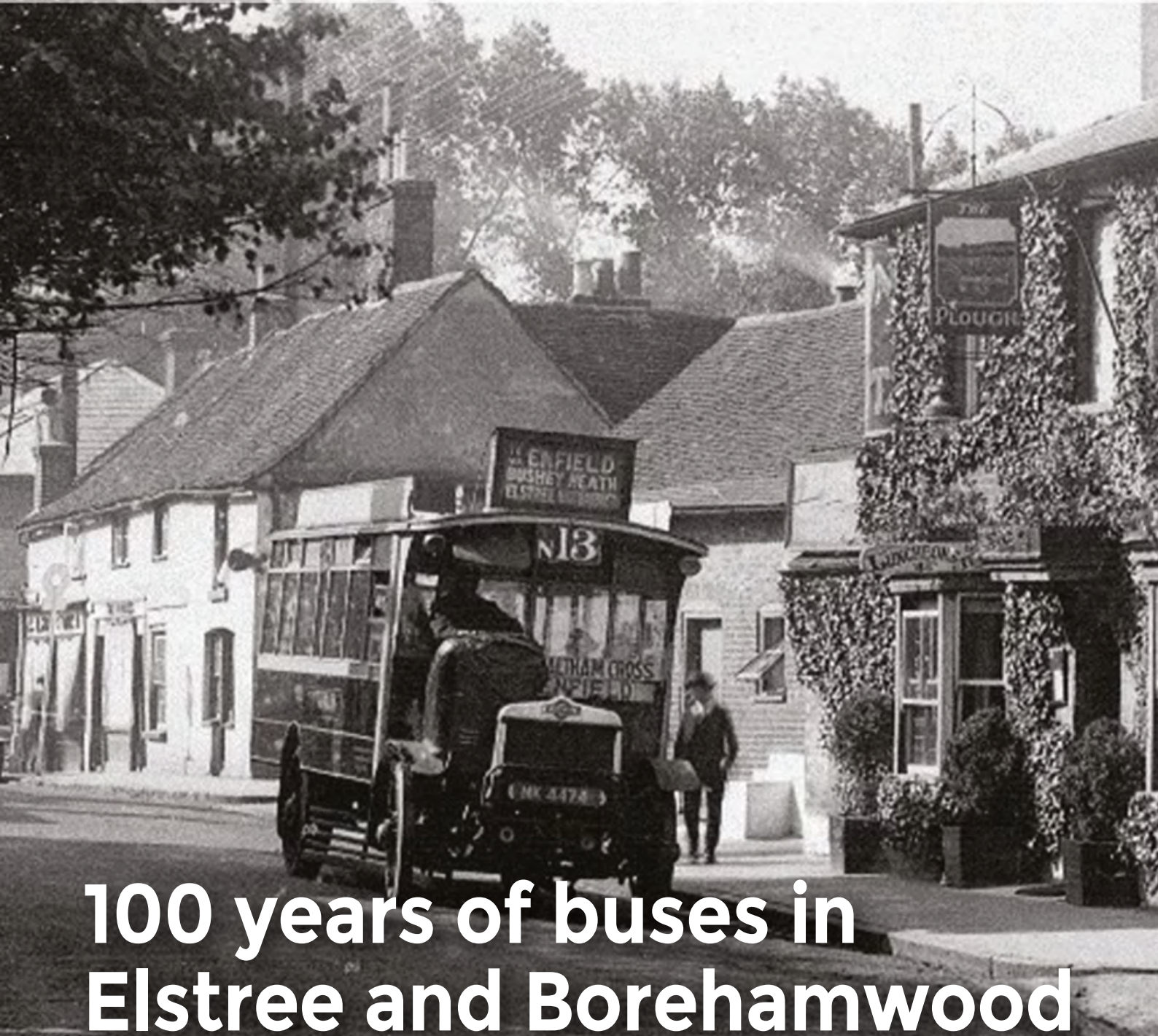


ELSTREE & BOREHAMWOOD **TOWN CRIER**



The magazine for Elstree & Borehamwood residents



100 years of buses in Elstree and Borehamwood

Centre pages pull out

Thanks to our Christmas sponsors





Hear ye! Hear ye!

Letter from the mayor...

I wish you all a very happy and healthy 2022!

2021 was very difficult for so many of us but hopefully we can now look forward to more uplifting times!

How can one adequately express thanks to all the volunteers who worked so diligently and selflessly to administer vaccines? At Allum Manor alone 100,000 have been administered – this is in addition to the same work being carried out at other vaccination centres in our town.

The town council has done its utmost to continue as normal and was delighted to welcome a large attendance at the Christmas lights switch-on and later on the same day at the lighting of the menorah in celebration of the festival of Chanukah – grateful thanks to those who put so much effort into making these events a reality!

There have been a series of well-attended concerts at Allum Manor. More are planned starting in March so please watch our web page for details of these and other future events!

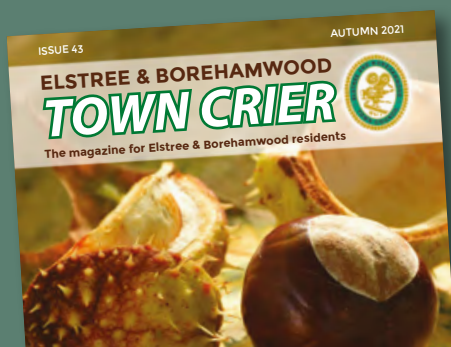
We are delighted that Allum Hall is once again reverberating with the sound of varied activities – bringing some normality into the lives of young and old!

Grateful thanks to our town clerk and to all our officers who always put in so much effort to keep things running smoothly.



Cllr Farida Turner
Mayor of Elstree and Borehamwood
 For mayoral enquiries please email the mayor's secretary at admin@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

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



Town Crier 2022 deadlines

Summer (issue 46) 25 April for delivery 27 May.
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 Winter (issue 48) 10 October for delivery 18 November.

All dates subject to change.

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Compost Corner

Go on, get stuck in!

'Rain, rain, go away, come again another day!'. This has felt like the wettest winter season so far, and the allotments are very squelchy to say the least.

Plot holders are definitely noticing seasonal changes that most likely can be attributed to climate change, and their usual practices are having to adapt alongside. For example, last year although seeds were sown under cover at the usual time, the ground was too wet and the cold lingered longer so prevented the planting out of very leggy tomato plants. Many seeds had to be resown 4 or 5 times. Potatoes last year mostly came up smaller if they hadn't rotted from overly wet soil. Countryfile on BBC last year featured a map of devastated potato crops that had suffered from excessive heat or flooding around the world. Also culpable, however, were the supermarket policies around size and shape which left many spuds rotting in the fields.

Gardeners are not strangers to 'wonky' and adversity, and it's usual for 'wonky' to taste great, and for things not to run according to plan. It is well known to take the easier 'go with nature' approach, and to get creative. We are doing more experimentation, trying out new methods, as well as sharing information, seeds, seedlings, plants and produce than ever before. Just like within our neighbourhoods during lockdowns,

individuals are coming together, stronger as a community, and producing better results for all. Some of Borehamwood's plot holders make it a practice to donate excess produce to the Foodbank. There are many win-wins, and lessons to learn. For example, research has shown that there are microbes in the soil that enhance feelings of well-being.

Make one of your New Year's resolutions to get stuck in!

Anne Nicodemus



Borehamwood and District Garden Craft Society

Over the past few months, the Garden Craft Society in Borehamwood has not been particularly busy.

After the crops were harvested in October and November, the society members took a well-deserved rest from the strenuous gardening work.

In the winter months there is not so much to be done in our gardens. That is the time when we celebrate our achievements.

We had great plans to organise workshops for handmade Christmas wreaths and table arrangements. Unfortunately, the rise of the new Covid variant did not allow us to proceed with the initial plans. Instead, the members found solace in the booster vaccines. Despite that, quite a few members got the virus and had to isolate. So far, we can report with relief that no one has been taken badly ill.

Once again, we would like to praise the friendship and great support between our members. We have been taking care of each other and supporting each other in difficult moments which is one of the most valuable features of our society.

Still, we managed to organise and attend a nice Christmas dinner at the Likya restaurant in Borehamwood. We had all props required for a proper Christmas celebration – crackers, head boppers, candle lights and of course the beautiful Christmas jumpers. The food was delicious, the spirits were high. There was a lot of laughter and nice toasts. There were stories of the past and suggestions for the future. As a whole the dinner was fun for everyone.

In the new year we are looking forward to the AGM which usually takes place in mid-February. Unfortunately, no one knows yet whether we will be able to have this big event for the society live in Allum Hall as usual or whether it will have to be another Zoom meeting. This will be decided depending on the situation in the country as a whole.

We will be planning our usual spring, summer and autumn flower show dates shortly. These will be announced to the public in the next edition of this magazine.

Lina Christova



It is fun to spend the evening among friends



BDGCS Christmas dinner 2021

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School News

Cowley Hill Primary School

Ofsted accreditation - October 2021 'Cowley Hill continues to be a good school'.

It is official! Cowley Hill School continues to provide a very high level of education to its pupils.

In uncertain times with a new inspection framework Cowley Hill is one of only a handful of Hertfordshire schools to be given the good rating last term. Schools across the country are reporting that the tougher framework has caused a reduction to their grading.

Despite the difficulties schools have faced throughout the past year with lockdowns, dealing with Covid-19 outbreaks and staff shortages, we have not only maintained our grading but been rated highly against the new framework. This is a credit to the talented team of teachers and staff at the school and their dedication to providing the very best education for our children.

Report headlines

'Pupils are well cared for at this welcoming school'.

'Pupils have a notable range of extra-curricular opportunities. They enjoy a wide variety of lunchtime and after school clubs....This is a strength of the school'.

'Pupils behave well in class and around the school.'

'During the national lockdowns, pupils and their parents appreciated the school's care and the thorough and accessible remote curriculum offer'.

'Pupils are taught to read carefully and well'.

'The curriculum is broad and interesting'.

'Curriculum leaders are knowledgeable, reflective and proactive'.

'Leaders promote a strong culture of safeguarding'.

'Governors support and challenge school leaders appropriately'.

The full report is available at files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50172487

Cowley Hill brings boxes of cheer to families at Christmas

At Christmas time, we always like to take time to think about others who may be less fortunate than ourselves.

Again this year our community of families excelled themselves by providing over 40 boxes of cheer. Each box contained a range of Christmas food goodies, a game and a personal message to the family

receiving them. I would like to express my sincere thanks to all of our families who supported this project.



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Parkside Primary School

The run up to Christmas at Parkside Community Primary School was busy yet incredibly enjoyable with our children achieving great accolades and making lots of new memories for themselves and for their parents.

Sporting achievements: The academic year has started well for our Year 5/6 boys' football team and we hope this will continue into 2022. At the end of November, we were invited to take part in Aldenham Prep's first football festival – The afternoon was a great success and our boys managed to draw 1, lose 1 and win 3, so massive congratulations to them and a huge thank you to Aldenham Prep School for hosting and providing our children with a fabulous pizza and chips tea. I would also like to thank our parents and staff who came and supported the team. It was great having you all there cheering on our boys. In the New Year, our girls' team will kick start their season both in football and netball, along with our Year 3/4 boys who will be taking part in a football tournament hosted by Watford FC at the end of January 2022.



Drumming workshop: On 7 December 2021, the children of Key Stage 2 took part in a series of drumming and percussion workshops led by Jack Morris of Logan Bros Music. The children learnt about the importance of keeping time, playing as a collective and how rhythm affects the structure of a piece of music. They were challenged in their learning and learnt a great deal from the lessons. A special thank you to Jack for leading such a great set of lessons and to Miss Catell for organising the day for our children.



Christmas fun: From Christmas Jumper Day, to amazing plays by KS1 and Early Years, to a delightful carol service by our Year 3 and 4 children, it certainly was a proud time for our parents and staff. Our children should also be very proud of themselves, for how well they performed to other classes, to the parents and in the case of Year 3/4 to our local community as they sang their hearts out at Tesco.



The Mini Police: Year 5 have been lucky to take part in the Mini Police Programme with Hertfordshire Constabulary. The programme helps to address policing priorities, increase confidence and reduce perceived barriers. It's a volunteering opportunity for children aged 9 to 11 years to learn about community safety, in a fun way, giving young people a voice.



We look forward to creating more opportunities for our children in 2022 and to keep up-to-date with all the amazing things we do as a school, both inside and outside the classroom.

Please follow our social media pages.

Facebook: @parksideschool

Instagram: parkside_primary_school621

Twitter: @headparkside

*Mr L Wanless
(Year 6 Teacher and PE Lead)*

Woodlands Primary School

This term at Woodlands has been filled with enriched learning, settling into school routines again, making positive choices and being kind.



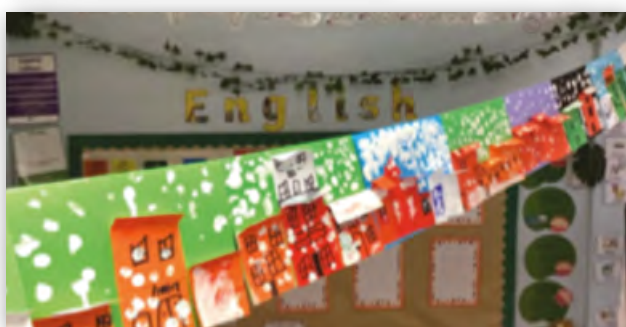
Nursery children have been enjoying working in groups to act out the Christmas story. They took extra special care of baby Jesus.

The local police came to visit

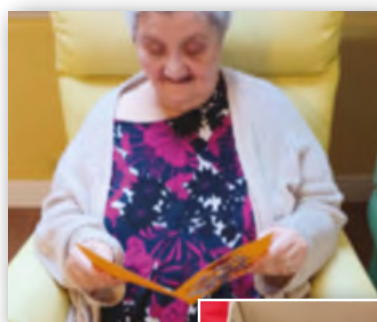
Reception recently. The children were able to give the officers the thank you cards they had made them, to celebrate the value of the term 'to be kind'. They were also able to speak to the police officers about what they do to help others in the community.



Children in **Year 1** made Christmas cards for the refuse collectors to show kindness in the community and thank them for all their hard work.

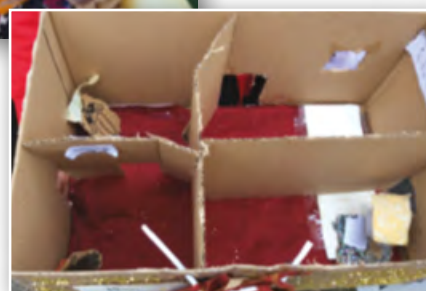


Year 2 made Christmas cards using a variety of techniques that they have learnt this term. Children wrote lovely Christmas messages addressing the older residents in the neighbourhood. They walked to one of the care homes, Poplars, in Borehamwood to deliver their cards.



Year 3 wrote cards and sent messages of kindness to some of the residents of Forest Care Village.

Year 4 have been looking at what would be inside a Sikh Gurdwara. They made their own models to



represent the different areas you may find in one.



Year 5 have been working hard to become Mini Police. Working with the local Police Community Support Officers, they have been learning all about how they can be great citizens and help the local community.



History off the Page came in to work with **Year 6** pupils and gave them an in-depth overview of what it was like to be an ancient Egyptian. They played Egyptian games, completed a

hard day's worth of work, provided and enjoyed the entertainment they would have had and ate delicious food. They also dressed up as Egyptians and were given Egyptian names.



All in all, it's been an enjoyable, jam-packed term.

Miss Woode

St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

At St Teresa's, we have had a very busy and emotional autumn term.



As well as all of our normal seasonal events and coping with Covid-19 procedures, we said, "goodbye" to our head teacher Teresa McBride. Term ended with all children performing to Ms McBride in class groups and we celebrated a special mass streamed to our community. On our last day, Year 3 also performed their version of the nativity at our

Christmas mass. This has become a valued tradition for the children celebrating their first holy communion this coming year.

During October, we celebrated 'Black History Month' with West End in Schools' workshops. All classes took part in drama activities based on the lives of Nelson Mandela, Rosa Parkes and Martin Luther King. Home learning also resulted in children discovering the many amazing achievements of people from black backgrounds.



In November, Year 6 led our annual Remembrance Day memorial with a streamed assembly to parents and to the rest of the school, looking not only at the traditional red poppy but also at the significance of the other colours that have been adopted.



Later in November, we took part in the CAFOD 'Eyes of the World' campaign. All children produced their own piece of art to show leaders attending COP26 that the world was expecting them to come up with solutions to counteract climate change. This coincided with an 'Earth Day' where learning was based on environmental issues and how we can all work together to protect our Earth.

Anti-bullying week also gave us the chance to reflect on how we treat other people and what we can do to support each other and fulfil our school mission statement.

"Working together, as part of God's family, to be the best that we can be."

Jacquie Tucker
Acting Head

ZOOM! ZOOM! ZOOM!

As governors, are we ever going to get out of these difficult times? When will we reach a new normal and how can we be as effective as we were previously? Mostly we have been biding our time, waiting to get firing on all cylinders again.

One of the things we are missing is the socialising. By nature, we are not best of friends but good acquaintances. Meeting on a regular basis, we form a good rapport with each other and with the staff. Most importantly we maintain a professional relationship because at times we have to make difficult choices.

Governors are now more confident users of computers and using Zoom is a good thing, but how many governors have we lost on the way? At this time of the year, being able to attend a meeting without going out in the cold is welcomed by governors and staff. I am sure this will become an established routine as it makes good sense.

Our town governors are fortunate in having the services of Herts for Learning which we have to buy into every year. This company, previously a part of Herts County Council, provides a wide range of



services that has been of vital importance to schools and have helped us to get through the pandemic. The clerking service manages our meetings, sets up Zoom meetings, provides us with guidance and keeps us in order. There are a wide range of governor training modules that we can do from the comfort of our homes. Topics include, safeguarding, exclusions, complaints and prevent. It is a requirement that governors do training in key areas at least every three years.

If you are interested in becoming a governor and helping to make a difference, contact your local school or go to the website: www.hertsforlearning.co.uk/business-services/governance

If you want to know more about being a governor contact me at geoff.strack@ntlworld.com

Going from strength to strength through challenging times.

On 12 November 2021 Oliver Dowden, Member of Parliament for Hertsmere, officially opened the Gratitude Hub (Old Library, Elstree Way, Borehamwood). In doing so he reaffirmed his steadfast support. "Gratitude provides a vital role in supporting those who are most in need in the community. I look forward to seeing the charity thrive at their new base and I will continue to provide my support wherever I can."

No sooner had he expressed that, than the Gratitude Hub went in to overdrive. Our grocery giveaway grew to reach over 150 families a week and with support from the Locker Foundation we have installed a cold room facility to expand it even further. With support from many local businesses and youth groups Santa gifted 200 children with presents from the Gratitude Grotto. Supported by Hertfordshire county council our Christmas goodie boxes were personally delivered to nearly 100 elderly people locally. And we even found time to join the Hertsmere Community Lottery.

But our thoughts now move forward to spring where we will be

even busier helping those in our community who need it most. In particular, with our plans to open the Gratitude kitchen so we can add cooked food alongside our existing grocery giveaway, clothes bank, baby corner and craft club services. Please keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for updates on the kitchen's progress and on all our services.

But we can not do this without you. Please keep volunteering your time and donating towards the kitchen if you can. Our website has all the details to help you donate from one off to recurring donations. You can also donate as you play the Hertsmere Community Lottery, www.hertsmerecommunitylottery.co.uk/support/gratitude.

However you can help we thank you for your support and we wish you all continued health and happiness throughout 2022.

Follow us at www.gratitude.charity and on Facebook at [GratitudeUK108](https://www.facebook.com/GratitudeUK108).

Sunil Joshi



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Forced to choose between heating your home and eating?

1.2million people in the UK are forced to skip meals and many more are faced with the unenviable choice of whether to heat their homes or feed themselves and their families.

Coronavirus has made it much harder, and while the Government initially boosted Universal Credit when the pandemic began, this boost has been removed, heaping additional pressure on people who are already struggling.

With the help of generous donors and volunteers, Borehamwood Foodbank tries to alleviate some of the pressure by providing three days' worth of food to people in crisis. Packs are given out at the twice-weekly sessions at St Teresa's Church in Shenley Road.

We tend to get generous donations from businesses, schools and community groups in the run up to the holidays. Over the past month, this has included food collections, business and Council grants, and financial donations.



As a result, we've been able to support our growing community not just with our standard food packages, but also some Christmas hampers and additional support with our Winter Wellness programme.

But historically, many of these donations fall off early in the New Year, and the pandemic has put pressure on us all, so we are receiving fewer regular donations than we have done in previous years.

We're reliant on these donations to be able to continue to support local people in need, so if you can buy an extra item or two when you do your grocery shopping, or make a financial donation to the Foodbank, the help would be gratefully received.

And, people in need are encouraged to pop along to our sessions on a Monday afternoon or Thursday morning.

To find out more, please look at our <https://borehamwood.foodbank.org.uk> or follow our Facebook page @ [borehamwoodfoodbank](https://www.facebook.com/borehamwoodfoodbank).

Debbie Spitz

Mayoral Charity 2021/22

Cllr Farida Turner chose the Borehamwood Foodbank as her charity for the year.

It has been a difficult year to hold fundraising events. So far £506.20 has been raised and donated to the Borehamwood Foodbank. Farida has been deeply touched by the generosity of local people and we are very grateful for your support.

£200 was raised by the Elstree Mozart Players Christmas Concert with the rest coming from Town Council events like Fireworks Night, Christmas Light Switch On and the BBC Elstree Concert Band Concert.

Since we opened 7 years ago we have fed over 20,000 people, giving each a 3 day food pack. Approximately 40% of these are children. Sadly the need continues to rise and we don't think the situation is likely to change any time soon.

We have extended our "Surviving Winter" campaign to run all year following the Covid-19 pandemic, which provides small fuel grants for those having to choose between "Heat or Eat".

We have also introduced a Citizens Advice worker who attends every session to help clients.

Your kind donations will help us meet the needs of some of the most vulnerable people in our society.



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Music in the Wood



Borehamwood Brass



Borehamwood Brass - New Year, new start

As we wave goodbye to 2021 and look forward to the New Year, we wish you a Happy New Year. We hope 2022 will bring an end to Covid-19 and a happy healthy year for everyone.

Looking back at 2021, even with the ongoing health situation, Borehamwood Brass had a good year. Fortunately, most of our performances take place out of doors so these could go ahead as usual during the summer, and we used cotton bell covers on our instruments, which work like masks to catch droplets, for the one formal indoor concert that went ahead.

For the band, the highlights of 2021 were our concert in the new Meadow Park entertainment arena, the opening of the NSPCC Craft Fayre at Allum Manor, Remembrance Day at Edgware and Christmas carolling outside Tesco, where we raised over £1,000 for the NSPCC.



New Year is a quieter phase for the brass band, it's a time for getting back to a regular practice and preparing for the start of the summer season. If you play a musical instrument, you will know how important it is to practise regularly, and what fun it is to play with a group.

New Year is also a time for new beginnings and a great time to start new activities. If you play one of the brass instruments, or if you have played one in the past and would like to take it up again, why not contact us?

We have space in the band for new players and you just need to be able to read music and attend rehearsals on Friday evenings. Contact our Secretary Andrew Grady to check where and when we are rehearsing: borehamwoodbrass@hotmail.com.

Please see our website at www.borehamwoodbrass.org.uk to find out more about Borehamwood Brass.

Andrew Grady

Elstree and Borehamwood NSPCC report on 2021

After a year's enforced Covid inactivity we revived our fund raising with a most successful August garden party at Schopwick Place Elstree raising a record sum for this annual event.

This was followed by a very enjoyable evening supper concert in Reveley Lodge, Bushey, performed for us by musicians from the Elstree Mozart Players organised by their conductor Derek Holland.

The November craft and gift fair in Allum Hall Elstree was opened by Elstree and Borehamwood Town Mayor, Councillor Farida Turner and attended by Hertsmere's MP Oliver Dowden CBE. Live music



throughout the day was provided by Borehamwood Brass band, The Strummers in the Wood, Nick Male and The Woodmen and Paul Lomax on electric guitar. Customers were able to buy bargain gifts from a wide range of craft and gift stalls, and refreshments featuring our legendary Chinese lunches and homemade cakes were served all day.

Finally we celebrated Christmas by collecting with Studio Rotarians while the Borehamwood Brass band played cheerful carols outside Tesco Extra store Borehamwood in the four days leading up to the Festival. We must thank the musicians who braved the cold and rain outside Tesco and the faithful cohort of collectors from the NSPCC and Studio Rotary- not forgetting Tesco Stores and its very generous customers who donated a total of £1,234.71. This money will help pay for the work of the NSPCC for children, preventing abuse and neglect and making young lives happier.

Ann Goddard
Chair Elstree and Borehamwood NSPCC

Elstree Mozart Players

'Classical Concerts in the Wood' season 2022



The Elstree Mozart Players was founded by Derek Holland in partnership with Pat Strack and Andrew Grady.

The members are professional, semi-professional or very good amateur musicians. The group is formed on a concert-by-concert basis and the intention is to perform regular classical concerts of a high standard in the locality and elsewhere at affordable prices.

The group ranges from a chamber orchestra to a full symphony orchestra. The orchestra was named in honour of the late Harry Blech (1909-1999) who founded the London Mozart Players in 1949.

The orchestra has three concert dates planned for the 2022 season:

- Sunday 20 March 2022 - 7.30pm - Allum Manor & Hall
- Sunday 12 June 2022 - 7.30pm - All Saints Church
- Saturday 8 October 2022 - 7.30pm - Allum Manor & Hall

The first concert of the season will be on Sunday 20 March with a theme of 'British Light Classics', a favourite of the resident musical director Derek Holland.

The concert will include works by Eric Coates, Gustav Holst, Edward Elgar, Lionel Monckton, Haydn Wood, Peter Wilson, and Edward German.

The concert is being organised in conjunction with Allum Manor, raising funds for the Peace Hospice in Watford and Borehamwood Foodbank.



This concert will include a special performance, for World Women's Day, of Ruth Gipps' Horn Concerto by soloist Jo Withers.

For anyone requiring more information about the orchestra, or who is interested in becoming a patron of the orchestra, then please contact either Pat Strack on 020 8386 3151 or Andrew Grady on 07802 736628 or email elstremozartplayers@outlook.com

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Sunday 20th March 2022
at 7.30pm

CONDUCTOR: DEREK HOLLAND

**INTRODUCING
JO WITHERS
PERFORMING
RUTH GIPPS
HORN
CONCERTO
OP.58**

Allum Manor Hall & House
Allum Lane,
Elstree & Borehamwood
Hertfordshire
WD6 3PJ

**TICKETS
£15.00
CONCESSIONS
£12.00**

FEATURING MUSIC BY

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Eric Coates, Gustav Holst, | Edward Elgar, Lionel Monckton, | Haydn Wood, Peter Wilson, Edward German. |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|

RAISING FUNDS FOR THE PEACE HOSPICE AND BOREHAMWOOD FOODBANK
PLEASE NOTE: Anyone showing COVID -19 symptoms are advised NOT to attend
Tickets are **ONLY** available by contacting Pat Strack or Andrew Grady on 0208 386 3151 or
07802736628 or by Email elstremozartplayers@outlook.com
www.elstremozartplayers.co.uk

Elstree Productions

The Elstree Productions theatre company has been part of the local community for more than 50 years, putting on musicals, plays, pantomimes and murder mysteries.

In December 2021, Elstree Productions presented Scrooge The Panto. As a result, they continue to grow. They're working on their next show, a murder mystery centred around a baking contest called "The Great British Bump-Off", scheduled for 12 March 2022 at Fairway Hall. People are welcome to join in on future productions. Join them every Tuesday at 7:30pm at the Elstree Screen Arts Academy if you're aged 16 or over.

Contact elstreeproductions@gmail.com for more information.



Street photography - an intrusion?

Whilst I have been taking images for many years, my interest in street photography has been more recent.

In the early days I would wait until there were no people in the street. However, it soon became obvious that people were the central interest in street photography and as my technique developed, people became the overriding theme.

This image is titled "what did you say?" and was taken recently by me on the South Bank, London. I was sitting on a seat immediately behind and snapped the image at just the right moment. This is the essence of successful street photography, particularly when the viewer must ask, "what was going on?"

A benefit of street photography is that any camera or mobile phone can be used, and it does not really matter what the weather is doing! Provided you are taking the photograph in a public place, there are no legal restraints in taking street photographs. But one warning: some places such as Canary Wharf have several buildings on private land and are best avoided.

A good way of improving your photography is to become a member of a camera club, such as Park Street Camera Club, who have some very good images on their web page, www.parkstreetcameraclub.com

So, my advice is to try street photography yourselves. You may be surprised how interesting the results can be.

Article and photograph by Terry Day
t.day159@btinternet.com



Borehamwood Women's Institute

Meet 2nd Monday of the month
2-4pm

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

New year, new tech... and the hublets are back

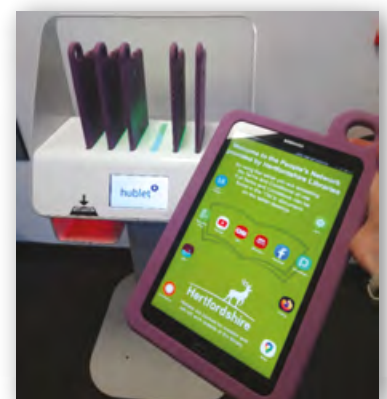
So, Christmas is behind us for another year and the nights – and days too, let's be honest – have turned dark and cold. Perhaps stepping out into the bleak midwinter sounds rather less than appealing? Well now is the perfect time to get online and discover a whole new world right there at your fingertips.

Getting started with new technology is a little daunting but fear not – there is no need to tackle it alone. At Borehamwood Library we offer one-to-one IT taster sessions uniquely tailored to what you want to learn. If this is the first time you have sat at a computer or tablet screen, then one of our friendly staff members can help you master the basics and hit the ground running. Or perhaps you have been using a computer for years but there is something new you want to learn: social media; online shopping; the digital world is your oyster!

We are pleased to announce the grand return of our hublets too! These tablets are completely free to use for an hour each day and are already

installed with a variety of apps, including digital newspapers and magazines, YouTube, and some ridiculously addictive games... Hublets are free to use with a library membership card and can be used to 'try before you buy' if you fancy a test drive or even a lesson before you invest in your very own.

Drop by and ask staff to book your IT taster session and find out more about the IT services available. Alternatively call 0300 123 4049 or visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries



It's more than just the dancing...

Here at the Maxwell Park Community Centre 'Strictly' is over for another year.

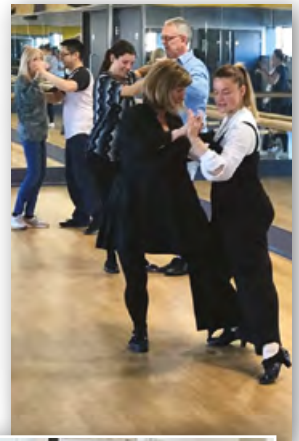
As ever, there have been a lot of great performances, and not for the first time many celebrities have said how they came to realise that the experience is "more than just learning the dance steps". Not only that, this particular series has been great in reinforcing that dancing really is for everyone.

For those of us that have got in to dancing, and that includes June the centre manager, we know that it's a wonderful combination of physical exercise, mental therapy and fun! The gym just doesn't compare, and when those steps come together there's the added bonus of achievement and exhilaration that is difficult not to call a feeling of happiness.

On top of that, there's a whole set of other benefits. As Rose Ayling-Ellis, Judi Love and others before them on Strictly have said, it makes you learn about yourself, builds your confidence, self-respect and discipline, it improves your posture and your ability to think, all while you meet new people, make friends and learn an enjoyable social skill. No wonder the 2020 winner Bill Bailey said learning to dance Ballroom and Latin really is a "wonderful thing".

And the great thing is, the community of Hertsmere can now experience these benefits and feelings! If you've been thinking about giving dancing a go or even if you haven't, there's no time like the

present to feel that emotion in motion by trying the Ballroom/Latin Strictly experience with La La Dance at the Maxwell Park Community Centre. The American Smooth, Argentine Tango, Foxtrot, Quickstep, Cha-Cha, Waltz, Rumba, Jive, Salsa and all the rest are waiting. Take that first step, Come dancing - it's only natural!



www.laladance.co.uk - www.facebook.com/dancingtohappiness



An evening out in the afternoon with the Friends

Just before the pandemic began, the Friends lost one of our founders, Sue Copland, a brilliant, dedicated volunteer and resident of Borehamwood for many years. Sadly, Sue passed away from cancer, and at least she did not experience the terrible disruption that this pandemic has caused. Sue is irreplaceable for the Friends and is terribly missed by everyone who knew her.

There is no doubt that the Friends have suffered enormously like many others through the pandemic, but this vulnerable group have always followed the rules; isolating and having all their vaccinations to keep everyone safe. Supporting the mental health and well-being of our seniors, including many of our volunteers, has always been high on the list of the Friends.

For the past fifteen years we have been putting on regular music-based events every weekend, often when other social or coffee clubs are closed. The Friends began their events inside care homes,

but these have been put on hold for the time being. However, our other events which take place in community halls continue, and are growing in numbers each month.

Not only have our seniors and volunteers suffered through this crisis, but many of our entertainers too have lost so much work. Fortunately, the Friends have managed to keep 'rocking' as and when we can, following government guidelines throughout the pandemic. It has helped having the perfect location of Maxwell Park Community Centre in Borehamwood, a large airy hall with excellent facilities. Our events are simple, but hopefully fun and enjoyable for everyone who attends. Big efforts are made to create an evening atmosphere with special lights on each table for effect. Hence the name of our events 'An evening out in the afternoon'.

We pack a lot into two hours, and doing these events regularly gives the lonely/disabled and the isolated something to look forward to every week. If you enjoy music, you will enjoy a Friends event. Please see our flier for more information and contact details.

Vicky Churchill
Founder and trustee

OFF THE RAILS

The line that never was

A new exhibition at the Elstree and Borehamwood Museum has just opened. And it is an eye-opener!

Not only does it explore in depth the story of two proposed Tube lines and the effect they would have had on this area, it also shows us exactly what the Elstree Extension would have looked like in the 1940s. We've done this by recreating the extension in model form.

Tony DeSwarte, a local from Elstree, has created an accurate 18-foot scale model of the landscape from Edgware to Elstree and Bushey, showing where the Tube line would have run, and where the Aldenham Carriage Depot was located. And to enhance your experience he has also created a model of Elstree village as it looked before WWII. And the tube trains are actually running along the lines.

Our wall panels tell the story in more detail with many unseen photos, drawings and plans starting with the overall idea of the extension and the long term effects of the post-war cancellation. We show the use of the Aldenham Depot during the war and



its transformation into the Aldenham Bus Works in the 1950s. We also have a model of 'Elstree South' Underground station as it would have been, and display cabinets containing Tube and bus objects. And of course we have a video to tell the story of "The Line That Never Was" to bring it all up to date.

This is our first exhibition for 18 months so we hope you come in and see what might have been. This exhibition depicts a real slice of our local history.

We are hoping to re-open on Wednesdays in February in addition to our Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday sessions.

Dave Armitage

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- Keep Fit Classes
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- Yoga
- Dance and Ballet Classes
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**Fairway Hall, Brook Close
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Tel: 020 8207 1382
Email: hall.bookings@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk**

Find us on
Facebook

www.elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk

Maxwell Park Community Centre

Bright spacious hall available on Saturday afternoons for private hire.

Meeting rooms and mirrored dance studio are available for hire.

Regular activities include:

Bar-K Line Dancing, British Tinnit Association, Cocaine Anonymous, East Anglian Wing Chun Athletic, E&BW Table Tennis (Junior & All Ages), Generation Plus, formerly Fifty Plus (Art, Bowls, Table Tennis), Fit Club, Friends of Care Homes, Guideposts, Hartbeeps, HAFLS (Adult Learning Courses), KJ's School of Dance, Krav Maga, LA LA Dance, Little Kickers, MoveDanceSweat, Music Tuition, Shogun Karate, Strength & Balance Class, Studio Quilters, Sundance Line Dancing, U3A Ukulele Group, Visually Impaired Club, Watchman SIA Courses, We Move She Moves (Pound, Golden Dance Fit, Pilates), Yoga & Pilates

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

One hundred years of buses in Borehamwood and Elstree



The summer of 2022 will mark the centenary of scheduled motor bus services in Borehamwood and Elstree. In this article John Cartledge traces their origins and development.

The beginnings

In the 18th and early 19th centuries, the stagecoach was the forerunner of today's bus services. Coaching inns – such as the Plough, the Artichoke and the Red Lion in Elstree – provided refreshments for passengers and stables for changing the horses. These services, which usually ran only once a day in each direction, and not on Sundays, had colourful names. In 1832 the Self Defence, the Accommodation and the Safety ran between London and St Albans, via Edgware and Elstree. The Crown Prince ran all the way to Birmingham, and there was also a coach to and from Shenley (information from "Elstree and Boreham Wood Past" by Robert Baird).



But stagecoaches were expensive, so most people walked, or rode in carriers' carts. In 1868, the arrival of the Midland Railway in Elstree (or, more accurately, in what was then the outlying hamlet of Borehamwood) brought faster and cheaper transport for both people and goods, but there were still no purely local services. Horse-drawn buses and trams appeared in London and other cities in the second half of the 19th century, and motor buses replaced the horses in the first decade of the 20th. But regular bus services did not become general in the countryside until after the First World War.

In the mid-19th century, Borehamwood and Elstree had only a few hundred inhabitants. The arrival of the railway spurred housing development around the station, and the first of the film (and later television) studios with which the name of Elstree is synonymous was established in 1914. The period of the town's fastest growth was in the 1950s, when the London county council built large "overspill" estates for people displaced by wartime bombing and by slum clearance. Bus routes and frequencies expanded to match this development.

Bus Centenary Event

The town council is sponsoring a celebratory running with vintage buses on Sunday, 19 June.

Full details in the next issue of the Town Crier.

With a population today approaching 40,000, Borehamwood with Elstree is the tenth largest town in Hertfordshire. Its transitional status between the capital and the surrounding region is evidenced by its residents' use of buses. Census data on journeys to work show that in 2011 one in twenty of its employed population used buses as their main mode of travel to work – only a little over half the proportion who did so in Greater London but rather more than twice the equivalent proportion in the rest of the county.

The first bus route to serve Borehamwood and Elstree was the N8, operated by the National Omnibus and Transport Company, which started on 3 June 1922 and ran daily in summer via Radlett and St Albans to Kimpton. Two months later the same company launched the N13 from Watford and Bushey to Barnet, Enfield and Waltham Cross. Two years later this became the 306, a route number that survives today, although the service no longer runs east of Borehamwood. The photograph is of an S-type vehicle outside what was then the Plough in Elstree High Street.



Other routes followed: the 311 via Shenley to Watford in 1928, the 241 via Brockley Hill to Edgware in 1934, the 52 to Victoria via Mill Hill and the 107 to Ponders End in 1941 and the 29 to Victoria via Potters Bar in 1942. It is noticeable how much longer these routes were than their present-day successors.

London Transport and its legacy

London Transport (LT) was established by Act of Parliament in 1933, with powers to acquire and operate all bus services in an area up to about 30 miles around London. It divided its bus network into a central division and a country division, run with red and green buses respectively. Borehamwood and Elstree lay on the boundary between the two, so the routes to and from places to the south and east were served by red buses, and those to and from the north and west were served by green buses.

In addition, the country division provided longer-distance limited-stop coach services under the brand name Green Line. These connected London with places in its commuter hinterland, and most provided direct links across the central area. The first such route via Elstree ran from St Albans to Oxford Circus, and was launched by St Albans Coaches in 1929 before becoming part of the Green Line network in the following year.



This picture of a bus stop in Shenley Road, near the station, was taken on 10 August 1934. Although London Transport's emblem (known originally as the bullseye but today as the roundel) appears on the impressive art deco shelter, the bus still carries the name of its predecessor, the London General Omnibus Company.

Although the country routes ceased to be operated by London Transport in 1970, being transferred to London Country Bus Services, the distinction can still be seen. The former central division routes are now run under contract to LT's successor Transport for London (TfL) and operate with red double-deck vehicles for 18 hours a day, seven days a week, up to four times per hour. London Country's routes were deregulated, and the company was split up and privatised, in 1986. They have since seen numerous changes in their operators, the size and colour of their vehicles, their routes and their destinations. Locally these are now generally run with single-deck vehicles for only 12 hours a day, six days a week, at hourly (or lower) intervals.

After LT came under the control of the (then) Greater London Council in 1970, it unburdened itself of the ownership of its bus stops outside London. Since the demise of LCBS the 159 current stops in Borehamwood and Elstree have been managed by Hertfordshire county



council, including a handful which are flagged on one side of the road only or which, though wholly unmarked, nevertheless appear in timetables. The government's NaPTAN database lists a further 75 stops which are located on roads on which buses have ceased to run and so have a purely spectral existence – except in the case of some physical survivors in Gateshead Road and Farriers Way which bear notices

declaring that they are no longer served. These have been left in situ in the somewhat forlorn hope that buses may yet reappear one day on the roads concerned.

A fairly heterogeneous assortment of shelters, including some of the country division's miniature wooden chalets, has been replaced by 75 of a standard Adshel model. These are sometimes located more with regard to the need for posters to catch the eyes of passing motorists than to meet users' needs – e.g. at stops approaching termini which are used almost exclusively by alighting passengers.

The impact of local government

In 1973 local authorities were given new powers to "promote the provision of a coordinated and efficient system of public passenger transport". Hertfordshire county council responded positively to this enhanced remit in several ways, and for three decades its passenger transport budget was (per capita) amongst the highest of all of the non-metropolitan "shire" counties. This was partly due to a unique voluntary agreement with its ten constituent district councils whereby the cost of funding socially necessary but commercially non-viable bus routes was shared equally between the two upper tiers of local government.

Information

The county council published comprehensive maps and timetable booklets, and improved information displays at bus stops.



It took advantage of developments in information technology to introduce "electronic passenger information points", dot matrix departure indicators at key stops, and – under its Intalink brand – a comprehensive on-line service information site, including the Traveline journey planner.

Ticketing

The council sponsored a number of innovative ticketing options, including concessionary passes for older users, people with disabilities and 11-19 year olds, and multi-ride and multi-operator tickets such as Explorer and PlusBus. The widespread adoption of mobile phones allowed the introduction of mobile ticketing apps.

Interchange

In 1994 the council collaborated with Railtrack to create a purpose-



built bus-rail interchange on part of the former goods yard, greatly improving access by bus to and from the station. In 2011 its layout was remodelled to reduce conflicting flows of vehicles and pedestrians, and to provide a dedicated layover bay for buses terminating there. The opening ceremony was graced by the presence of several characters from films and TV programmes made at Elstree, including Darth Vader and the Storm Troopers.



Network development

In addition to providing financial support for less-remunerative journeys, mainly in the evenings and on Sundays, the council sponsored and funded the introduction - for the first time - of a bespoke network of routes operating solely within Borehamwood and Elstree. This started with the BW1 in 1979.

The local network employed smaller vehicles than the conventional buses used on inter-urban routes, and was designed to give greater penetration of residential districts of the town. These services subsequently underwent numerous changes of operator, routeing and numbering. At their maximum extent, in 1992-93, there were five different routes (with two competing operators) covering all parts of the town. New destinations such as Organ Hall Road,



Stanborough Avenue, Manor Way, Tesco and the Station Interchange appeared on bus blinds, while time-honoured termini such as Cowley Hill, Crown Road, Milton Drive, Drayton Road, the Red Lion and Warwick Road were dropped.

This dramatic expansion was not to last long. Subsequent contraction has left several areas from which - sadly - buses are now once again absent. These include Nicoll Way, Barnet Lane, Ripon Way, Kenilworth Drive, Hillside Avenue, Stratfield Road, Sullivan Way, Beethoven Road, Hartfield Avenue, Nicholas Road, Wentworth Avenue, Bishops Avenue and Lodge Avenue.

Continuity and change

In the 21st century, the impact of national austerity policies on local authority budgets, coupled with the county council's changing policy priorities, has resulted in major reductions in its funding for passenger transport services - with significant consequences for buses, particularly at less-busy times and over less-busy routes.

Because they are franchised by Transport for London, the two trunk routes (107 and 292) connecting the town with Edgware and Barnet have been less seriously affected, although they no longer extend to more distant destinations such as Queensbury and Enfield. Despite the county council's unilateral withdrawal from co-funding these services, they continue to run, all-day and all-week, thanks to TfL's statutory duty to meet the needs of those travelling to and from Greater London as well as within it.

Their routeings within the town have not altered in more than 50 years, except for short diversions added to serve Tesco (1993) and the Station Interchange (1994). TFL's current policy of requiring buses on its routes to run in predominantly red liveries means that occasional changes of franchisee have gone largely unnoticed by users. But green buses appeared on the 292 for eight months in 1987/88 when it was briefly entrusted to London Country North East, and white buses on the 107 during the five-year tenure of Atlas Bus between 1989 and 1994. Today both services are operated by Metroline.

In contrast, the former London Country routes have suffered frequent changes of operator, destinations, and routeings and termini within



the town. The limited-stop Green Line network succumbed to a combination of traffic congestion and competition from enhanced rail services, and had disappeared by 1988. Operators who have come and gone on other routes include London Country North West, Lucketts Coaches, Luton & District, Green Rover, Buffalo Travel, North Mymms Coaches, Fleetline Buses, Jubilee Coaches, BTS Coaches (aka Sovereign London / RATP), Seamarks, London Country North East, Buslink, Dunn-Line, Challenger Transport, Franklins Coaches, Tricolour Coaches and The Office Travel. Their liveries have embraced virtually every colour except orange or black. Few if any of these companies have been much missed, and fewer still have been mourned.

The service to/from Watford via Bushey (currently numbered 306, and run by Sullivan Buses)

now has only limited evening and Sunday services, while those to St Albans via either Radlett (now Uno bus 601) or Shenley (Arriva 357) are confined to Monday-Saturday working/shopping hours. Projections of these services to more remote destinations including Hemel Hempstead and Hitchin have not lasted, though the Radlett route now runs through



to Welwyn Garden City. Services on the A1 corridor to/from Potters Bar (Sullivan Buses 398) and Hatfield (Uno bus 644) have had somewhat chequered histories, and have never generated strong passenger flows. The sole survivor of the town network (Sullivan Buses B3) still connects the Organ Hall, Studio and Poets estates with the town centre on weekdays.

But as a consequence of changes in school catchment areas and recruitment policies, the past 25 years have seen the introduction of numerous bespoke bus services conveying students to/from secondary schools in places as widely scattered as St Albans, Garston, Bushey, Kingsbury and Totteridge. Some of these are nominally operated in public service, presumably in order to receive the benefit of Bus Service Operators Grant from the Department for Transport.

From 1957 to 1980, once-daily (or nightly) express coaches between London and Liverpool (operated by Crosville, summer-only), and subsequently Manchester/Rochdale (operated by Midland Red / North Western, later National Express), picked up and set down in Elstree. Exactly what market these were seeking to tap is hard to discern.

Other (mostly short-lived) exotica have included free shopper buses to local Asda and Tesco stores, fare-charging shopper buses to Romford, Lakeside, Milton Keynes and Northampton, a commuter express service to Moorgate, a “bingo service” from Letchworth to a club in

Borehamwood, and bus or coach routes to/ from leisure attractions including Thorpe Park resort, Whipsnade zoo and Aldenham country park.

The bus industry locally has much to look back on with pride, though its 100-year history has been punctuated by occasional episodes it may prefer to forget. One (uncannily foreshadowing the



government’s recent experience with Brexit ferries) was the award by Herts county council of an operating contract to a company – Jubilee Coaches – whose assets did not appear initially to extend to either buses or drivers, at least in anything like sufficient numbers to deliver the service. And – sadly – the 292 had to be diverted from Leeming Road for a period because of the frequency with which buses came under stone-throwing attacks by local vandals.

Public transport usage having plunged countrywide during the Covid-19 pandemic, Borehamwood and Elstree’s buses approach the dawn of their second century of operation at a time of some uncertainty. But they continue to play a vital part in transporting the town’s residents (and visitors) to work, education, shopping, public services, social encounters and recreational opportunities. The town council salutes all those who have helped to deliver this essential public service during the past 100 years, and is glad to be associated with the centenary celebrations.

A spreadsheet detailing all of the route changes in Borehamwood and Elstree since 1922 is available from john.cartledge@cantab.net on request. Assistance received in the preparation of this article from Laurie Akehurst, Roland Wilcox, Ian Armstrong, Philip Kirk and Hertfordshire county council’s passenger transport unit is gratefully acknowledged.

John Cartledge

Shows are back @ 96



Captain Calamity is performing seven exclusive shows across the year, each show day is an individual story filled with fun and laugh for everyone. Thinking of having a birthday party? Contact us to add a party package.

27 February, 20 March, 1 May, 26 June, 25 September, 30 October, 18 December. Shows at 11am and 2pm. Tickets £8.



Borehamwood Comedy Club returns from March with some of the greatest comedians to hit the circuit. Visit our website to see the latest line up announcements. Compèred by local comedian Philip Simon.

5 March, 2 April, 7 May. Shows at 8pm. Tickets £10.



Following the sell-out debut show in October, **Ignite Wrestling Pro** return with their family friendly show: ENCORE. Guaranteed to have the crowd cheering.

Sunday 6 March, 3pm. Tickets £8-£15.

Mirusia – Sings For You. Known to millions around the world as “The Angel of



Australia”, Mirusia Louwerse spent over ten years touring the world with André Rieu as his star soprano. Celebrated for her translucent, crystal voice that leaves audiences with goosebumps.

Sunday 20 March, 7pm. Tickets £14.

National Theatre Encore Screenings:

Leopoldstadt. Tom Stoppard’s Olivier Award-winning new play Leopoldstadt is a passionate drama of love, family and endurance. Sunday 30 January, 7pm. Tickets £12.

The Book of Dust – La Belle Sauvage. Set twelve years before the epic His Dark Materials trilogy, this gripping adaptation revisits Philip Pullman’s fantastical world in which waters are rising and storms are brewing.

Sunday 13 March, 7pm. Tickets £12.

Hex. A vividly original retelling of Sleeping Beauty, a mythic, big-hearted new musical that goes beyond the waking kiss. Sunday 3 April, 7pm. Tickets £12.

For more information visit www.96shenleyroad.co.uk tel 01442 454 000.

Festive grants

Thanks to the generosity of a special festive grant from Hertfordshire county council four clubs were able to give their members a £10 Tesco voucher each. A grant of £1460 was received. A big thank you from all club members.

The Monday Club has restarted and meets once a fortnight on Mondays at Aberford Hall from 10am to 12pm.

All over 60s welcome who have had two jabs and the booster. Activities include speakers, entertainment, quizzes, bingo and hoy.

Annual membership £5. £3 a visit which includes refreshments.

Sasha Capocci 07771 862820
sashacapocci@hotmail.com

Sandra Parnell 020 8953 0832
sparnell513@gmail.com

Pat Strack 020 8386 351
pat.strack@icloud.com

Elstree and Borehamwood Dementia Club meets every Tuesday from 2.15pm to 4pm at Fairway Hall.

All those families and carers living with dementia are welcome. This is a free club able to run with grants and donations, supported by Studios Rotary Club and Boreham Wood Football Club. Activities include speakers, entertainment, quizzes, bingo and hoy. The session starts with exercises every week given by Sarah Donnelly, sponsored by county councillor Richard Butler.

Sasha Capocci 07771 862820
sashacapocci@hotmail.com

Sandra Parnell 020 8953 0832
sparnell513@gmail.com

Pat Strack 020 8386 351
pat.strack@icloud.com

DR 96 has restarted and meets on Wednesdays at 96 Shenley Road from 10am to 12pm.

All over 60s welcome who have had two jabs and the booster. Activities include speakers, entertainment, quizzes, bingo and hoy. Exercises by Sarah Donnelly are sponsored by county councillor Richard Butler.

Annual membership £5. £3 a visit which includes refreshments.

Brenda Pryor
brenda_pryor@sky.com

Sasha Capocci 07771 862820
sashacapocci@hotmail.com

Sandra Parnell 020 8953 0832
sparnell513@gmail.com

Pat Strack 020 8386 351
pat.strack@icloud.com

The Visually Impaired Club meets on a Friday from 1.30pm until 4pm at Maxwell Road once a fortnight.

No personal care can be given. A whole range of activities takes place.

Sasha Capocci
07771 862820
sashacapocci@hotmail.com



Christmas 2021



After not being able to have one in 2020 the town council was pleased to be able to spread some Christmas joy by bringing back the annual Christmas Light Switch On event on Sunday 28 November.

After recording a special message for last year's virtual Christmas Switch On actress Lorraine Stanley appeared in person with town mayor cllr Farida Turner to turn on this year's lights.

The town council's entertainments officer Dan Salter said "I'm so happy to be able to bring this event back after not being able to do it properly last year. I'm very grateful to Lorraine Stanley for taking time away from her busy Walford schedule to come and do this for us".

Other entertainment that took place on the day were a free ice rink, free Santa's grotto, Borehamwood Rock Choir and Borehamwood Brass. As an added bonus new lights were added to the trees outside All Saints Church to add some extra Christmas spirit.

Special thanks go to Gristwood & Toms for donating the tree and to Tesco for donating mince pies and mulled wine.

Thanks to our Christmas sponsors



OPEN FOR BOOKINGS



We have the venue for all your events from a meeting for two people to celebrations for up to 470 guests. We are located in the heart of Elstree and close to the M25, M1, A1 and walking distance to Elstree & Borehamwood Station.

Dating in part from the 17th century, the Grade 2 listed Manor House offers eight rooms for hire from £15 per hour. From meetings, classes and training sessions we have the space for you. Allum Manor Hall can accommodate up to 470, or be divided for smaller functions. We regularly host private parties, engagements, weddings, bar mitzvahs, bat mitzvahs, children's parties, concerts, conferences, exhibitions, charity fairs and flower shows. We are licensed for Civil Ceremonies and Marriages.

What can we offer you?

Dry hire - State-of-the-art sound system - Fully adjustable LED lighting - Large stage with lighting and curtains - Free Wi-Fi - Sprung dance floor
Commercial kitchen - Large entrance foyer and bar/cloakroom - Accessible toilets for disabled users - Gardens and free parking

Watch our video on Facebook then email contact@allummanor.co.uk or call 020 8953 3415 to book a viewing.

Chanukah 2.1

It was a celebration of Chanukah not seen in Borehamwood and Elstree perhaps ever! Fifteen hundred locals from all segments of the community joined together at the Borehamwood Shopping Park in dance, song, light, and celebration in honour of the Jewish festival of Chanukah.

The cold was as palpable as the falling snowflakes were magical, giving the evening a feeling of a brand new Chanukah miracle! Emily H said, "I had tears of joy streaming down my face as the Holocaust survivor stepped onto the stage to light the menorah, joined by generations of his descendants"!

Rabbis, councillors, educators and community activists stood side by side for the emotional 'Passing the Flame' ceremony.

Elstree and Borehamwood town mayor Farida Turner shared some powerful words of inspiration as the iconic gold and blue menorah was lit.

Hot food and drinks vendors were a welcome addition for the hundreds of families who joined with their children.

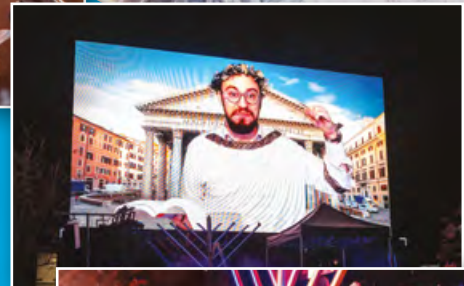
Organised by Rabbi Chaim and Leah from the Jewish Life Centre, this was the 10th year of public menorah lightings in the town.

Rabbi Chaim said, "Chanukah teaches us about the unbelievable power of doing one small act of goodness and

kindness. Like the small flame of the menorah, it has the power to ignite limitless additional acts of positivity. The light of Chanukah has been super-spread this year! What an incredible turnout to the event! It was beyond anything we could have imagined! A huge thank you to our volunteers and to everyone who attended"!

Thanks also go to Adam, Catriona, Bosun and the rest of the team at the Borehamwood Shopping Park for their incredible support. An enormous thank you is due to the town, borough, and county councillors who lent a huge amount of support to the event and enabled it to go ahead!

Rabbi Chaim Hoch



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.

Borehamwood & Elstree Synagogue

Proud to be part of the Borehamwood and Elstree community

Many people in Borehamwood have lived in the area their whole lives. They have seen the evolution of Borehamwood from a small town to a bustling hub of television and film. However, one staple of the Borehamwood and Elstree community is its synagogue.

There has been a Jewish community in Borehamwood since 1959 when Rabbi Malis came to the area. Since then, we have seen the development of the community, with a permanent building on Croxdale Road, numerous satellite Shabbat services (Sabbath services taking place on Saturday) and our current rabbis as Rabbi Chapper, Rabbi Taylor, Rabbi Finn and emeritus Rabbi Plancey.

The synagogue prides itself as being a place for the whole community, and at the centre of this is education. Education is key to community, and since Covid-19 we have revolutionized our learning programme through Zoom sessions and a greater variety of experiences for children and women.

We also pride ourselves in our association and participation within the local community. Many of our members are members of the local council and we have an excellent relationship with other faith establishments in the area through Hertsmeare Forum of Faiths.

In addition to this, we are fully committed to social action outside of our buildings. We run annual Mitzvah Day activities and this year we



will be working with Sebby's Corner, GIFT & Woodcock Hill. We also run toy drives and this year we will be working with Gratitude to provide Christmas gifts.

The synagogue on Croxdale Road might be a familiar sight to some as bricks and mortar alone. However the members within these walls are working to contribute towards the local community, bringing individuals of all faiths together to ensure the warm and welcoming atmosphere Rabbi Malis created and our current rabbis continue to demonstrate is extended to the wider Borehamwood and Elstree community.

T Charlton
Deputy Chair, BES

St Michael and All Angels Parish Church wishes you a successful 2022

St Michael and All Angels Church sends warmest greetings and prayers to all readers for 2022.

We look back on 2021 with a mixture of immense thankfulness for the many who work tirelessly for the good of others, plus sadness for those who have left us. Christmas highlights included open-air carol singing at the Wellington pub, a Knit and Natter Christmas party, WD6 Food Support Great Christmas Toy Give-Away, a Christingle nativity service, and a visit to Aycliffe Road day centre. Our young people enjoyed a Christmas meal treat at Nando's, thanks to the generosity of the Bishop of St Albans.

Every Thursday, our Welcome Café extends a warm welcome from 1.30pm - 2.45pm, serving tea and cakes and a varied programme of activities.

For those who like to sharpen their wits, on Saturday, 5 February there will be a general knowledge quiz in the church hall with quizmaster Nick Male, followed by a fish and chip supper.

Later in February, we look forward to joining with Hertsmeare parks



department, Herts Mind Network, the Big Local and others to create four miniature gardens in Leeming Road / Aycliffe Road in readiness for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June. The four themed gardens will be: Majesty Garden, Well-Being Garden, Memory Garden, and Eco Garden.

To find out how to join these and other activities, contact Revd Louise Collins on 020 8953 2362 also via www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7536/

Louise Collins

Remembrance Day 2021

It was just great to have a real event again. The parade was very well attended and marched from Clarendon Road to the war memorial.

Many groups and organisations came to parade and lay wreaths and pay respect to the servicemen and servicewomen who have ensured our freedom and made the ultimate sacrifice. The parade lacked the Air Cadets band that normally play and keep us in step. They were unable to rehearse due to Covid-19. Everyone hopes that the Air Cadet band will be back playing in 2022.



Rev Tim Warr conducted the service at the war memorial helped by Rabbi Sam Taylor.

This year Nicholas Garmon was welcomed playing the cornet for last post and reveille to signal the beginning and end of the two minutes silence. The exhortation and the Kohima Epitaph were read by a member of the Royal British Legion.

Deputy mayor Cllr Sandra Parnell attended the service at St Nicholas and the laying of wreaths at the war memorial on Elstree Hill North.

Town mayor Cllr Farida Turner took the salute on the dais as the parade returned to All Saints Church for the service. She was joined by Oliver Dowden, Hertsme MP. A collection was taken for the Poppy Appeal.

Pat Strack

Why it's important that young people remember the past

On Sunday 14 November, I was privileged and honoured to join the Remembrance Day parade and lay a wreath in Borehamwood as a representative of the Youth Council and the young people of Borehamwood. Every year I wear my red poppy and learn at school about the sacrifices of the generations before us, but attending the event this year I realised how important it is for young people to 'never forget'.

Hearing the names being read out of the brave people who had died in war, and knowing that across the country thousands of other names were being remembered, made me think that their stories are part of my story. Lessons from the past should be learnt and young people should use their freedom to have their voices heard and find peaceful solutions to disagreements. If we are kind now, then when we are older, we will keep being kind, and the world could be a nicer place.

Seeing how many people in the area attended the ceremony, from young to old and different faiths and beliefs, was humbling. During the two minutes silence we were all united – any differences we have were put aside as we joined to show our respect. What I realised was that although we are all different there are also many things that unite us – we all want to live happy, safe and healthy lives and young people can help this happen by being both tolerant and understanding of everyone.

Imagining what the soldiers had to endure to let me and my friends live in the world we do makes me feel thankful. It is our duty, as the new generation, to continue to try and make our world a better place.

In my lifetime I hope never to see war, but we do have challenges such as climate change and inequality, that we can't ignore. My family and local community of the past fought for me to live in freedom and as we remember this each year it is more important than ever that young people appreciate what was lost so we can create a better future for everyone everywhere.

Amelie Supran



Borehamwood attacks Covid-19 head-on with vaccinations and boosters

Covid-19 vaccines and boosters are given free of financial cost to all by medics, volunteers and doctors at the Islamic Society of Borehamwood, at the Med-Mart pharmacy and at Allum Hall vaccination centre here in Borehamwood plus at other local pharmacies.

Councillor Collins and councillor Kaza have been encouraging the public to become inoculated in order to protect themselves and others from Covid-19. The above named vaccination hubs in Borehamwood are there for your free vaccinations and boosters. The councillors have visited these centres and are elated to share some of their finds.



Let's first visit the Islamic Society of Borehamwood in Maxwell Road and point out the fantastic services they provide for the community. The building of the society is used as a mosque where prayers are said to Allah. The administrators decided to let their premises be used as a vaccination centre during these times of uncertainty and desperation. They've walked the extra mile by permitting other vaccination hubs to use their parking lot with the sole purpose of alleviating traffic congestion. Volunteers divulged their happiness about the massive turn-



out of people coming to be inoculated and protected from the Covid-19 virus and Omicron variant.

It's also noteworthy to point out the fantastic job being



done by Med-Mart pharmacy at Imperial Place, Maxwell Road. Besides administering vaccinations, the pharmacy also offers additional services such as prescription collections and deliveries at no cost to patients, self-nomination for vaccination via website or phone call, and opening six days a week. Med-Mart pharmacy disclosed that inoculations amounted to approximately 450 persons a day. It is also proposed to expand the service with a pop-up vaccination hub at a synagogue in Borehamwood from 3 January.

Just on the other side of town, at the Allum Hall vaccination centre, we were fortunate to speak with a doctor. The doctor explained to us, "GPs, nurses, physiotherapists and non-medics are doing a great job helping people get vaccinated.

On one hand, there are sceptics who believe that the virus is a hoax and it is all about population control and a form of money-making by a select few around the world via the vaccine programme. They allege that Covid-19 was artificially made for germ warfare.

On the other hand, the non-sceptics are in the majority and are reaching out for the vaccines after they realized that Covid-19 is real and has killed millions worldwide! People are now queuing up for vaccines and boosters to combat Covid-19.

Finally, what are your thoughts? In my opinion, it is advisable to become inoculated, wear your face covering and save your life and others in keeping with the expert and professional medical advice.

In short we owe a debt of gratitude to all of those involved in this mammoth vaccination task. Many thanks.

Cllr Alpha Bird Collins, LLM

Defibrillators save lives

The Town Defibrillator Campaign Team, Clive Butchins, Sandra Parnell and Pat Strack have added another automated external defibrillator to the 46 devices identified in Elstree and Borehamwood. The latest installation was in December at the pharmacy in Manor Way and is available during trading hours.

This is an important addition to easy access in times of emergency. The pharmacy staff are competent and confident in use of the AED that can save lives.

AEDs are in all schools, community centres, GP surgeries, Tesco and

Morrisons.

Before the pandemic the team were organising training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and use of the AEDs. As the device is a computer it talks the user through the method of delivery. It is simple and easy to use. As soon as government guidelines allow training will resume.



Pat Strack

100,000 jabs and still going strong!!

Christmas 2021 came early for staff and volunteers at Allum Hall vaccination centre when they delivered their 100,000th COVID-19 jab on 23 December to Ali Selvi, from Potters Bar.

This GP-run centre opened on 7 January 2021. A year later, NHS clinicians, care coordinators and a team of community volunteers are as eager to continue to deliver this vital service as they were on the first day.

Ali, a 36 year-old father of two, was given his booster by Dr Bob Clarke and said: "This booster means I'm protecting myself, my family and everyone else. When I was invited I decided to book the next available appointment and I'm so happy I did it."

Volunteer Fiona registered Ali for his landmark jab and reflected on the year: "I've never done anything so rewarding. I've helped patients from all walks of life, young and old. I feel honoured and privileged."

A volunteer with Communities 1st, Anne from Radlett is the wife of a GP who also regularly assists. She presented Ali with his completed vaccination card. "Everyone is so kind and charming. We work as a team of friends and I'm happy to do anything needed."

A pool of 110 NHS clinicians and care coordinators contributed almost 20,000 hours to the 130 clinics held in 2021. 400 volunteers organised by Communities 1st donated another 12,000 hours of service. For volunteers needing parking places, GTR Thameslink donated 20 plus

places free of charge for each clinic, creating extra spaces for patients at Allum Manor.

Trustees and staff of Allum Manor were determined to add their support; Ann Goddard, Chair of the Trustees, 'The programme is a major contribution to community health and must have saved many lives.'

To get your jab, simply book a guaranteed appointment through the National Booking Service or walk-in to receive your jab. It's that easy.

For more information on the local vaccination programme go to the Hertfordshire and West Essex website [covid.healthierfuture.org.uk](https://www.healthierfuture.org.uk)

For information on the National Booking Service go to www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination

Bob Redman



"We all owe so much to every single person involved!!"

When I was invited to have my first jab, I couldn't wait to keep my appointment at Allum Hall. I felt the same way for my second jab and booster, but I didn't really understand how a vaccination clinic worked.

My first contact was with a volunteer directing traffic in the car park. A resident of Bushey, he explained how lifting the 15 minute post-jab observation period had made it much easier to find parking spaces for visitors.

Tony Battison, centre manager, guided me to the 'engine room' of the clinic. Meenu, a dentist from north London, showed me how she prepares batches of syringes from refrigerated supplies just before they are needed, not wasting a drop of the precious vaccine. Lead clinician Sai, a GP from Potters Bar, collected Meenu's trays of full syringes for the vaccination stations.

Despite everyone wearing face masks, I recognised my friend Tracey, who coordinates activity during each clinic. She introduced me to Michelle, who registers patients, passing them to a care team. A volunteer from Radlett, Michelle was starting her 100th shift!

I then realised how many links there are in the chain, welcoming and reassuring patients. I was delighted to see so many young people, pregnant moms and vulnerable patients eager to get their vaccination. Every three minutes, another registered patient passed through, as relieved and as happy as I had been after my jabs.

But my biggest surprise came when Tracey introduced me to medical staff and support volunteers. The vaccination centre has become the 'home base' for GPs, pharmacists, dentists, nurses and hospital doctors



to serve on 'the front line'. Time and again they told me it was their privilege 'to make a difference'. I replied that it was my privilege as mayor to thank them on behalf of Elstree and Borehamwood residents.

Throughout my visit I was struck by the sense of quiet,

calm and confident efficiency, always busy but never rushed. The team told me with pride that by November they had delivered 90,000 jabs, enough to fill Wembley Stadium. I was astonished to learn that their collective efforts were estimated to have already saved 250 Hertsmere residents.

Shifts can last four or five hours, but everyone with whom I spoke was cheerful and eager to continue, quick to point out that they were 'only' part of a team; every role was vital.

I left Allum Hall sharing their excitement at being able to give their time, again and again, to make such a great difference. We should all be grateful and very proud.

Bob Redman and Farida Turner



Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council Banner design competition 2022



Queen Elizabeth is celebrating 70 years as queen: the longest reign for any UK monarch. In honour of this very special occasion the town and Hertsmere borough council have united to pay for banners for the town lampposts. Banners have been decorating our lampposts celebrating important events in the town, e.g. 100 Years of Elstree Studios, for many years.

A banner for Elstree and Borehamwood would need to reflect
The importance of the Platinum Jubilee and be easily adapted for use on a lamppost.

The competition

The competition is being organised by Elstree and Borehamwood town council

Individuals, schools, colleges and other groups are invited to submit proposals in line with the competition's terms and conditions. Account should be taken of the banner design guidelines set out below, as these will be applied by the judges.

The deadline for submissions is 17 February 2022.

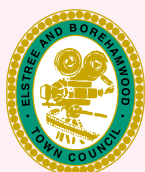
The judging panel will include representatives of the town council and a cross-section of organisations active in the community. The designs will all be drawn in a standard format, and will be judged anonymously.

Judging will take place in the week of 21 February.

There will be special awards for the best entries from under-12s and those aged 12 to 16. There is no limit to the number of designs anyone can submit, provided that they do not differ only marginally from each other and that they are made on the official entry form.

Contact

For further information and application form please contact Dan Salter at
Elstree and Borehamwood town council, Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood WD6 5BT.
Phone 020 8207 1382. Email dsalter@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk



Rotary Club of Elstree & Borehamwood

Our club continues to meet, albeit less frequently than we used to, but we continue to pursue the ethos of Service Above Self. We are in touch with a club in the Philippines with a view to raising money for the many poor in that country who are desperately in need of a roof over their head.

The RC of Central Surigao writes: "The category 4 typhoon that hit Surigao City on December 16, 2021 has brought havoc and devastation to the community. As of this moment food and clothing is no longer a major concern for the typhoon victims because of the overwhelming support from governments and other organizations, both domestic and foreign. What is needed are building materials especially roofing materials to spare the victims from continuous exposure to rain which has been pouring since after the typhoon and until now.

The club has decided to support those whose houses were destroyed and are earning just within the poverty threshold. The selected beneficiaries have been properly screened. There are a total of 138 household beneficiaries. The club would like to raise funds to purchase galvanized iron corrugated sheets as roofing materials with nails and sealant. Total funding required is a little over eight thousand US\$."

If you would like to make a contribution towards this project, or are interested in finding out more about Rotary, please call one of us to find out more: President Charles 07973 403 886; Secretary Clive 07939 088 421; Treasurer Richard 01442 769 834.

Clive Butchins



Studio Rotary Club of Elstree & Borehamwood

Service Above Self

In December we were delighted to welcome our newest member Rabbi Jeff Berger to our club. Past District Governor David Palmer attended the inauguration evening.

Sandra Parnell presented a banner from her recent visit to Rotary in Israel, following a visit to the Modi'in Rotary Club.

Andrew Grady recently visited the Rotary Club of Offenburg, being warmly welcomed by President Edith Schreiner.

Projects the club has recently been involved with include:

Afghan families

Afghan families in the town visited Lea Valley Farm on Thursday 16 December. The trip for 200 adults and children was organised by Communities First. Studios Rotary club was pleased to contribute £600 to allow the Afghan families in the town to go on a visit to the farm. It is a pleasure to show these traumatised families that they are welcome in our community. These brave people worked hard to ensure the safety of

our troops and British personnel over many years in Afghanistan.

Hertswood students

The grant from the Rotary charity Kids Out has been held over. Studios Rotary were able to get a grant of £4000 for Hertswood Academy students to visit the Reel cinema.

The £4000 will ensure Y8 and Y11 as a year group event can go to the cinema. Y12 and Y13 will have tickets to visit as they wish.

Purple4polio

In November Studios Rotary Club provided all Primary schools in the town with crocus corms to plant. The crocus emblem has been adopted because the time they bloom is when the polio season would begin. Purple4polio is an international Rotary project to eradicate polio in the world. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation provides £3 for every £1 that Rotary raises. Studios have spent £175 so that contribution is worth £375 to the vaccination fund.

Pat Strack



Club President (left) with Rabbi Jeff Bridges (centre) and PDG David Palmer (right)



Andrew Grady with Frau Edith Schreiner exchanging pennants



Sandra Parnell with President Victor Eni and PDG David Palmer

Environment

Children create a climate emergency manifesto, design a 'Homage to Planet Earth' and perform a litter pick

In Borehamwood and Elstree it is children and young people, together with local food poverty charity Gratitude, who led the charge as hundreds of pupils and their parents participated in Mitzvah Day 2021 around the theme of "tackling the climate emergency".

Held in the wake of the UK-hosted UN Climate Change conference (COP26), children from faith and secular schools Yavneh College, St Teresa's Catholic Primary School, Borehamwood Mosque, Kenilworth Primary School and Saffron Green Primary School have spent the last week producing drawings, writing poems, creating sculptures and other artwork in a "Homage to Planet Earth" which has been put on public display at the Gratitude hub in the town centre.

Aided by their teachers and parents, the pupils have also been contributing to a Children's Climate Emergency Manifesto based around their pledges to make changes in their own lives to help stop climate change. The manifesto also includes actions they want their parents and adults to take in order to reduce their carbon emissions and protect the environment, and things they are asking politicians to do to ensure we can save our planet.

Activities on Sunday 21 November 2021 also included a litter pick at Maxwell Park near the town centre. Volunteers gathered together outside Borehamwood Mosque next to the park where they were shown round by a community leader to improve understanding of the Muslim faith. In the afternoon they conducted food distribution to those in need at Gratitude's hub. 9-year old Zaynab Alam from Kenilworth Primary School read a poem from her class and she and other children spoke about why today was important for them.

Dan Ozarow



Tu B'Shvat

On Sunday 16 January Woodcock Hill Village Green Committee welcomed members of the Elstree Masorti Synagogue to a special tree planting event. Members of Studios Rotary Club were asked to find a suitable place for the planting. Woodcock Hill Village Green was ideal.

Tu B'Shvat began at sundown on Sunday 16 January and ended at sundown on Monday 17 January. It was practical to plant on a Sunday to involve family and friends. Sadly, we did not get to drink wine but celebrated with hot drinks.

The trees planted are native to this country: oaks and hawthorns. Trees were planted near the Queens Canopy at Carrington Avenue. A second planting was near the willows adjacent to Byron Avenue.

The organiser Alison Arelano provided a goodie bag for all participants.

Tu B'Shvat or the "birthday" of all fruit trees, is a minor festival. The name means the 15th of the Hebrew month of Shevat.

In the 16th century, the Kabbalists (mystics) of Tzfat (the city of Safed) in the Land of Israel created a new ritual to celebrate Tu B'Shevat called the Feast of Fruits. Modelled on the Passover seder, participants



would read selections from the Hebrew bible and rabbinic literature, and would eat fruits and nuts traditionally associated with the land of Israel. The Kabbalists also gave a prominent place to almonds in the Tu B'Shevat seder, since the almond trees were believed to be the first of all trees in Israel to blossom. Carob, also known as bokser or St. John's bread, became another popular fruit to eat on Tu B'Shevat, since it could survive the long trip from Israel to Jewish communities in Europe. Participants in the Kabbalistic seder would also drink four cups of wine: white wine (to symbolize winter), white with some red (a harbinger of the coming of spring); red with some white (early spring) and finally all red (spring and summer).

Pat Strack

Elstree and Borehamwood Green Belt Society 2021

EBGBS has campaigned, with other neighbourhood conservation societies, throughout the year for restraint in the massive building proposals in the Draft Hertsme Local Plan.

The green countryside separating us from the encroachment of London's suburban overspill and neighbouring settlements should be protected and cherished. Once built on it is lost forever. New housing should be provided using redundant commercial buildings and brown field land. The full response to the DHP can be found on our website. www.ebgreenbelt.org

It has to be recognised that our road grid is narrow, in some cases medieval, and cannot accept any major increase in traffic. We already experience delays, tailbacks, and increasing traffic noise and air pollution with health hazards for adults and children.

We opposed the building of a huge solar plant in the fields alongside Butterfly Lane. Green electricity could be better provided by solar panels on new and older buildings, avoiding the loss of a wide swathe of agricultural land which should be used for food production.

Our other serious concern has been for the preservation and restoration of Aldenham Reservoir. We welcome the proposals for constructive negotiations between the owners, Liberty Land Leisure Ltd, Hertfordshire county council and Hertsme borough council with the aim of transferring the reservoir into community ownership with full public access, restoration of the dam and water level. This would return the reservoir to its former beauty and allow us to enjoy this priceless local asset with its historic, environmental and recreational importance for all residents here and nearby north London areas.

The climate change and pandemic experiences have shown us how essential the natural green spaces are for mental and physical health and for the survival of life on our planet.

DHP proposals for nearly 1000 dwellings in Cowley Hill, Lyndhurst Farm, Green St and Well End Farm are in Shenley Parish not Elstree and Borehamwood.

Note: "Liberty Land Leisure Ltd" has been renamed "Jewel of Hertsme Ltd".

Ann Goddard
Chair Elstree and Borehamwood Green Belt Society

Aldenham Country Park Trust Ltd

A virtual AGM was held on 8 December. After the chairman's report, discussions again centred around what could be done to solve the problems of the reservoir.

The chairman, Simon Ray, wrote to Hertsme borough council and Liberty Lake Leisure to see if ACPT Ltd could act as an intermediary so talks could be resumed to come to some agreement about the future of the reservoir.

ACPT Ltd had submitted an application to Hertfordshire county council to have the footpath designated as public Right of Way. Evidence was gathered of public use between 1954 and 1974, the year that HCC took over the lease. The application with the evidence was submitted to the Secretary of State for consideration but objections were made by the owners LLL Ltd.

Evidence was resubmitted to the Planning Inspectorate last summer, thanks to the hard work of officers at HCC. ACPT Ltd received the good

news in December that the application will be heard by the Planning Inspectorate.

It will be good to get this situation resolved. Hopefully the whole footpath around the reservoir will be registered as a public Right of Way and thus open to the public in perpetuity.



Joint Facebook statement on Aldenham Reservoir

Never in its 225 years' history has the future of Aldenham Reservoir looked so bleak. Since Liberty Lake Leisure Ltd/Jewel of Hertsme assumed ownership in 2015, it has become a shadow of its former glory.

- Water level lowered with catastrophic impact on water life, fauna and local ecosystem;
- Children's play area has been sawn down;
- Ugly metal fences erected;
- Footpath access to the nature trail remains precarious;
- Weeds, moss and litter now engulf the historic dam;
- Exposure to the elements is weakening the dam structure. Regular blue algae blooms create a stench and present danger to fish and passing dogs;

- The Sailing Club was forced to close, having been established in 1937;
- Angling Society given notice;

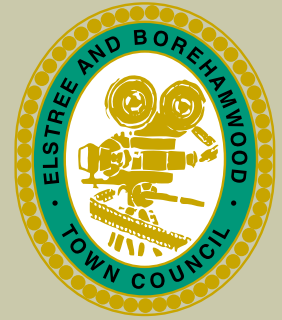
We say to the owners "enough is enough."

We are exploring the possibility of applying for a Compulsory Purchase Order to bring our reservoir temporarily or permanently back into public hands. We call upon both Elstree and Borehamwood town council, Aldenham parish council and the public to back our ambition and also to help source a potential future non-profit owner and secure public funding.

Cllr Caroline Clapper – Hertsme Conservatives

Cllr Jerry Evans – Hertsme Lib Dems

Cllr Dan Ozarow – Hertsme Labour & Cooperative Party



Elstree and Borehamwood Neighbourhood Plan – coming your way soon: Have your say! Find out more!

The town council is calling for volunteers to join a steering group to help shape the local area by creating a neighbourhood plan for Elstree and Borehamwood. This is an exciting opportunity for the community to have a real say in planning matters and the future of the town.

The formation of the plan will be facilitated by the town council but the plan belongs to the residents and it is essential that the steering group is made up of a good mix of local expertise and interest groups. If you are interested in supporting this project, please email the town clerk at

clerk@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk.

Subject to Covid-19 restrictions, **the council has planned a launch event to take place at Fairway Hall on Saturday 5 March 2022 from 2pm to 4pm** (drop in sessions) in order to raise awareness of the plan and to recruit volunteers to help on the steering group. Town councillors and the consultants who are helping to deliver the project will be available to answer questions and to help advise on exactly what a neighbourhood plan can do to improve the local area.

More information about neighbourhood plans can be found at neighbourhoodplanning.org

Woodcock Hill Village Green

Mitzvah Day

On Sunday 16 November Mitzvah Day WHVG committee welcomed members of Borehamwood Synagogue. This annual event was well attended and people from all communities worked together clearing vegetation and litter. It was a cold day but the enthusiasm was great.

Public Inquiry

The committee have engaged a barrister to represent us and Elstree and Borehamwood Green Belt Society, town council and residents associations at the public inquiry on the threat posed by Taylor Wimpey

to exchange land from the village green. TW wants eventually to build on the flat land near Byron Avenue in Borehamwood and relocate the VG to a field and over the railway tunnel in Elstree. This will result in worse accessibility for many Borehamwood people and easier for use by Elstree residents, who don't want it. The land is far inferior ecologically. The public inquiry will take place virtually from 24 to 28 January, and from 15 to 19 March. The face to face inquiry scheduled for December 2021 was cancelled.

**New members welcome please contact pat.strack@icloud.com
Annual membership £5 per annum per household**





Elstree and Borehamwood

Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday 9 March 2022 at 7.30pm



FAIRWAY HALL



Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT

Dear residents of Elstree and Borehamwood

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting called by the mayor, Cllr Farida Turner.

The Annual Parish Meeting is an opportunity for electors to have their say on anything they consider to be important to the people of Elstree and Borehamwood.

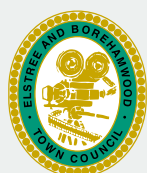
Any registered elector is welcome to attend.

The council may invite local clubs, societies or other voluntary and statutory organisations to speak about the work of their group.

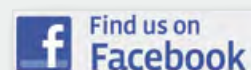
Cllr Farida Turner
Town Mayor

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 Community Safety Forum
- 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

Useful information

Barnet General Hospital

Wellhouse Lane, Barnet EN5 3DJ
020 3758 2000

Borehamwood Library

96 Shenley Rd, Borehamwood WD6 1EB
0300 123 4049

Borehamwood Police Station

Civic Offices, Elstree Way,
Borehamwood WD6 1WA, 01707 354000

Citizens Advice Bureau

2 Allum Ln, Elstree, WD6 3PJ
0344 411 1444

Cowley Hill Primary School

Winstre Rd, Borehamwood WD6 5DP
020 8953 2218

Elstree and Borehamwood Museum

96 Shenley Rd, Borehamwood WD6 1EB
01442 454 888

Elstree & Borehamwood railway station

Station Road, Borehamwood WD6 3LS
03450264700

Elstree University Technical College

Studio Way, Borehamwood WD6 5NN
020 8386 6220

Fairbrook Medical Centre

4 Fairway Ave, Borehamwood WD6 1PR
020 8953 7666

Hertswood Academy

Cowley Hill, Borehamwood WD6 5LG
020 8238 7200

Kenilworth Primary School

Kenilworth Dr, Borehamwood WD6 1QL
020 8953 3459

Meryfield Community Primary School

Theobald St, Borehamwood WD6 4PA
020 8953 2106

Monksmead Primary School

Hillside Ave, Borehamwood WD6 1HL
020 8953 3328

Parkside Community Primary School

Aycliffe Rd, Borehamwood WD6 4EP
020 8387 3000

Saffron Green Primary School

Nicoll Way, Borehamwood WD6 2PP
020 8953 3801

St Nicholas Elstree Church of England Primary School

St Nicholas Cl, Elstree, WD6 3EW
020 8953 3015

St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

Brook Rd, Borehamwood WD6 5HL
020 8953 3753

Schopwick Surgery

Romeland, Elstree, WD6 3BJ
01707 354000

Summerswood Primary School

Furzehill Rd, Borehamwood WD6 2DW
020 8953 3139

The Grove Medical Centre

Borehamwood Shopping Park,
Borehamwood WD6 4PR, 020 3538 3959

Theobald Medical Centre

121 Theobald St, Borehamwood WD6 4PT
020 8953 3355

The Venue Leisure Centre

Elstree Way, Borehamwood, WD6 1JY
020 8386 9886

Watford General Hospital

Vicarage Rd, Watford WD18 0HB
01923 244366

Woodlands Primary School

Alban Cres, Borehamwood WD6 5JF
020 8953 2717

Yavneh College and Primary School

Hillside Ave, Borehamwood WD6 1HL
020 8736 5580

Town Councillors

2021/22 Mayor: Cllr Farida Turner

2021/22 Deputy Mayor: Cllr Sandra Parnell

Borehamwood Hillside



Cllr Sandra Parnell (Con) Dep Mayor
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)
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.challice@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
07929 661391

Elstree



Cllr Farida Turner (Con) Mayor
cllr.farida.turner@elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk
07977 380173

Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council meetings

For a full list of our forthcoming meetings, please see the website.
All meetings now take place at Fairway Hall.

| | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--------|
| 15 February | Environment & Planning | Meeting Room | 7.00pm |
| 1 March | Entertainments | Meeting Room | 7.30pm |
| 9 March | Annual Parish Council | Main Hall | 7.30pm |
| 15 March | Environment & Planning | Meeting Room | 7.00pm |
| 23 March | Full Council | Main Hall | 7.30pm |
| 30 March | Transport & Community Safety | Main Hall | 7.00pm |
| 5 April | Entertainments | Meeting Room | 7.30pm |
| 11 April | Environment & Planning | Meeting Room | 7.00pm |
| 28 April | General Management | Meeting Room | 7.00pm |
| 11 May | Annual Council & Mayor Making | Main Hall | 7.30pm |
| 23 May | Environment & Planning | Meeting Room | 7.00pm |
| 25 May | Transport & Community Safety | Main Hall | 7.00pm |
| 26 May | General Management | Meeting Room | 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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☎ 0203 621 8080

✉ enquiries@morrissandjoel.com

🌐 www.morrissandjoel.com

48 Shenley Road
Borehamwood
Hertfordshire
WD6 1DS

