.V. (from our twin town in Offenburg in Germany), Riley Levene and special messages from not one but two EastEnders stars – Lorraine Stanley (Karen Taylor) and Davood Ghadami (Kush Kazemi).

To view the video please go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qsg-I61BP-I> or look on the Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council Facebook and YouTube pages.

RIP Dame Barbara Windsor MBE

On 10 December Carry On and EastEnders legend Dame Barbara Windsor sadly passed away aged 83.

Barbara had been associated with Borehamwood ever since she starred in the 1960 film *Too Hot To Handle*, and then 1964's *Crooks in Cloisters* and 1971's *The Boy Friend*. She was most commonly remembered in the town for her portrayal of Peggy Mitchell in *EastEnders* which is filmed in the BBC Centre. She played the character on and off from 1994 until 17 May 2016, and received the Best Actress award at the 1999 British Soap Awards.

In April 2014, Barbara was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. She chose not to make the condition public, and it was only revealed in May 2018 by her husband Scott Mitchell.

Barbara kindly came back to Borehamwood in 2016 to help switch on our Christmas lights.

Prince William described Barbara as "a true national treasure ... a giant of the entertainment world".



Compost Corner

One freezing afternoon in January

Only the hardy and brave would exclaim with a laugh and shake of the head, "It's all good fun!"

Lorna Betts is one of the town council's most recent allotment holders, and has been working hard preparing her plot by creating planting beds, applying manure and chippings, and cultivating! She's talking to me on the phone from there, and it's just started raining.

A keen recycler, Lorna is using "collars" given to her by a friend who was emigrating - and has runner beans, broad beans, peas, onions, garlic, broccoli and spring cabbage, all on the go in these wooden frames.

Alongside magazines, Lorna finds useful information on the internet, such as a Facebook page called 'Allotment Online' (there are many to choose from). "What is quite funny" Lorna reveals, "is that I have more cardboard than cupboards in my kitchen!". Lorna is following a 'no dig' system which has its many benefits, and requires its own storage space.

She observes that in the current lockdown and whilst being furloughed, having an allotment to work on is very rewarding. Her plans include adding a small wildlife pond with tiny solar fountain, sowing more seeds to enjoy seeing what comes up, and of course eating allotment-fresh strawberries.

Look out for Lorna at the Borehamwood Covid test centre behind the Civic Centre, where she is one of the many people helping things to run smoothly, and give her a warm smile. Something we don't need to be hardy or brave to do!

Anne Nicodemus



Nettle soup recipe

If you look on Countryfile's website you will discover some amazing benefits you never knew about nettles. One you will have heard about is for nutritious 'nettle soup' for a perfect spring recipe:

Ingredients

- Fresh nettles 500g – wear gloves while picking, washing and handling while fresh;
- Onion 1, diced;
- Butter 50g;
- Carrot 1, chopped;
- Celery sticks 2, chopped;
- Garlic cloves 2;
- Large potato 1, cooked and diced;
- Vegetable stock 1 litre;
- Double cream or crème fraîche 40ml.

Method

Step 1

Wearing gloves, pick over the nettles and wash them carefully and thoroughly in hot water, discarding the tougher stalks. Wear protective gloves to avoid a nasty sting.

Step 2

Melt the butter in a large pan and fry the onion, carrot, celery and garlic until soft. Add the vegetable stock and cooked potato and simmer until cooked – approximately, 15 minutes.

Step 3

Add the nettles and boil for a couple of minutes until the nettles have wilted. Whizz in a blender with the double cream and a pinch of salt and pepper. Serve with a chunk of fresh bread.



Borehamwood and District Garden Craft Society

Borehamwood and District Garden Craft Society welcomes spring with revived energy after a very long winter and Covid-19 restrictions.

Following the AGM on 9 February last year, the members of the society are ready for better achievements in our gardens and allotments. We have been exchanging seeds and cuttings so that we can all benefit from the little available during this difficult time. We have been helping each other with a lot of advice as most of our members have invaluable knowledge and experience in the field.

We have been making plans to visit each others' gardens in small groups later this year in order to keep restricted social interaction, so important for our balanced existence. These visits will provide an opportunity to share plants and show off any prize specimen, to share tips on different issues as well as to enjoy a cup of lovely English tea and home-made cakes.

Now that the vaccine has finally been rolled out in our town, we are looking forward to some adventures during the year. Last year we had to scrap our great plans for visiting RHS gardens but this year it seems we can re-introduce them. There will be coaches hired for the society members at reduced rates which will take us to some of the beautiful RHS gardens around London as well as other gardens such as Capel Manor, Chenies Manor House and Garden, and others. Everyone willing to join is welcome!

There have been suggestions from members for different workshops during this year like planting hanging baskets, table centre piece arrangements for different occasions, Chanukkah candles, special occasions flower decorations and making a Christmas wreath from scratch, using garden foliage. These will be followed up and organised depending on the situation with the virus.

The first flower show for 2021 is scheduled for 10 April at Allum Manor Hall. We are not sure yet whether this will happen. The summer flower show should be on 20 June and the autumn one on 12 September at Allum Manor Hall. We look forward to a great year in gardening.

Lina Christova



Borehamwood W.I.

We meet 2nd Monday of the month 2pm - 4pm

Room 2 The Manor House, 2 Allum Lane, Elstree, WD6 3PJ

President: Janet Martin, 020 8386 2844
or email janet.martinford@ntlworld.com

We will resume our meetings when it is safe to do so.

Elstree and Borehamwood NSPCC

Sadly, pandemic regulations have prevented practically all fund raising activities this year. Even Borehamwood Brass, our wonderful supporters, were unable to collect for the NSPCC at the Tesco Carol Concerts this Christmas.



The melancholy exception was the memorial collection for our late Mayor of Hertsmere, Councillor Cynthia Barker. We were moved by her choice of NSPCC as her mayoral charity. She was a valued member of our committee and we grieve at her untimely death.

We also mourn the loss of our friend and committee member for many years, Natalie Goldsmith. She was a talented artist and potter and used to sell her lovely pieces for the benefit of the NSPCC at the November Craft Fair which was her original idea. Her kind and lovely nature made her many friends in Elstree and she is sadly missed.

It is our hope that during 2021 the Covid situation will be overcome and that we will be able to stage our Garden Party in July and the November Craft Fair, as the work of the NSPCC for children has become even more necessary during the lockdown and the inevitable economic crisis that will follow.

I send my thanks and best wishes to all the committee, our stall holders and the faithful supporters who give so generously to our fundraising events.

*Ann Goddard Chairman
Elstree and Borehamwood NSPCC Committee*

School News

Parkside School

During the pandemic the school has been well supported by parents and teachers, especially during lockdown. Online learning worked well and as PE lead I generated interactive ideas for the children to complete whilst at home.

Since September, all staff have worked hard to look after and motivate the children. Most recently the school has provided new interactive cardio walls, Moki watches which are health bands that track the children's activity and steps throughout each day. We are also in the final process of building an outdoor equipment gym ready for Jan 2021. All of the work we are trying to do as a school is to aid and support children's wellbeing in both body and mind whilst giving our children things to look forward to. Our social media platforms have been a way of keeping in touch with parents, through announcements, updates and amazing work the children have produced both at home and during lockdown. Our Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and website are regularly updated to showcase the talents of our children during these incredibly strange and difficult times for both our children and parents.

We have also taken part in a mental health day to bring awareness of the challenges we all may experience at some point in our lives, as well as supporting charities such as Children in Need and Young Minds. We have taken part in author and Parliament webinars, made displays focused on our learning of Black History Month and Remembrance Day, and during Harvest we had an incredible number of donations. We have also worked in unison with Morrisons to carry on the free school meals initiative. Over the past year we have also developed strong links with Watford FC. We have even taken part in a penalty shoot-out competition at Vicarage Road in front of 30,000 fans.

As a community school, the support of our parents is key to driving us forward and a massive thank you should go to them for all the hard work and support they have offered us and their children during this difficult period. Everything we are putting in place is to benefit the nurture and inspiration of these young minds towards a bright future.

Mr L Wanless
Year 6 Teacher, Head of PE and Social Communication



Kenilworth Primary School

Thank you Mrs Henson

The last day of term in December was an incredibly sad day for Kenilworth, as we had to say goodbye to our truly fantastic Head Teacher - Mrs Henson.

For the last 21 years, Mrs Henson has worked tirelessly at Kenilworth to support all children, parents and staff and we are really going to miss her excellent leadership, kindness and presence in the school. She is an incredibly valued member of our school community who has been a parent, teacher, SENCO and Head Teacher during her many years at Kenilworth. We want to thank her from the bottom of our hearts and wish her the best of luck as she joins her new school – they are so incredibly lucky to be having her join their team.



Christmas in 2020

This year, our entire school community has worked hard to make sure that our children have been able to enjoy their Christmas fun, despite the Covid regulations that we are currently living with.

Within classes, they have enjoyed their Christmas dinner and adapted Christmas parties. The Friends of Kenilworth kindly paid for the whole school to enjoy a virtual pantomime 'The National Elf Service' and our parents generously donated money to make sure that every child in our school received a Christmas present. We were very lucky that Santa managed to find a free slot in his busy schedule to deliver the presents to our classes – many thanks to Santa and all of our lovely parents.



Dress as a Word Day

On Friday 13 November, Kenilworth celebrated a belated 'Dress as a Word' day in style!

Thank you to everyone who made a fantastic effort to dress up. We had so many great words – including discombobulated, fluorescent, artistic, villain and diversity! Learning new words and their meaning is vital for our development of language and the main ways to do this are through reading and talking. At Kenilworth we encourage vocabulary development with daily reading, Word of the Day and using new words during conversation and teaching.



Great Fire of London Day

As part of their learning about the Great Fire of London, our Year 2 pupils held a fantastic Great Fire of London day on Friday 4 December.

The children enjoyed a workshop led by visitors from Perform and made houses based on Stuart architecture – before setting them alight in the Great Fire of Kenilworth! Through watching the fire, they got to witness how the fire spread and how a fire break works to stop the fire from continuing to travel. It was a fantastic day for them all.



Muddy Mondays

Our reception pupils have really enjoyed exploring the outdoors this half term, participating in our Muddy Mondays.

As part of the Junior Foresters Programme of lessons, the children have been identifying potential risks in our outdoor area (such as prickly branches, berries that shouldn't be eaten), identified different leaves and trees in the environment, and even decorated trees! The children have been very safe and respectful of the plants and our Nursery pupils are looking to join in with the Muddy Monday fun in future.

We still have 15 hours and 30 hours places in our Nursery for January – if you are interested in a place for your child please call us on 020 8953 3459.



Woodlands Primary School

Be Kind

We hope that everyone managed to have a wonderful Christmas break and we are happy to welcome 2021!

Last term, once again, the children of Woodlands shared kindness amongst the community for our value of 'BE KIND'. Our **Nursery** and **Reception** children wanted to share their thanks and give a high five to the local police officers for all they do. It is very much appreciated!



Year One shared kindness by sending thank you cards to the NHS team at Barnet hospital. We know the whole community are grateful for all of the hard work of the cleaners, porters, nurses, doctors and surgeons who have worked so hard in such a challenging year.

Year Two made cards for the residents of Fountain Court – these were very gratefully received!

Year Three made Christmas cards to give to people in their communities who they feel have been kind or could use some extra kindness. They took them home to pass them on to local shopkeepers, postal workers and neighbours, to name a few.



Year Four made Christmas cards for the staff of the supermarkets of Borehamwood to say thank you for their help this year and wishing them a Happy Christmas.

After sending a thank you letter to the Metropolitan Police, **Year Five** were thrilled to receive a personal visit from a number of officers who had really appreciated the kind gesture during these times.

Year Six children created a range of pieces of art work to bring 'Christmas Cheer' to armed forces personnel working away from their families at Christmas. This was organised by Hertfordshire Heroes and our children were very keen to help out.



Finally, we ended the school term with a Christmas post box competition, organised by our parents' association, WSSPA. The children created the boxes around the theme of 'Be Kind' and posted their letters to Santa. Well done to all!

If you are interested in becoming a governor or member of the parents' association of Woodlands, please contact the school office.

Miss Woode

Saffron Green Primary School

EYFS Christmas production

Christmas is always such an exciting time of year for our younger children and this year, although our celebrations have looked slightly different for our children, everybody has still had lots of festive fun.

Instead of our traditional Nativity play, Nursery and Reception took part in a Christmas production where they each sang a traditional song and a festive song. Nursery sang 'Away in a manger' while Reception sang 'We three kings'. The children dressed up in various costumes to retell the Christmas story, including shepherds, angels and stars. The children really enjoyed singing these songs in the hall with lots of actions. We were delighted to be able to record their performance so that they could be shared with their friends and families at home.



Key Stage 1 Christmas tableau

This year the classes in Key Stage 1 recreated the Christmas story. We decided to do things differently and produced a Christmas tableau.

It was very exciting but also challenging making sure we were safe at all times as well as having fun. Year 2 worked hard learning the lyrics to a traditional song called 'Oh come all ye faithful' which they sang beautifully with huge smiles on their faces. Year 1 learnt and sang the chorus with joy and enthusiasm. It all came together beautifully and we are very proud of our children for participating in such unique circumstances. We made sure we recorded our tableau so that families will be able to enjoy it in the comfort of their own homes. Thank goodness for technology!



Key Stage 2 Christingles and Christmas carols

On Friday 11 December Key Stage 2 were lucky enough to take part in a Christmas Christingle carol service in the playground.

Imogen said "It was so nice singing with the rest of Key Stage 2 especially because we don't get to see years 3 and 4 at the moment." Key Stage 2 very much enjoyed learning about the meaning of a Christingle and had the opportunity to make their own. Ashwini shared that "Making the Christingle was great fun and I learnt a lot about the traditions behind it."

We had been practising class carols in music lessons and on Friday we sang, class by class, in the playground with our Christingles and a lovely Christmas tree. Sienna thought "Singing with our class sounded really musical and professional" and Taylan said "It was great to hold the Christingle while we sang." Georgia felt "It was lovely getting to hear all the classes sing." It was a very exciting and festive event!



Best wishes for 2021 from all the children and staff at Saffron Green Primary School.

Hertswood Academy

Virtual workshop with Oxford University

On Wednesday 18 November, Hertswood Academy was excited to host a virtual workshop with Dr James Munro, a maths lecturer from Oxford University.

Dr Munro gave the enthusiastic group of Year 7 students a series of real life problems to solve and then explained how maths could be used to get the desired results.

The students were incredibly engaged in the activities and it provided a great opportunity to see how individual students were able to work out different problems.

Maisie Hodges in 7CEV said "The talk was very interactive and it was a lovely opportunity for us. Dr Munro explained how maths is used in the wider world and how it can be applied to lots of things. It definitely opened my eyes to a different way of thinking."



Mr Cooper (Head of Learning, Year 7)

Citizenship campaigns

On Monday 16 November, Year 11 Citizenship students presented campaigns to the Academy's senior leadership team, and did so with confidence and passion.

This part of their course challenges them to work as a team to select and complete a Citizenship Action Project, by researching an issue in our local community and presenting an action plan for how to tackle it, while promoting community cohesion and protecting human rights.

Projects included tackling racism or bullying, and promoting wellbeing or the need to recycle. Some groups chose to work on larger issues such as raising awareness for victims of violence at home, Islamophobia, and human rights violations in China.

The groups worked independently and with great maturity to approach these complex issues and we have already begun to think

about how, as a school, we can put forward their suggestions.

"I did my campaign on autism awareness. I did this because I believe that not enough people know what autism is and how it can impact people. This is my presentation to SLT but I am also making one for Years 9, 10 and 11." - Keira (Year 11)

"We decided to do a campaign about the lack of teaching in schools about life skills as we believe it's very important for our futures and they shape us as an adult." - Neve (Year 11)

"In our campaign, we talked about the Islamophobia occurring in schools and in the wider world. Our campaign demonstrates the issues and suggests how to help prevent this from happening by educating communities." - Zaim (Year 11)

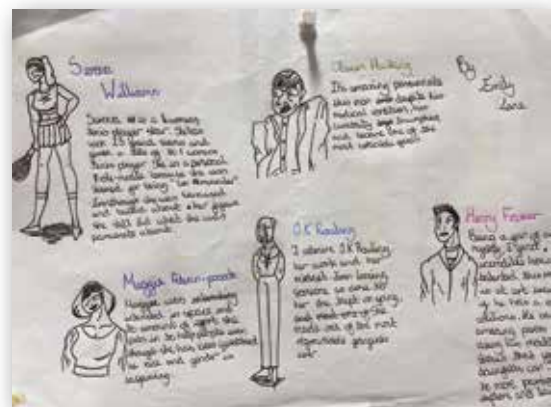
"Our Citizenship Action Project's aim was to raise more awareness about racism and bullying and the effect of these harmful actions on students' mental health." - Nisa (Year 11)

Miss Badcock (Head of Learning, Year 10)

A Small House update

A quick thank you to everyone who wore odd socks for Anti-Bullying Week, and in doing so earned a place in our prize draw.

Congratulations to the winners of our Year 7 Role Model posters competition, Nahla and Emily, both from Nuffield!



Little Angels Preschool

Christmas and Chanukkah have been in full force at the end of this term we made sure the children had lot of fun and games before the holiday.

The children have been celebrating both festivals as well as Diwali. We could not perform our usual nativity play this year but that did not stop us! The children rehearsed all half term singing their Christmas songs. They dressed up in their costumes and we recorded the children singing at different sessions and sent this on to the parents. The children have been out into the local community and were lucky enough to see the town Christmas tree go up and observe the lights on the town menorah.

Finally we were part of the Hertsmere Window Wanderland event. The children made the art work to go on the windows.

As we say goodbye to 2020 we know there is lot more action packed learning to come in 2021.

Sophie Perkins



Will You, Won't You?

Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, will you join the dance? These are the words from the Mock Turtle's song in Alice in Wonderland. The snail can't make its mind up and dawdles and dithers. Familiar?

The commitment and dedications of our teachers to the ever-changing expectations have been exemplary. It seems that once headteachers have got one plan out, it has to be changed, almost overnight in some cases. We owe a tremendous amount to teachers and staff as well as other key services in this trying time.

Being a governor at several schools I have had the opportunity to see for myself what the schools have been trying to do. Headteachers tell me that they are still trying to get enough computers for some children. Fortunately, the Borehamwood and Elstree Town Council and our County Councillors and Leedcliffee have been able to find some money to help support this. Thank-you.

Won't You Join The Dance?

Nursery Schools have been having a particular difficult because they have been told to be open when they have as big a problem as other schools. While governors are committed to the education of the

children, our major concern for governors is the safety of the staff. We will catch up with education but cannot risk lives.

It has been difficult to determine how effective governors are when we are not going into schools. With the help of some other governors, I have devised a

simple check list which is aimed to get a measure on this. It is not perfect, but some governing bodies have found it useful.

If you are interested in becoming a governor and helping to make a difference, contact your local school or go to the website;

<http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/edlearn/getinvolved/governors/becschgov/>

If you want to know more about being a governor contact me on 020 8386 3151 or email geoff.strack@ntlworld.com

Geoff Strack



Youth Council

Elstree & Borehamwood

Creating opportunities in teamworking and local politics for young people



Our meetings

Once a month, members of the Youth Council are invited to a meeting to recap on progress and discuss current events, raise ideas and state opinions on the direction they wish to take the Youth Council.

Aged 11-19?

Then you are more than welcome to attend a meeting and see if it is of interest to you.

It offers you a unique chance to express your ideas and have them listened to and acted upon! Every year, the Youth Council is provided with a small budget to spend on our local community; so why not give it a try?

It gives an edge to your CV and will help you greatly when you move onto further education or seek employment.

What we do

The Youth Council aims to help the local community to become safer and more sustainable, more vibrant, progressive, and representable.

Our meetings are held every month, at which we discuss ideas and suggestions as to how these goals can be achieved in our local area.

We often invite speakers and guests on specialist topics, and learn from regular council reports given by our town councillors who attend each meeting.

The Youth Council enables you to:

- Voice your concerns;
- Participate in local government;
- Be empowered to take decisions and action to improve your local community;
- Have an edge in presenting your CV;
- Have a greater understanding of politics and local government;
- Learn task management, communication and leadership skills.

To become part of the Youth Council is a good opportunity to have a voice for the local community and be involved in local politics!



Contact details:

Anne Nicodemus

Elstree & Borehamwood Youth Council

Fairway Hall, Brook Close

Borehamwood, Herts WD6 5BT

Email: anicodemus@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

Main office: 020 8207 5476

Webpage: www.elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

Chairman of the Youth Council

Hi! My name is Alex Sneader and I am the chairman of the Elstree & Borehamwood Youth Council.

I am currently studying for my A-levels and have lived in Elstree for the past four years. Being part of the Youth Council has been a great experience for me as it has provided the opportunity to not only get involved in local politics but also to be able to contribute to the decisions being made about the local area. Every year the Youth Council usually go on a trip to visit somewhere in London such as King's Cross Station or the Houses of Parliament which is always good fun and I am looking forward to this resuming later in 2021.

This year, we have a number of projects planned such as looking at how transport in the area could be made more sustainable. The Youth Council comprises young people from across the local area and we would encourage more of you to get involved and come forward with new and fresh ideas!



The Show Must Go On

One of the many events that got cancelled in 2020 was the popular Elstree and Borehamwood's Got Talent but a way was found for it to take place.



As we moved through various tiers and the eventual 3rd lockdown the format had to keep changing. On Thursday 21 January the event finally took place not at its home in Fairway Hall but on Zoom. The format stayed the same with Brian Burton presenting the show with three judges who were Cllr Sandra Parnell, Cllr Pat Stack and Cllr Michelle Vince. There was a variety of acts including magic, music and comedy.

To watch the show and see who wins please go to the Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council's YouTube or Facebook pages.



In issue 40 Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council teamed up with InspireAll who manage events in partnership with Hertsmere Borough Council to bring the very first Window Wanderland to Elstree and Borehamwood.

As a part of the Window Wanderland event we ran a competition for the best Window Display in Elstree and Borehamwood. We would like to announce Veronique Mahue as the 2020 Window Wanderland winner for her amazing design that covers two windows.



Available now

Teddy's Trails are now available in print ...

Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council's much-acclaimed network of country walks has now been published as a book. With 266 pages, fully illustrated, and spiral bound for easy use, it is a must-have guide for everyone who loves our locality and is interested in its past.

Teddy's Trails are named after the fox terrier whose joy in exploring the countryside inspired the book. There are 18 walks, ranging in length from 3 to 8 miles, with copious notes about places of interest along the way and people associated with them.

It is priced at only £10 a copy.

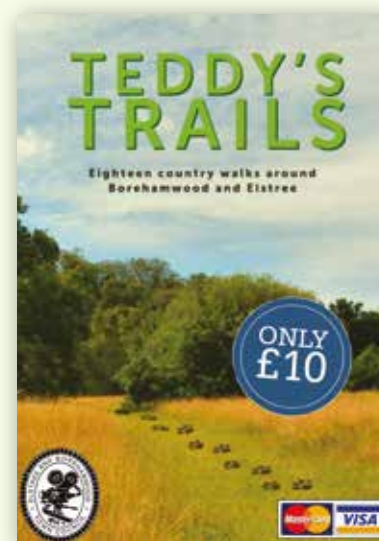
It can be ordered by phone from Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council on 020 8207 1382 (card payments accepted) or by post from the council at Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood WD6 5BT (cheques payable to Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council).

"It looks a brilliant publication, and good value for £10." Colin (Watford)

"It is absolutely beautiful and way more than I expected! It is well underpriced for the quality and information in it." Emer (Borehamwood)

"It's wonderful." Leonie (Pinner)

"It always amazes me how many footpaths, fields and trails there are, just a stones throw from where I have lived for many years, that I never knew existed. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to explore them." Vic (Borehamwood)



Music in the Wood



Borehamwood Brass Christmas Cheer in the Wood 2020



Borehamwood Brass is your local community band that performs a wide musical repertoire on the standard set of brass band instruments, and has been of service to the local community for 50 years.

Unfortunately, for the foreseeable future the band has suspended all rehearsals to comply with all the restrictions that are in place, but we are reviewing this at regular intervals.

Over the Christmas period it was active in bringing some festive cheer to different aspects of the local community. On 12 and 16 December, a group of players performed Christmas carols outside the Five Oaks Care Home in Potters Bar, and Elton House Care Home in Bushey.

A small group assisted Rev Tim Warr from All Saints Church to present a pre-recorded Christmas Eve virtual celebration.

The band would normally play carols at Tesco in the run up to Christmas. Our recordings made at All Saints were used to make

a short compilation on the band's social media Facebook page. This post had a link to our designated charity, the NSPCC, to assist raising some money, as we have done for many years now (<https://www.facebook.com/borehamwoodbrass/videos/2777482265854858>).

Another group, also socially distanced, decided to play some Christmas carols in the streets surrounding the band's rehearsal facilities in Warren Grove prior to the Tier 4 restrictions being imposed. This was welcomed by all the residents and helped to bring some Christmas spirit for our local community.

The band also entered a poster which was displayed with other community groups, greetings around the town.

For more information on Borehamwood Brass please contact Andrew Grady on 07802 736628 or email borehamwoodbrass@hotmail.com

Website www.borehamwoodbrass.org.iuk

Facebook www.facebook.com/borehamwoodbrass

Twitter: www.twitter.com/BWoodbrass



Virtual Youth Concert

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic all live musical events have been suspended until such time as these can be safely taking place under guidance received from the department for Culture Media and Sport.

We are, however, planning a series of virtual coffee mornings to be presented in conjunction with community groups across the area.

These virtual events pioneered by the Studio Rotary Club will present three Youth Makes Music Coffee Morning on You Tube for everyone to enjoy from the comfort of their home.

We expect these coffee mornings to take place in 13 February, 13 March and 10 April

More information will be given about these events on the town council's and the Studio Rotary Club's web site and Facebook pages.

Borehamwood residents mark Remembrance Sunday

On the morning of 8 November, George MacGregor's bagpipes could be heard loud and clear through the streets of Borehamwood.

Each year, residents mark Remembrance Sunday with a gathering at the local war memorial organised by the town council. This year, residents took matters into their own hands.

George MacGregor is the town's resident piper, having lived in Borehamwood for over 30 years. He has played specially commissioned



pieces at previous Remembrance Day services, and this year he invited his neighbours to mark Remembrance Sunday with him by way of the letterbox.

He said, "Due to coronavirus restrictions, this year's parade was cancelled, so I took it upon myself to do the event since I know that the people have always supported anything I have done."

Residents displayed poppies in their windows to show their support and gathered outside their houses to mark Remembrance Sunday.

The event began at 10.50 am, with a short parade and the singing of the hymn, "Abide with me". The Last Post was played, followed by a two-minute silence to remember the fallen soldiers.

This was followed by the reading of a poem by Richard Day, a World War Two veteran who served in Burma as part of the 14th Army for the Royal Fusiliers.

The Deputy Mayor of Elstree and Borehamwood, Cllr Sandra Parnell, was also present. She spoke of how Borehamwood residents came together to celebrate key workers over lockdown. George MacGregor's bagpipes had made regular appearances on the roads as he marched up and down to keep up everyone's spirits.

The service ended with a recording of Sunset, played by Her Majesty's Band of the Royal Marines.

Lest we forget.

Nandinee Thatte - The Henrietta Barnett School



Bandstand update

In January the Bandstand Application was passed by HBC Planning Committee.

Thank you to all the hard work by Huw Jones, Town Clerk, in getting the planning application right. Thank you Norman Shuker, Nick Male and especially Andrew Grady who provided insightful input from a performers point of view.

This is partnership working at it's best The Town Council, Hertsmere Borough Council and The Studios Rotary Club and the Rotary Club of Elstree and Borehamwood.

I am absolutely delighted that Borehamwood will have Band Stand/ performance area for use by the whole community.

Thank you to Andrew Grady representing the Band Stand Committee.

A big thank you to the planning committee and to the officers at Hertsmere Borough Council who worked with us.

Thank you to Borehamwood Brass, Writers in the Woods, the Community Choir, Strummers in the Woods, Theatre Club Kids and K's School of Dance for their input and all the individuals who contributed their ideas to our questionnaire. Their suggestions have



been incorporated into the design.

Brass Band Concerts are planned for Sunday 27 June, Sunday 4 July, Sunday 11 July and Sunday 25 July from 3pm to 4.30pm. The Brass Band will be supported by local performers from different cultures and different genres.

A real ray of sunshine after a gloomy day!

Pat Strack

Tapestries of Faith

The Town Council supports the freedom of residents to choose a faith or to have none and it is proud of the rich tapestry of religious groups within the local community.

Tree planting

St Michael and All Angels Church, Brook Road, celebrated Christmas with a tree-planting ceremony on Christmas Day.

Revd Louise Collins says, "Thanks to a generous grant from Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council, we were able to plant a plum tree and an apple tree in the grounds of the church on Christmas Day. What better way to celebrate the birth of a Saviour than to create new life?"

God planted Jesus on Earth as a sign of hope for all people and we were inspired to plant trees for the same reason. Taking our lead from the Jewish festival of Tu B'Shevat, the 'New Year for Trees', we join with people of every faith and background in planting trees on our special occasions."

The ceremony was topped with an English carol by Elizabeth Poston, "Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree".

A message from Cllr A Collins

Since the lockdown due to the Coronavirus pandemic, constituents have been calling upon me with their various views on the matter. I am pleased to openly say: "Thanks for your fortitude against the Covid-19 virus that is disrupting the lives of people globally. You are very resilient!"

When I was a child, my grandmother read a Biblical story to me about 'neighbourliness and kindness.' It was the well known story of the Good Samaritan, a foreigner, who rescued and showed kindness and compassion to a man who was beaten by thieves and left by the roadside to die after being ignored by his fellow countrymen who walked by.

It is noteworthy that you have exhibited the exceptional qualities of a Good Samaritan by being there for others in times of need.

In the last months we've been privileged to see the considerable support and the selfless and tireless efforts of care workers, key workers, doctors, nurses, fire fighters, the faith community, food banks, volunteers, GP surgeries, researchers, neighbourhood police, bus drivers, ambulance service and many others.

Many residents have said to me: "When the time comes, we need to show our gratitude and recognition to those who have tirelessly worked to help others."

I shall seize the opportunity to thank all of you for being Good Samaritans and for being very supportive at this time with your kindness and for being good neighbours.



Borehamwood Mitzvah Day

Local faith leaders, school children, parents, an anti-hunger charity, a Jewish youth group and supportive members of the public came together on 15 November 2020 in a heart-warming display of unity in Borehamwood and Bushey's Mitzvah Day that was based around the themes of "Food Brings us Together" and "Celebrating Diversity".

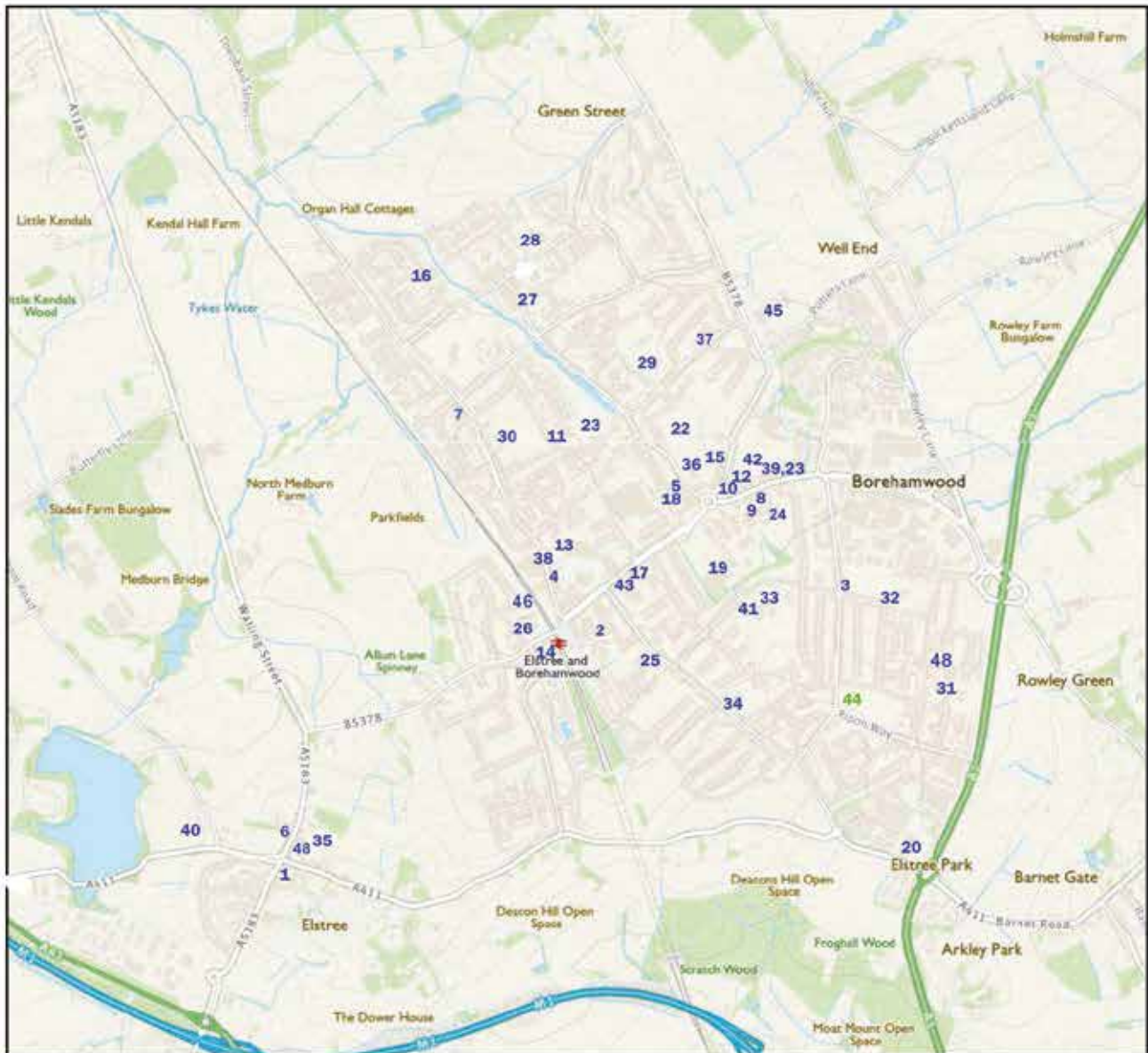
As part of the day, a special video was streamed live in which messages of peace and friendship were shared by local faith leaders from its Christian, Jewish, Hari Krishna and Muslim communities, together with the coordinators of local charity Gratitude. 3 It also featured drawings from local school children, at Yavneh Primary School and Yavneh College running on a loop, welcoming the Muslim community to their new Mosque in Maxwell Road, Borehamwood. The video has received a fantastic response on social media and can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/GuF27ar7te8>

ELSTREE & BOREHAMWOOD DEFIBRILLATOR PROJECT

LOCATIONS



ThamesLink/



Existing locations:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Cornerhouse Dental Care | 17. 96 Shenley Road | 35. St. Nicolas' C of E Primary School |
| 2. Drayton Road Dental Practice | 18. Fairway Hall * | 36. St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School |
| 3. Manor Way Dental Practice | 19. Tesco | 37. Hartforde Road |
| 4. Grove Medical Centre | 20. Morrisons | 38. Kinetic Centre |
| 5. Fairbrook Medical Centre | 21. Aberford Hall | 39. Ibis Hotel * |
| 6. Schopwick Medical Centre | 22. Boreham Wood F.C. | 40. Elstree Lawn Tennis Club |
| 7. Theobald Medical Centre | 23. The Venue | 41. Yavneh College |
| 8. Fire Station * | 24. Muslim Centre & Mosque | 42. Elstree Way Clinic |
| 9. Ambulance Station | 25. The BECC | 43. Pure Gym |
| 10. Police Station * | 26. Allum Hall | 44. Three Ways Community Centre |
| 11. Elstree & Borehamwood Synagogue | 27. Community Shop (Leeming Road) | 45. Hertswood Academy |
| 12. Hertsmere Borough Council | 28. Parkside Primary School | 46. Ohr Yisroel Synagogue |
| 13. Marks & Spencer | 29. Cowley Hill Primary School | 47. Howard Drive |
| 14. Elstree & Borehamwood Station * | 30. Meryfield Community Primary Sch. | 48. Elstree High Street |
| 15. St. Teresas Parish Centre * | 31. Saffron Green Primary School | |
| 16. SS John Fisher & Thomas More * | 32. Kenilworth Primary School | |
| | 33. Monksmead Primary School | |
| | 34. Summerswood Primary School | |

* Available 24 hours

Amended 24/1/2021 C. Butchins

Borehamwood Foodbank

Once again your generosity amazes us. Thank you so much.

Your generous giving reflects the concern and kindness that our community shows to one another. The foodbank is run by local people with donations from local people, businesses and organisations – it is incredible. We have also maintained a full team of volunteers to meet the increased needs. Thank you.



We gave out 180 hampers this Christmas – nearly double last year's total. For so many at this tough time you made their Christmas.

We established our school lunch packs at the start of the first lockdown. A very generous donation of activity packs from Active London along with our inhouse craft packs gave fun, enjoyment and stimulation and our food including fresh foods and home cooked items helped to fill hungry tums.

A very difficult year

Many who were managing OK before the pandemic have found themselves struggling to cover all the costs of the basics. There really is no shame in asking for help and the team are very kind and approachable. Please do come along and we will do all we can to make life a bit easier for you.

We are very careful to be as Covid secure as possible and we fumigate the hall for every session and heed all government advice to keep us all safe.

Our open sessions are Mondays 1pm - 3.30pm and Thursdays 10am - 12.30pm at St Teresa's Church hall Shenley Road. Please contact info@borehamwood.foodbank.org.uk for further information.



Maxwell Park Community Centre

Installation of heat recovery ventilation

Coronavirus has emphasised the importance of adequate ventilation as an integral part of our everyday lives, providing a supply of clean fresh air, combined with air movement where we work, at home and where we learn and play.

The Maxwell Park Community Centre is a thriving multi-purpose indoor venue serving the Borehamwood community. The centre hosts a wide array of support groups, special interest clubs, classes and special events throughout the year in their main hall and supporting lounge and studio rooms.



At the heart of the centre is the versatile main hall, capable of hosting up to 180 people. With no windows they can open, the centre management spoke to Spheretech, seeking a ventilation solution to enable them to continue hosting future events safely and comfortably all year round.

Spheretech specified a heat recovery ventilation (HRV) solution, designed to supply sufficient tempered and filtered fresh air, heated with the recovered warmth from the extracted air. The system installed ensures the room remains comfortable during colder months, but with the advantage of twin energy recovery heat exchangers, each is capable of delivering 2000 cubic meters of fresh air every hour.

Allied to adequate ventilation, the centre management also requested minimal duct work to maintain the aesthetics of the room. Spheretech therefore designed the ventilation system with heat exchangers positioned at high level, close to the external walls, with short ductwork and specially designed swan neck ducting and swirl diffusers to allow an even distribution of fresh air throughout the room.

"One of the most rewarding aspects of this job is that by installing a HRV system, our client has demonstrated its consideration and foresight to provide a comfortable and safe environment for the community now and for the future."

Hertsmere Mencap training programme

Hertsmere Mencap has just launched a pilot IT project to help tackle the heightened risk of isolation, loneliness and the deterioration of mental health faced by adults with a learning disability.

Coronavirus has highlighted the impact of digital exclusion among the most vulnerable. In particular, Hertsmere Mencap and charities with similar causes have reported how their members who are not online often struggle more in multiple areas compared to their peers with internet access.

The Hertfordshire Community Foundation (HCF) has provided a £5,000 grant from its 'Coronavirus Emergency Fund' for the creation of a three-month pilot project, for six adults with no prior experience of using technology to participate in a six-week IT training programme, including the loan of an iPad.

On completion of the personalised programme, trainees will be able to register online for various services, such as supermarket shopping and doctor's appointments. They will learn how to communicate with their friends and loved ones and how to join Zoom meetings, including 'Coffee Morning' and 'Dance Aerobics', hosted by Hertsmere Mencap. Trainees will also be shown how to access other support services online, browse the internet and play games. In some cases, they will be shown how to access their local jobcentre to encourage them to undertake online training courses with help and advice about finding work.

The pilot project has been designed by a small, dedicated team of

volunteers, who are experts in their field, with a view to rolling it out to all members of Hertsmere Mencap who lack IT knowledge.

Jake Lesner, volunteer trainer said: "I am so happy to be helping people, especially with something that they may not have had a chance to do had it not been for Hertsmere Mencap. I love helping people, whatever their needs are - tailoring sessions to the specific person".

Following his first session, Michael Hammond, Hertsmere Mencap learner said: "I was a bit nervous at the start as I have never used an iPad, but it was awesome and I loved learning how to play games on the iPad too. I did much better than I expected and I'm excited about next week."

Paul Moser, chair of Hertsmere Mencap, said: "Our members need to maintain their social interactions, many of which are now only possible online. We intend for the new IT skills learned to continue to benefit our members, parents and carers beyond the period of lockdown and enhance their quality of life and mental health. We are hoping to grow the confidence of our members in using technology to aid their everyday lives."

For more information, contact Lucy Sitton, Head of Communications.

Tel 07938 722 619. Email hdcmm@hertsmereencap.org.uk



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Maxwell Park Community Centre

Affordable, bright spacious hall seating up to 180, meeting rooms and mirrored dance studio are available for hire with use of kitchen and car park.



Regular activities include:

Bar-K Line Dancing, Beezee Families, B'Nai Maccabim Synagogue, Clarion Job Club, Cocaine Anonymous, Digital Hub (FREE Internet Access and Tuition), DrugFam, E&BW Table Tennis (Juniors & Seniors), Fifty Plus (Art, Bowls, Bridge, Table Tennis), Fit Club, Friends of Care Homes, Guideposts, Guitar Club, Hartbeeps, HAFSL (Adult Learning Courses), K's School of Dance, Keep Fit, Krav Maga, Mencap (Music & Movement, Drama), MFMM Church, MoveDanceSweat, Music Tuition, Shogun Karate, Studio Quilters, Sundance Line Dancing, Tap Dancing, Tinnitus Support, U3A Card Games, U3A Ukulele Group, Visually Impaired Club, We Move She Moves (Pound, Golden Dance Fit, Pilates), Yoga (Dynamic & Pregnancy)

There's something for everyone!

See website for details - www.maxwellpcc.org

For private or regular hire please call: 020 8953 4295
or email info@maxwellpcc.org

Rotary Club of The Studios of Elstree and Borehamwood



The Studios Rotary Club sent £250 to Kids Out Charity

Normally children in our town have been beneficiaries of this charity. 300 Year 6 children visited the Reel Cinema in summer 2018 and 2019 and winter 2018 and winter 2019 to watch Jurassic Park, Fantastic Beasts and Frozen.

This year, as Covid restrictions made any visit impossible. Kids Out Charity started a new initiative: a toy box for every 'Every refuge, every child'. The toy boxes were distributed and delivered to the refuge before Christmas. The refuge staff were asked to give the toy boxes to the mothers nearer to Christmas Day.

As you can imagine, Christmas is always tough for families in a refuge, with this year set to be harder than usual. Most children arrive at a refuge with only the clothes on their back, restricted to a single room with their mother and siblings. Mothers struggle to provide basic essentials, let alone toys for their children at Christmas. With 78% of families in refuges having no access to a TV, you can only imagine the difference these toys made. As an aside, Kids Out has also provided

1300 families who have no access to a food bank or the school voucher scheme with a £25 supermarket voucher for Christmas. We have also sent out 7500 goodie bags for disadvantaged children.

"The Rotary Christmas toy boxes will provide children in refuge with brand-new toys to support mental health and make the world a little kinder. The toys are given to the mother so that she can provide the toys from Santa and not from charity. This is so important for the mother's self-esteem at such a distressing time." - Sara Docherty, Kids Out Charity

"Refuge life can be difficult, especially for families, and the added pressure for parents to ensure their children have presents to open on Christmas morning causes a lot of stress and upset for our mums – especially if finances are tight. However, your toys mean we can provide our amazing families with the opportunity to have a lovely Christmas Day... please know your toys will be put towards making a child smile this Christmas." - Refuge support worker

This was a wonderful contribution and I would ask you to pass on our sincere thanks to Studios Rotarians.

David Palmer



The Best Care In Town

I would like to thank Clare Sweeney and her amazing team at Chelmscare based in Borehamwood, for the Home Care, love and devotion that they gave my mum Diane for almost two years.

it was my mum's wish not to go into a Care Home, and this team made her fulfil her dreams. The Carers went above and beyond there duty of Care, and in such difficult times they always had a smile on their faces. They made mum laugh, retain her dignity and became her friend opposed to carers.

Before Covid when mum was admitted to hospital, they would visit taking chocolates, on the day of the mums funeral the manager Clare attended that afternoon a beautiful flower arrangement arrived at the door.

Keep up the amazing work Chelmscare, and stay safe.

Karen Moore and family



Foot Health by Jessica
 Jessica Jenkins MAFHP MCFHP
 Foot Health Practitioner
 Graduate of the SMAE Institute



Foot Care in the comfort of your home

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A member of the British association of the Foot Health Professionals (MAFHP) & member of the college of foot health professionals (MCFHP)



Studios Rotary Club awards LOVE chocolates

M&M donated boxes of chocolates to Rotary District 1130. Each Rotary Club was asked to nominate a person or organisation to receive the token as an award for service to the community.

Studios Rotarian, Karen Moore, nominated Signature Care Home, Elton House, on the A41. This care home opened recently. The staff have worked hard to keep residents safe from Covid and to bring cheer to their lives as they cannot have visitors.

Studios Club president, Victor Eni, presented the LOVE chocolates to staff. In attendance were Sandra Parnell past president and Rotarians Andrew Grady and Karen Moore.

Pat Strack



Young Ambassadors

Studios Rotary Club working with Hertswood Academy, and Clarion Foundation have at last got the initiative started to support young people at the Academy.



Corina Best will be working virtually with a group of teenagers from Hertswood starting in February. She is starting the Young Ambassadors scheme working with young people. Corina worked for many years at Hertsme Borough Council as Youth Projects Officer, so knows the area well and has worked with young people in the town before.

Clarion Foundation have funded the project with £10,000 and it has been match funded. The total £20,000 is to support a Youth Club and youth projects at Hertswood. Covid restrictions have stopped the scheme getting off the ground sooner but it will start as soon guidance allows.

In the meantime it will start virtually. There is still space for young women aged 13-17 to get involved in the programme which will be delivered online this year. You can contact Corina for more information on 07832 205787.

Corina Best
carina@carinabest.com

Rotary Club of Elstree & Borehamwood

Elstree and Borehamwood Rotary Club wins Covid-19 Special Award

The Rotary Club of Elstree and Borehamwood has been recognised with a certificate of appreciation by the London District for services to the local community during the Covid-19 pandemic.

President Clive Butchins was delighted to receive the award on behalf of all the members and in particular memory of recently deceased long-term Rotarian Mayor Councillor Cynthia Barker.

Rotary is an international service organisation with over 1 million members bringing together business and professional leaders to provide humanitarian service and to advance goodwill and peace around the world.

The Elstree and Borehamwood club has been serving the community for nearly 80 years. The club has recently raised funds for international projects, such as Shelter Box and providing a well to give fresh water to a village in Uganda, as well as important local projects including the NSPCC, Gratitude and Borehamwood Foodbank to help alleviate fuel



poverty. We presented 'Love' sweets for the volunteers at the Foodbank.

Rotary is also about fellowship, friendship and building leadership qualities. Anyone joining Rotary will become a member of the largest networking organisation in the world. Rotarians are welcome at any club meeting in almost every major city on the planet.

Despite the lockdown, the club is still meeting on Zoom on alternative Thursday nights at 6:30pm. New members, guests and speakers are welcome.

For more information, contact Clive on clive@myself.com or via the club website.



Environment



Woodcock Hill Village Green

10 December was the closing date for responses to the Planning Inspectorate on the application by Taylor Wimpey to deregister part of Woodcock Hill Village Green, with the ultimate intention of building there.

Alex Melson worked hard on the response to Taylor Wimpey's 50 page submission to the Secretary of State through the Planning Inspectorate. WHVG committee was lucky enough to secure support from the Environmental Law Foundation who appointed a barrister to work with us pro bono. He helped Alex with the documents, alongside Clive Butchins.

Alex Melson was also helped with the ecological report by Matt Dodds, from Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust. This was a major challenge to Taylor Wimpey's assertions that the exchange land was of equal diversity to the land they wanted to take.

The committee was overwhelmed with the number of responses from environmental organisations: CPRE the countryside charity, Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust, Elstree and Borehamwood Green Belt Society

and The Open Spaces Society all objected to the deregistration of the land. Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council, Hertsmere Borough Council and Elstree and Borehamwood Residents Association all objected vigorously to the proposals. Oliver Dowden MP lent his strong support to stop the deregistration.

There were many responses from individual families and residents pleading for this wonderful nature reserve to be preserved for posterity. No one wants a formal or even rural park to replace what we have now.

We now wait for the Planning Inspectorate's decision whether it will deal with the case by written evidence or call a public inquiry. The public inquiry held to register Woodcock Hill as a Village Green in 2008 cost £40,000.

Thank you to all who delivered leaflets and a big thank you to Kiah and Ollie for our new website. All responses can be viewed at www.woodcockhill.org.uk

Please join us as a member minimum £5 per household per annum. Contact Pat Strack email pat.strack@ntlworld.com 020 8386 3151.

Aldenham Country Park: Family time outside during the national lockdown

Happy New Year from the team at Aldenham Country Park. The first signs of spring are here; our pregnant ewes are due to give birth soon and we have spotted the first snowdrop shoots. A sign from nature that brighter days are coming.

The park and 100 Aker Wood remain open for exercise during this national lockdown. So, if you're looking to up your daily step count, doing the couch to 5K or just need a break from work or home schooling, there are nature walks, running routes and woods aplenty for your much needed time outside. In fact, we have over 100 acres of countryside to explore, so there's plenty of space for social distancing.



Dress up well, bring your wellies and please adhere to government guidelines and visit in your family bubbles. Don't forget to

treat yourself to a take away hot drink, slice of cake or hot sausage roll from Clock House Kiosk or Rustic Rhubarb café.

Half Term & Easter Holidays

We are hoping that the farm will be allowed to fully open in time for February half term and camping facilities for Easter holidays. We are very much looking forward to having our visitors back. Please keep up-to-date with our latest news on Facebook ([facebook.com/aldenhamcountrypark.co.uk](https://www.facebook.com/aldenhamcountrypark.co.uk)).

Help us care for the animals

Even though our farm is closed to the public, our animals still need feeding, cleaning, nurturing and having any medical issues taken care of. The costs of these, I'm sure you can imagine, are very high.

As a not-for-profit enterprise, when we are open to the public the income we generate from paying customers covers these expenditures. During this difficult time, we would like to ask for any small contributions towards the cost of running the farm.

Please donate on our website aldenhamcountrypark.co.uk or visit our donations page, Go Fund Me <https://www.gofundme.com/help-support-aldenham-country-park>



Elstree and Borehamwood Green Belt Society

We are sad to record the death in November 2020 of our chairman for many years, Avril Chick. Her time in office will be remembered for the first campaign, in the sixtiesbgreenbelt.org, to save Woodcock Hill and the Horses Field, Furzehill Road, from building development. We remember her charm and good nature. RIP.

Our devoted Web Secretary, Patrick O'Donnell, died in September 2020. He is greatly missed by all for his valued contribution to our work though his unstinting help with the web and printing costs and for his kind and gentle personal friendship. RIP.

Unhindered by the pandemic, Elstree & Borehamwood Green Belt Society has continued to meet via Zoom and campaign for the



preservation of historic and beautiful Aldenham Reservoir and for full access for the public.

We have played our part in the resistance to the deregistration of Woodcock Hill as a village green. This would have enabled housing development on the lower part of the Hill, an outcome deeply repugnant to the local community and conservation bodies.

We have objected to the proposal to build 250 houses, a care home and medical premises on the Allum Lane fields, a Green Belt area. Our suggestion as a site for the new and necessary Schopwick surgery is the old Kiss Kiss restaurant building or the Mere site on Watford Road, previously put forward for housing but refused permission in 2016.

EBGBS has also opposed the installation of solar panels in the fields off Butterfly Lane on the grounds of loss of Green Belt and damage to the neighbourhood environment and the ecology. 123 hectares is a large loss of greenfield to 'industrialisation' and it would be better sited away from heavily populated areas.

My thanks to all the committee members and supporters.

Please support us by joining. Website ebgreenbelt.org for contact details.

Ann Goddard

Chairman Elstree and Borehamwood Green Belt Society

Patients unhappy about Schopwick Surgery relocation plans

In November 2020 Schopwick announced plans to relocate their surgery at Romeland, Elstree to a site off Allum Lane.

Haven Health Properties Limited (HHP) designed and marketed the new surgery. The Doctors believed the development would be quickly approved with building work starting June 2021.

All patients were sent a leaflet explaining the relocation and asked to respond to a survey. Following a huge response from patients unhappy with the proposal, Schopwick Surgery invited patients to a Zoom meeting on 17 December 2020.

The main issues with the relocation are:

- 1. Move from Elstree:** With no other surgery in Elstree village and the new site being close to The Grove Medical Centre, a move from Elstree village was not welcomed by village residents.
- 2. Green Belt:** The proposed site is on green belt land, which should only be used in exceptional circumstances. Other potential sites had been dismissed due to high cost, whereas green belt land was a cheaper and easier option explained Yvonne Landau of HHP. This outrageous statement angered many local residents who have fought to protect local green belt.



- 3. Communication:** The survey was not fit for purpose with loaded questions and no option for comments. The zoom meeting was a sales pitch inferring a 'fait accompli', with no opportunity for attendees to ask questions or express opinions.
- 4. Combined development:** The new surgery will combine a new Care Home and 280 houses on site BE1 (developers Endurance Estates). BE1 is under consideration in the 'Local Plan' that has not yet been issued or approved.

The Patient Liaison Leaflet and updates on this proposal can be found on the ALFA (Allum Lane Fields Association) website www.alfaelstree.weebly.com. ALFA are in communication with the Planning Officers and Councillors and working closely with Elstree and Borehamwood Green Belt Society www.ebgreenbelt.org

Fantastic response from volunteers at Communities 1st

We have seen an amazing response to the Covid-19 crisis from our dedicated volunteers. They have been donating their time to help vulnerable people who are shielding or isolating, by delivering their shopping and collecting their prescription medicine. The community has pulled together brilliantly to provide these people with crucial support, and allow them to remain safe at home.

Barbara Weight is a vulnerable resident using our shopping delivery service - "We don't know what we would have done without them... we're absolutely thrilled with their services".

We have also been providing a 'telephone befriending' service, launched to combat the loneliness and isolation that has increased since the beginning of the pandemic. This initiative has had a marvellous response from both clients and volunteer callers. Over Christmas our wonderful volunteers called around 200 clients, wishing them a merry Christmas and checking in on them.



Amy Woods is a volunteer telephone befriender to Peggy and Diane - "They are incredible women and it has been a privilege to have been part of their story."

Most recently we began recruiting volunteers for the Hertfordshire vaccination centres. Volunteers are stationed both inside and outside, helping with stewarding, front of house, patient observation, patient advocacy and administrative support.

So far 191 volunteers have undertaken 3,208 hours of volunteering in these centres – an amazing community effort! The number of centres will soon be increasing, so we will need as many volunteers as possible!

If you would like to volunteer with us in any capacity, you can sign up or find more information at www.communities1st.org.uk/CovidSteward, email volunteer@communities1st.org.uk or phone 020 3940 4865. In particular, we are looking for volunteers in Bushey to help with shopping deliveries.

Stephen Craker
Chief Executive
Communities 1st



Thameslink supports community vaccination drive

Rail operator Thameslink is supporting community Covid vaccination campaigns by making space available for NHS staff in its station car park at Elstree & Borehamwood.

Station car parks are mostly empty because people are heeding government lockdown advice to stay at home where possible. They are also often well situated in the heart of their communities.

Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group approached Thameslink through the Town Council and community group Communities 1st looking for extra parking space to free up spaces at the community hall at nearby Allum Manor.

Thameslink Managing Director Tom Moran said: "Our staff have been working throughout this pandemic to keep services clean, safe

and operating, and I'm genuinely delighted that there's something else we can do with to further support our communities."

Clr Pat Strack, leader of Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council, said: "Getting the use of these parking spaces so swiftly is a measure of the goodwill that we have with so many partners in the town, including Thameslink. This greatly benefits our residents."

"We are delighted that Allum Manor was chosen to be the local hub for the whole of Hertsmere. Allum Manor Trustees have worked hard to ensure that everything runs efficiently and smoothly, and staff have been able to help put visitors at ease, thanks to the leadership of Centre Manager Tony Battison."

Patrick Ladbury
Stakeholder Manager
Thameslink and Great Northern Railways



Our local Covid-19 vaccination centre is open!



After a challenging year for all of us, roll-out of the Covid-19 vaccine is well under way.

Residents aged 80 and over, people living and working in care homes and health and care workers were the first groups to be contacted by GP practices, followed by patients aged 70 and over, plus others at extreme clinical risk from a health condition.

Patients can help greatly by NOT contacting their GP, but waiting until it is their turn to be vaccinated. Nobody will be forgotten.

The first Hertsmere vaccines were delivered on 7 January from a GP-run vaccination centre at Allum Hall in Elstree. Thousands of vaccinations have been delivered, rates growing as supplies of vaccine increase.

Dr Alex Byrne, GP at Schopwick Surgery, Chair of Herts Health GP Federation and one of the organisers, said: "General Practices across Hertsmere are working together to offer a community-based Covid-19 vaccination service. We've worked tirelessly to get all the elements in place, from fridges to parking signs, to ensure a safe and efficient system.

It has taken a huge team effort involving not only our practice and other NHS staff, but also Hertsmere Borough and Hertfordshire County Councils, Allum Manor trustees, voluntary agencies, the fire service, local police, schools and supermarkets. All of this has been done whilst maintaining our usual GP services."

Everyone vaccinated will need a booster jab. A few weeks later antibodies will reach optimum level but even then it's possible to pass on the virus so people need to continue following government guidance (hand hygiene, social distancing and wearing face coverings).

People in priority groups may also receive a letter from the NHS inviting them to book at a large scale vaccination site; Robertson House in Stevenage was the first such site to open in Hertfordshire. However, patients can continue to wait until their GP contacts them.

The vaccination centre required an extraordinary effort by many local groups and individuals, combining resources, skills and experience for the sake of our community.

Cllr Pat Strack, Leader of Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council praised everyone taking part: 'All reports are positive; the centre is efficient and

friendly. Allum Manor hosted flu jabs clinics last Autumn and has always been run for our community, while Communities 1st organised the volunteers and GTR Thameslink offered car park spaces for NHS staff.'

Dr. Ann Goddard, Chair of Trustees added: 'Allum Manor exists to serve our local community. When Herts Valleys CCG asked if we would host a Covid-19 vaccination centre we didn't hesitate for an instant. My fellow trustees felt Allum Hall would be an excellent location; thankfully the team of GPs and CCG staff with whom we work agreed! Dedicated teamwork by our staff has helped make this possible.'

Chief Executive of Communities 1st, Steven Craker, and his staff brought together a formidable crew of enthusiastic energetic volunteers happy to work long hours to support medical staff. Their efforts are described elsewhere, as is the contribution of parking spaces by GTR Thameslink.

Social media has been ringing with praises: 'I've just taken my 92 year old Mum to Allum Hall for her vaccination. We were treated with respect and looked after by everyone. The atmosphere was very relaxing. Well done everyone. Not worried now when I have to go for mine.'

Allum Manor also hosts a NHS Patient Assessment Centre (PAC). Located in temporary buildings in a sectioned-off part of the car park, it opened on 1 December 2020 and is available by appointment only (1pm to 6pm Monday to Friday) for patients referred by their GP or NHS111. Testing for Covid-19 is NOT part of the service.

Dr Kate Page, senior partner at Fairbrook Medical Centre and Hertsmere Locality Chair for Herts Valleys CCG said, 'Patient Assessment Centres are led by GPs and an important part of our response to Covid-19. They provide dedicated support for Covid-19 patients in the community – allowing GP practices to focus on helping patients with other health issues. We're extremely grateful to the Allum Manor Trustees for giving up space so that we can support local patients.'

In December the PAC assessed over 100 patients, as well as arranging home visits, and is operating at 75 % of capacity.

For more information visit www.hertsvalleysccg.nhs.uk/your-health-and-services/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-know/vaccination-qanda and www.healthierfuture.org.uk/covid

Bob Redman





The Jewish Life Centre Chanukkah celebrations 2020

I and my grandson Daniel and his wife Kelly went to this very unique event in their own car of course keeping to the law.

It was entertaining, fun and full of surprises for everyone. We sat in our cars, as this was the only way that we could attend the evening listening to 87.3 straight into our car radio's so we could hear and join in all that was going on around us.

We were in front of a massive screen and stage where we had a DJ with mask on. He did a wonderful job as did Rabbi Chaim Hoch.

There was a man on stilts walking in between cars and performing tricks, there were people coming round with small boxes of food, i.e. a doughnut and other small goodies.

The DJ announced to sound your horn if you had ordered food all of us were sounding our horns, he also announced flash your lights if you wanted a drink so we were sounding our horns and flashing our lights, it was an electrifying evening of events from start to finish.

The Chanukkah was lit and we all celebrated singing moaz tsur this song has been sung through the ages it was beautiful.



It was the most well-planned event in such hard circumstances that I have ever experienced. I believe all their hard work paid off. The Town Council gave a grant to help this event on its way to success and I really can say it was absolutely that a success. I am delighted that all the town councillors agreed to this grant.

Everyone of us sat in our cars and had a wonderful fun evening and I am looking forward to the same this year 2021. My thanks to all that helped this event to be so much enjoyed.

Sandra Parnell

Goods For Good

Goods For Good is a small British charity that was set up in 2014 by Rosalind Bluestone at her dining room table in Borehamwood. Six years on the charity has grown in size and impact.

With a lean staff-team of two full time and two part-time members, it's supported by a valuable network of 250 volunteers. To date the charity has delivered over £22 million worth of donated goods globally to vulnerable people in need in the UK and 24 countries overseas, including Eastern Europe, former Soviet Union, the Middle East, Africa, and the Philippines.

Since the pandemic the demand for local help has greatly increased. The charity has increased its activities supporting more weekly requests from UK charities supporting vulnerable people – such as emergency foodbanks, housing associations, asylum seekers' and refugee organisations, providing quality clothing, footwear, bedding, cleaning and hygiene and essential toiletries for families in desperate need of help.

Since the pandemic we've worked with:

- over 38 local charity partners;
- delivering over £268K worth of essential goods;
- to over 43,000 people.

Goods For Good works hard to alleviate poverty and reduce waste by delivering essential, life-changing goods to those in urgent need in the UK and internationally.



We are very grateful to Mayor Simon Rubner for his continued volunteering over the past year and for mobilising the community in Borehamwood to collect vital goods needed by the vulnerable people we support. Recently in response to SOS appeals for toiletries and new underwear and socks, the community united to collect these goods with the help of Studios Rotary, Borehamwood Synagogue and St Michaels Church.

It's a sad reality that millions of people beset by poverty, tragedy or disaster live without basic goods such as clothing, medicines, blankets or hygiene products. We believe that everyone has a right to dignity and hope and with collaborations with the community and British companies, it allows us to reach people in desperate need of the everyday essential items we often take for granted.

Rosalind Bluestone



GMSP Foundation

During the summer, GMSP Foundation worked with Gratitude and Compassion London to deliver hot meals to families in Cowley Hill.

Approximately 250 meals were delivered every day. Compassion London cooked the meals. Gratitude organised the volunteers and the distribution and GMSP Foundation funded the project. The project was a huge success.

Thereafter, during the Christmas break, Hertsmere Borough Council, GMSP and Akshaya Patra joined forces to work and deliver nutritious hot meals to children in Hertsmere who are usually eligible for free school meals. The council and volunteers worked very hard to make this happen and the response was positive.

Meenal Sachdev



Borehamwood library is open for Ready Reads

Our successful Ready Reads scheme has been running for a while now, to keep people reading during the past few months. We are allowed to run a click and collect type service like many other businesses, and this is how it works: You can access this service online at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/readysreads or via the call centre on 0300 123 4049.



Step 1 - you order

Tell us what you want to read and which participating library you want to collect from. You won't be able to request specific authors or titles.

If you can't use the online request form, you can ring us on 0300 123 4049.



Step 2 - we select

We'll select a pack of books based on your choices and the stock available. We'll do our best to find books you will enjoy.



Step 3 - you collect

We'll contact you when your pack is ready for collection from your selected library. Please bring your own bag and pick them up from the library door. We'll issue the books to your card, so all you have to do is collect them.

No other access to the library will be possible.

All of the books are quarantined for three days before being issued and facemasks must be worn in the building. We have hand sanitiser available and social distancing is in place so you can feel safe when you come in to collect your book packs from the front desk.

So why not use a walk to the library as part of your daily exercise one day and then you can stay safely at home reading your books? Most books can be renewed online, via the app or by phone if you want to keep them a bit longer.



To advertise in the Town Crier please contact Dan Salter on **020 8207 1382** or email at dsalter@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

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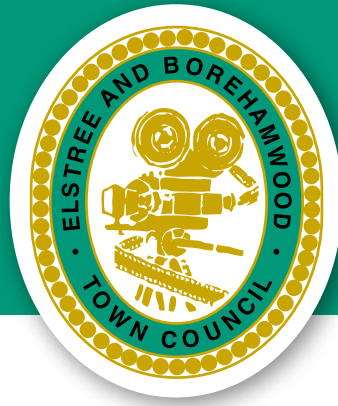
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 Borehamwood, WD6 1DX



Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Wednesday 3 March 2021 at 7.30 pm

ON ZOOM WEBINAR:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84885764663>

or

Through Town Council website homepage:
<http://www.elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk/>

Dear residents of Elstree and Borehamwood

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting called by the Mayor,
Cllr Simon Rubner.

The Annual Parish Meeting is usually held at Fairway Hall but this year will be by a Zoom Webinar and is an opportunity for electors to have their say on anything they consider to be important to the people of Elstree and Borehamwood.

Any registered elector is welcome to attend.

The Council may invite local clubs, societies or other voluntary and statutory organisations to speak about the work of their group and how they are dealing with the current pandemic.

The incoming Youth Council Chairman will make a short address.

Cllr Simon Rubner
Town Mayor

Cllr Mrs P Strack
Leader of Council

H R O Jones
Town Clerk

Tel: 0208 207 1382

Web: www.elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT

“Who do I talk to about.....?”

With three tiers of local government in Hertfordshire, it can be confusing knowing which authority to contact about a particular service or issue.

Here is a brief list of key functions covered by each council to help untangle the web and to show who does what in your area.

Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council is responsible for:

- The office of the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Mayoral engagements
- The management of the three allotment sites at Melrose Avenue, Allum Lane and Stapleton Gardens
- Support of the town twinning with Fontenay-aux-Roses and Offenburg
- A programme of entertainment and events throughout the year such as the two week Summer Festival (including the Civic Parade and Families Day), Guy Fawkes night fireworks, Christmas lights switch-on and musical concerts (including the BBC Band and local bands)
- Coach outings for residents over 60 years of age
- The award of grants to local groups and charities and honorary titles to local champions
- The free quarterly magazine “Town Crier”
- Street seating, some notice boards and church clocks
- Upkeep of closed churchyards (All Saints on Shenley Road and St Nicholas in Elstree)
- Upkeep of Elstree and Borehamwood war memorials

- Support for school swimming transport
- Youth Council
- Transport and Road Safety Forum
- Community Safety meetings

Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council is the council closest to the residents in the parish. The Town Council is here to be a voice for the residents by representing their views on issues affecting them.

Call: 020 8207 1382 or visit www.elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

Hertsmere Borough Council is responsible for:

- The collection of council tax and business rates
- Kerbside waste and recycling collections, including fly tipping
- Benefits
- Community safety
- Elections
- Street cleaning
- Housing needs
- Local planning and building regulations
- Public car parks and controlled parking zones
- Licensing and environmental health
- Cemeteries

- Leisure services (operated by Hertsmere Leisure) including The Venue and all parks

Hertsmere Borough Council deals with issues covering the whole of Hertsmere and has a very regulatory remit.

Call: 020 8207 2277 or visit www.hertsmere.gov.uk

Hertfordshire County Council is responsible for:

- Highways
- Education and libraries
- Social services
- Trading standards
- Public transport
- Bus passes and disabled parking permits
- Registrar of births, deaths and marriages
- Street lighting, pavements and cycle ways
- Adoption and fostering
- Fire and rescue services
- Recycling centres
- Footpaths and rights of way

Hertfordshire County Council is the top tier of local government and provides services on a county-wide basis

Call: 0300 123 4040 or visit www.hertsdirect.org

Precept 2021/22

At its meeting on 13 January 2021, the Council set the precept demand (the Council’s share of the Council Tax for the year) at £495,577.22. Town and Parish Councils take just 2% of the full council tax allocation and receive no direct funding from Central Government. For a typical Band D Elstree and Borehamwood household this equates to a 0% increase, or freeze, from the previous year. As such, the Band D household will continue to pay £36.99 per year for all Town Council Services.

Community Grants

Since the last edition of the Town Crier, the Council has awarded the following Community Grants:

- The Chai Centre (Jewish Life Centre) - £5,000 (Hanukkah Event);
- All Saints Church - £500 (Lighting);
- St Michael and All Angels Church - £6,500 (Building Improvements and Christmas Activities/Community Aid).

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) - Fairway Hall/Council Offices

In previous Town Criers, the Council has sought the views of residents in how best to spend CIL monies (developer contributions that the



Council receives for infrastructure projects). One possibility that has been raised is to extend the Community Hall run by the Town Council to increase the number of residents who can enjoy events at these purpose-built facilities. This extension would include increasing Office space and creating a bigger and a fit for purpose meeting room with proper disabled access in order that residents could better engage with the democratic processes of the authority. The Council is investigating options through its General Management Committee and is further considering the possibility of letting out part of the site to raise income to help pay for Council services. As part of its public engagement policy, the Committee is keen to ascertain what the public’s opinion of such a scheme might be and interested residents and Community Groups are asked to get in touch with the Council with their views (see Contacting the Council staff on page 31 of this edition).

Town Councillors

2020/21 Mayor: Cllr Simon Rubner

2020/21 Deputy Mayor: Cllr Sandra Parnell

Borehamwood Hillside



Cllr Sandra Parnell (Con)

cllr.sandra.parnell@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
020 8953 0832



Cllr Clive Butchins (Con)

cllr.clive.butchins@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
020 8207 1382



Cllr Pat Strack (Con)

cllr.pat.strack@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
020 8386 3151

Borehamwood Cowley Hill



Cllr Richard Butler (Lab)

cllr.richard.butler@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
07706 079439



Cllr Alpha B Collins (Lab)

cllr.alpha.collins@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
07880 521971



Cllr Michelle Vince (Lab)

cllr.michelle.vince@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
07549 130736

Borehamwood Brookmeadow



Cllr Victor Eni (Con)

cllr.victor.eni@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
07884 056187



Cllr Simon Rubner (Con) Mayor

cllr.simon.rubner@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
07870 648227

Borehamwood Kenilworth South



Cllr Prabhakar Kaza (Lab)

cllr.prabhakar.kaza@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
07958 146582



Cllr Jeremy Newmark (Lab)

cllr.jeremy.newmark@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
020 3637 9930

Borehamwood Kenilworth North



Cllr Sam Lawrence (Con)

cllr.sam.lawrence@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
07576 393239

Borehamwood Shenley Road



Cllr Rebecca Challice (Lab)

cllr.rebecca.butler@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
07929 661391

Elstree



Cllr Farida Turner (Con)

cllr.farida.turner@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
07977 380173

Town Council offices are closed until further notice. To contact a member of staff, please use the emails below.

Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council meetings

Online meeting links can be found at www.elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

16 February	Environment & Planning	Zoom	7.00pm
17 February	Transport Forum	Zoom	7.00pm
24 February	Youth Council	Zoom	6.30pm
2 March	Entertainments	Zoom	7.00pm
3 March	ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL	Zoom	7.30pm
10 March	FULL COUNCIL	Zoom	7.30pm
16 March	Environment & Planning	Zoom	7.00pm
24 March	Community Safety Meeting	Zoom	7.00pm
30 March	Entertainments	Zoom	7.00pm
20 April	Environment & Planning	Zoom	7.00pm
22 April	General Management	Zoom	7.00pm

Note: Times and venues of meetings may be changed at short notice. Meetings listed are open to the press and public.

Contacting the Council staff

Phone: 020 8207 1382 (all staff)

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

Website: www.elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

For information on the Town Crier, contact the editor below or for FAQs and guidelines visit our website

Huw Jones - Town Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer

Email: clerk@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

Tracey Malton - Deputy Clerk and Finance Officer

Email: tmalton@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

Dan Salter - Entertainments Officer & Town Crier Editor

Email: dsalter@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

Jenny Simon - Mayor's Secretary

Email: admin@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

Neil Robinson - Hall Supervisor

Email: nrobinson@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

Paul Miller - Hall Supervisor

Email: pmiller@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

Anne Nicodemus and Steve Hall - Council Wardens

Email: warden@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

Hall Bookings

Email: hall.bookings@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk



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