

## Parish Council Report

Ian Orton, Chairman of the Parish Council

Despite the rain, summer is almost with us and the Parish Council are looking forward to the various summer events that are planned for the next few months! St Georges Day on 21st April went down well for a first attempt with around 250 people attending, the weather being kind and a great tug of war; we are looking for more sponsorship next year so we can have more entertainment but the dragon, maiden and St George will be a must for next year!

The Diamond Jubilee Weekend begins on Saturday 2nd June with a Diamond Jubilee Ball starting 7pm at the Community Centre with 4 course meal, live music and disco – tickets £25. There will be street parties on the Sunday and Monday, if you need advice on a street party please contact the Parish 01727 821314.

On Monday 4th June from 2pm onwards there will a Beacon Celebration at Morris Playing Fields with live music, lots of entertainment, food and drink for sale culminating at 10pm with children from local schools lighting a beacon. There will be 4000 or so beacons lit throughout

the country at the same time and London Colney will be proud to play its part in celebrating the Diamond Jubilee. The final act to remember the event will be the planting of an Oak Tree down on the new village green at Waterside.

The Olympics start on Friday 27th July and the Parish has arranged a free Olympic Family Disco at the Community Centre for the Friday night but as part of the Cultural Olympiad we want to hold free film shows during Olympic fortnight and within LC News there is a voting slip to pick your favourite films. Please let us know the films you like and we will show the films chosen by the village! On events promoted by the Parish Council the numbers are increasing but we want to try and provide something for everyone so please let me know what sort of additional events we can put on!

There are just fewer than one hundred allotments within the village on the Glebelands and Shenley Lane sites. A meeting of the allotment holders was held in early May to plan improvements to the service with improved water supply and greater consultation about the way

the service is run. We are planning more allotments at the end of the summer – if you would like either a full or half allotment please get in touch with the Parish Council. It's a great way to spend time but the village muntjacs do like leeks!

The facelift to the Shenley Lane Playing Fields is now complete with flying fox,

>>2

### CONTENTS

- 1 Parish Council Report
- 2 New Village Green
- 3 Parish Council Events
- 4 Great Fire at Bowmansgreen
- 5 Mayor's Pride Award
- 6 World Wildlife
- 6 The Base
- 7 A Railway Oasis
- 8 St Bernadette - OFSTED
- 8 Maths Puzzle Day
- 9 Flood Or Drought
- 9 In Memory
- 10 Beans - Good For Your Heart!
- 11 Elected Representatives
- 12 Baptist Church
- 12 Meander Along The Ver
- 13 Olympiad Film Festival
- 13 Park Street Camera Club
- 14 Mosquito Makeover
- 15 St Albans Food Festival
- 16 Gardening
- 17 St George's Day
- 18 St Peter's Church
- 19 Caring - Dawn to Dusk
- 19 Headway
- 20 Dog Lost
- 21 Short Walk from St Peter's
- 23 Group Oil Purchase
- 24 WI



Five cygnets hatched this year but now there are four. Please keep your dogs under control and go easy on the sliced bread - it's not the right food for growing swans.

all weather surface around the park, trim trails, new benches why not pay a visit? Shenley Playing Fields is an unspoilt treasure within our village!

The Parish Council are working with St Albans to try and improve the increasing problem of car parking in the village; we are looking for more enforcement against people who park in an anti social way but we wish to see the car park behind the Co-op Store transferred to the Parish Council so more use can be made of this

facility and this will hopefully support local businesses.

The biggest challenge facing the Parish Council at present is the community building which was built in 1967 and is coming to the end of its life. The choice is repair, repair and refurbish or rebuild, the prices are now in and the Parish Council plans to put the details on the web site so people can comment on how we should approach this challenge. The web site now has approaching one thousand hits a month so it is becoming the way to

communicate within the village.

The Parish Council want to hear from you about how we can continually improve our village – if you have any ideas or concerns please get in touch with me!

My e-mail address is:

ianorton@btinternet.com

I look forward to hearing from you.

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## Watery Paddock - Our New Village Green

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Mary Crouch

First a huge thank you to all the forty plus local residents who were prepared to fill in forms and make statements concerning their use of the land opposite the Green Dragon for leisure purposes over a period of twenty years.

About eight years ago I became concerned at the fencing and encroachment on land which my children and dogs had always free access dating back to the nineteen sixties. With the help of the then Parish Clerk, Linda Gibling, we sought the help of our solicitors to establish ownership and status of the area.

Our first advice was not very encouraging; we were told we would need to obtain statements from at least six people who had used the land continuously for at least twenty years. We could then apply for Village Green Status. Well, you know what happened, over forty of you came forward.

One person, however, counter claimed, saying it belonged to him. So even more trawling through records, paperwork and solicitors and meetings with County Council Officers, and even more maps and statements to sign.

Then finally, on the 28th February 2012,

more than five years after the application was first registered on 4th December 2006, the Development Control Committee of Herts County Council recommended to accept that 'The land at Waterside, also known as Watery Paddock, London Colney be formally registered as a village green'. The land was so registered and the Register amended on 26th April 2012.

So, continue to enjoy the open space where the Parish Council hopes to install picnic tables for the summer, knowing the area to be free from the threat of development or change of use.



*The area of the new extension to the village green begins just to the left of the photograph and extends along the south side of the river as far as the beginning of the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust land in the trees at the far end of the picture.*

**SATURDAY 2ND JUNE, JUBILEE BALL IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
 19.00 – LATE, TICKET £25 – DRESS: TIES & TIARAS (DIAMOND OF COURSE)  
 4 COURSE MEAL, LIVE MUSIC AND DISCO.



## MONDAY 4TH JUNE JUBILEE BEACON CELEBRATION

STARTING AT 2PM WITH LIVE MUSIC,  
 ENTERTAINMENT, FAIRGROUND, HOG ROAST  
 AND  
 JUST AFTER 10PM  
 THE LIGHTING OF A BEACON  
 TO CELEBRATE  
 THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE

**BE PART  
 OF IT! >**

Thursday 21st June St Alban's Day Walk 18.30 (new owners of Pastoral Centre permitting)  
 Meet on the Village Green, in front of the Green Dragon Pub and join us for a walk through the  
 Broad Colney Nature Reserve and the Grounds of the former Pastoral Centre, to what would have  
 been the Island in the River Colney where St Alban is reputed to have been captured by the Romans.  
 A short history is read and then we walk back to the Community Centre for refreshments.

## SUNDAY 24TH JUNE LARKS IN THE PARK 12.00 – 17.00

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**FAMILY DISCO** 18.30 – Late Free Event **DANCE THE NIGHT**  
**FRIDAY 29 JUNE** Family Disco 18.30 – 22.00 Followed by **AWAY TO A GREAT**  
 Lets get the Party started 22.00 – 24.00. **MIX OF MUSIC.**



**SATURDAY  
 18TH AUG  
 TOM JONES  
 TRIBUTE**



**SATURDAY  
 29TH SEPT  
 THE PUSH  
 20.00 – LATE**

# Great Fire at Bowmansgreen

Jacky Potter

On 8th March, children from Year 2 enjoyed learning about the Great Fire of London. They dressed up and took part in workshops to enable them to understand what life would have been like during 1666. The day began with the group leader, who was dressed up as a monk, telling the children the story using a large map of London.

Around the hall, there were tables set up as stalls. These included a candle maker, a scent bag maker, leather embossing, a chemist, a weaver, an embroidery stall, an ink maker and most exciting of all was the role play that took place at the Barber surgeon's. Their job was to cut off people's limbs if they died in the fire!

The children had a fabulous morning, having practical activities to make and smell really brought the history to life for them. In the afternoon, they carried out archaeological digs to enable them to search for clues about a building which had burnt down in the fire. It was an exciting, hands on day, one which the children will remember for a long time!



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Whether making ink 1660s style or learning a proper respect for the dentists of the day, these children were taking their tasks very seriously.

What a wonderful opportunity to learn history in such a practical way!



## NEXT ISSUE AUTUMN 2012

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Articles should be sent to the editors c/o: Maria Aguado, 369 High Street, London Colney, AL2 1EA Tel: 823528 (phone manned evenings and weekends only) or e-mail: [editor@londoncolney.com](mailto:editor@londoncolney.com)

The editors of this magazine rely on contributors for the accuracy of their articles. We regret that we cannot check all the facts, but we are happy to consider printing corrections if errors are brought to our attention. Whilst the editors endeavour to include all items submitted by the deadline given, pressure on space may sometimes mean that items will be held over for consideration in future issues and may not therefore appear in the current issue. Articles may be edited for length or clarity.

# Mayor's Pride Award

## Charlotte Wilmer-Barbrook

On April 26 the team of dedicated, volunteer mums from Hertfordshire Postnatal Illness Support attended The Mayor's Pride Awards 2012 at the Alban Arena where they had been short listed for Local Hero 2012 with Charlotte Wilmer-Barbrook fronting up the charity.



Charlotte Wilmer-Barbrook receiving the award at the Alban Arena

To their great delight, amazement and honour they won the award! Charlotte and all the trustees would like to say a huge thank you to Mr Andrew Farley from London Colney for nominating them and helping them break the silence around this taboo subject!

Also a massive thank you goes out to the local businesses and bank that sponsor the charity's essential work particularly Barker's Estate Agents, Ritzy Fashion Accessories and Metro Bank who care tremendously about postnatal illness.

Hertfordshire Postnatal Illness Support works with families across the Hertfordshire community offering email, telephone and group support. In 2011 the team were thrilled to be invited by

Hertfordshire Partnership Trust to create and facilitate an ongoing support group for mums in Thumbswood Mother and Baby Unit at the QEII hospital in Welwyn Garden City. This specialist service ensures mums are not separated from their babies when needing psychiatric support.

Hertfordshire Postnatal Illness Support dedicates the Local Hero Award 2012 to every woman who is suffering with postnatal illness and the bravery needed to survive the crippling symptoms. Their

message to all mums is simple:

'Don't Give Up! You will get better and our charity is here for you every step of the way!'

For further information or help go to: [www.postnatalillness.co.uk](http://www.postnatalillness.co.uk)

Email: [mail@postnatalillness.co.uk](mailto:mail@postnatalillness.co.uk)

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# World Wildlife

Dave Ansell

# TheBase

Shelley Taylor, Project Co-ordinator

The Base Youth Project visited London Road Fire Station twice in recent months and a fun time was had by all.



The Kids @ Da Base visited first and the children were able to try on the firemen's safety clothes and have a very fast ride in one of the fire engines with sirens and flashing lights included.

The young people from The Base's evening project were also kitted out in the safety clothing before saving two dummies from a 'burning building'. Later they had a race to see who could unravel the fire engine's hose and shoot the water at a target the quickest.

The Base would like to thank the fire staff at the London Road Fire Station for giving their time to teach the children and young people about fire safety issues in an interesting and fun way.

The Base Project Coordinator – Shelley Taylor

The Kids @ Da Base is open every Monday 4-5.30pm during term time. 50p per week. All children in Years 5 and 6 are welcome. Please come along and see what you think.

The Youth Project is open every Tuesday 6.30-9pm and Wednesday 7-9.30pm. 50p per week.

**Calling all clubs and societies!  
There's space in this magazine for articles about YOUR members and their activities. 4,000 households receive this magazine every quarter. That's 10,000 people, all dying to know what you get up to!**

**Don't keep it to yourself - publicize your activities and attract new members.**

**Ed.**



Jaguars are the world's third largest cat, smaller than lions and tigers but much more powerful than a leopard. They are found in Central American rain forests, the Amazonas and Pantanal areas of Brazil.

These ferocious predators' favourite foods include monkeys, sloths, turtles, porcupines, snakes, fish, birds, caimans, iguanas and fruits like avocados.

Also they enjoy a taste of peccary (a small wild pig), deer and tapir. Where ranching takes place, cattle can be a prime choice on the menu.

Humans have been attacked and killed especially if cubs are being protected.

Jaguars are the only big cats which kill their prey by using the power of their huge jaws to pierce the skull with their canines.

They are excellent swimmers and tree climbers. Their lifespan is around 11 - 12 years, the current estimated wild population is believed to be between 10,000 and 15,000 according to the World Conservation Union.

# A Railway Oasis

Murray Eckett, St Albans LCGB



September 2011 - walk to the surviving landmarks of the failed scheme to extend the Northern Line, of the London Underground network. The walk began at Mill Hill East and ended up at Stanmore, where the remains of the brick arches that would have supported one of the planned intermediate stations can still be found.

For almost fifty years, the St Albans Branch of the Locomotive Club of Great Britain (LCGB) has been organising and arranging monthly meetings at various locations in and around this historic city, as well as putting together other related activities. In this article, I will look to outline some of the background to the Branch, and of its parent club.

The St Albans LCGB is one of a number of regional branches to be found all around England, representing the main club at grassroots level. The parent organisation was originally founded as long ago as April 1949, and evolved from part of the Ian Allan Locospotters

Club. The latter group was formed as an offshoot of the-then fledgling book publishers, who had begun the train-spotting craze by selling books containing the numbers of all the locomotives that were to be found on the national railway system at that time. When the LCGB first came into being, the main activity of the Club was to organise visits to locomotive depots and other railway installations, the membership being made up of those who wished either to record engine numbers, or to take photographs.

As time moved on, the Club evolved into what is now known as a railway study group, monthly meetings being arranged

at different locations, and, in 1953, the first domestic rail tour was arranged, the forerunner of many that would run over the following twenty years or so. In the early days, the LCGB was made up of regional groups, these being the forerunners of the branches that are seen today.

The history of the St Albans Branch began in the summer of 1963, when a group was first set up, holding joint meetings along with a local branch of another similar organisation, the Railway Correspondance and Travel Society (RCTS), which today is still a major player in this part of the railway market. Joint meetings carried on until 1968, when the LCGB continued on an independant basis.

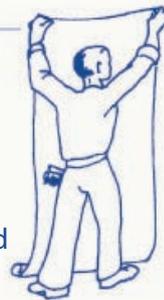
In 1980, the club moved to its current location at the United Reform Church Hall in Chiswell Green. Since the move to Chiswell Green, the Branch has built a reputation for holding many lectures and film shows on a wide miscellany of railway-related subjects. The "season" runs from September to May, and it is Branch policy to include talks from as many different parts of the railway scene as possible.

Each meeting begins at 19.30 and finishes at around 22.00 hours. Entry is available to all, not only LCGB members, and the donation for entry is a mere £2.00, this cluding a half-time cup of tea and biscuit ! As well as the monthly meetings, other activities were also organised by the Branch, probably the most fondly-remembered being a series of rail tours run over the former railway line between Cupid Green (just outside Hemel Hempstead) and Harpenden, the line at that time being owned by a supplier of concrete. During the early 1970s, four trips were arranged, each train being known as the "Claydales." On three occasions, those taking part in the tours were transported in open four-wheeled wagons, hauled by an industrial diesel shunter - during the other trip, the wagons were not available, and the sixty attendees were split into three lots of twenty, and travelled down the line holding onto the sides of the same diesel! No-one was worse the wear for the experience, but this is something that would most certainly not be allowed today!



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# St Bernadette School - OFSTED

Lisa Barton, Head Teacher, St Bernadette Catholic Primary School

St Bernadette Catholic Primary School was judged to be a very good and rapidly improving school in both its Section 5 and Section 48 Inspections. The latter pertains to the Catholic dimension and the religious education offered to its pupils. The school views itself as very good and the inspectors concur with this judgement. The school that is improving rapidly. "A period of downturn since the last inspection has been resolutely reversed by good leadership and management. This was recognised in one of the many positive comments from parents and carers: 'The school has improved dramatically over the past few years'. Virtually all parents and carers who sent in responses corroborate pupils' views, one person adding, 'My child could not be in a more caring environment.'

The commitment and drive of the whole staff to raise attainment are clear. Staff are committed and have high expectations of the standards they wish their pupils to achieve. Pupils are encouraged to apply learning to their daily lives and the school ensures that it offers a vast range of educational workshops in addition to its broad and balanced curriculum. As a result most pupils make very good progress and they appreciate the reflection opportunities given to apply the themes to their own lives.

The inspectors noted that our pupils are proud of their school and enthusiastically undertake responsibilities such as buddies to younger children and as peer mentors. They appreciate their ideas and opinions being sought for example through the School Council. Teaching about other faiths has a positive effect on pupils' understanding of beliefs within the local community. Pupils are very aware of the importance of service to others and they understand that they are living out their Catholic duty by organising fund-raising for local, national and international charities. The pastoral support offered to pupils is very good. The school is a welcoming, inclusive community where all members are valued and individual talents are recognised, celebrated and promoted

The work of the governing body was

acknowledged as a significant factor in the school's success. The governing body has worked successfully to win the support of parents and carers, as evidenced by the high and very positive response to the questionnaire. It understands the school's strengths and weaknesses because it is involved in self evaluation and gives good challenge to leaders. As a result, the school's development planning is astute. The success so far of initiatives to improve teaching and raise achievement shows good capacity to make the necessary further improvements, to continue on the journey towards being a good school. The curriculum meets pupils' needs well and is contributing effectively to better progress.

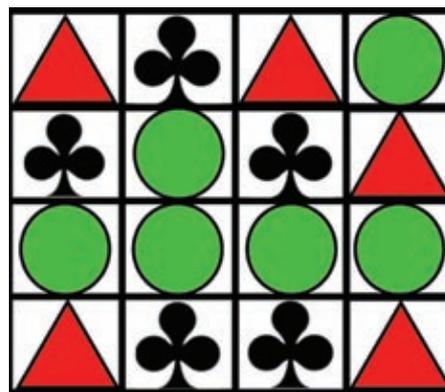
In their letter to the children, the section 5 inspectors wrote : 'The reason your school is improving is because teachers are working hard to do their best for you. Your parents and carers indicated that they think the same. You behave well in most lessons and round the school. You know how to stay safe and you told us that you trust all the adults in the school to look after you and help you

if you are worried. Bullying is rare and you showed that you know what to do about it should it happen. You have a good understanding of the feelings of others and are considerate in how you behave to them. This is one of the reasons that your school is such a pleasant place to be.'

The inspection process was both affirming and developmental and matched with that of the School's Development Plan. We were delighted that it acknowledged the immense improvement in the school at all levels and particularly that of our pupils. Life has not stopped there however. We have continued to offer a range of workshops which included a drama workshop based on relationships to all the pupils. We recently had a wonderful debating competition for our Year 6 members and held an Art Exhibition to which The Right Worshipful The Mayor of the City and District of St Albans, Councillor Aislinn Lee attended. We were delighted that she was available to give her time so willingly and spoke very highly and positively about our pupils work.

## Maths Puzzle Day

Year 5 & 6 children from St Bernadette



On Friday 30th March, St Bernadette Primary had a Maths Puzzle Workshop. Children of all ages, from Reception to Year 6 were involved.

We were in the Y5 and Y6 workshop and it was a fun and exciting afternoon. There were lots of different types of problems. Our groups worked together to complete tricky logic puzzles. Ruth in Year 5 said, 'I think it helped me to work

in a team with people I don't know'. 'It was fun, exciting and not just maths, so you had a range of subjects all in one' added Libby. Our instructor was very nice and she even let the TEACHERS have a go!

The year 5 teacher said 'I thought it was very good that children were working together from all the different year groups and I was sad that the teachers' group didn't complete as many tasks as the children.' To start us off, we did the puzzle 'handcuffs' all together so we got the idea.

Whenever we finished a puzzle, we went up to the front and our instructor would explain the next puzzle and hand it to us. There were over 10 puzzles to complete. We got very tricky puzzles that we could not complete in a short amount of time – luckily it wasn't about winning – it was about persevering and working as a team to solve the problems.

# Flood or drought?

Sue Pavey Veolia Water Central

The recent downpours of heavy rain have been a blessing for gardeners, farmers, rivers and sports pitches in drought hit regions, but unfortunately will do little to help replenish ground water supplies.

After two successive autumn and winters of well below average rainfall, the Environment Agency has declared over half of England to be in a state of drought. At this time of year, most rainfall is absorbed by trees and plants for growth, or is lost to evaporation. The soil above the underground chalk aquifers, from which Veolia Water takes most of its water, has also become so dry that rain will either run off the surface into rivers, or be absorbed by the soil and not permeate downwards.

Mike Pocock, Water Resources Manager of Veolia Water said: "The critical period for recharging our aquifers is between October and March each year. The recent rainfall has been good for the environment and reduces demand for



*October 2011 to April 2012 - what a difference a few months can make...*

water. Unfortunately this rainfall is unlikely to replenish groundwater levels in our region.

Following the unusually dry weather we have experienced over the past 24 months, we will need prolonged and substantial rainfall over next autumn and winter to recharge our aquifers and to

move us out of a drought situation."

Veolia Water's website contains more information on the drought, where visitors can receive advice and tips on saving water and using water more efficiently, together with free and discounted water saving devices at: [www.veoliawater.co.uk/drought](http://www.veoliawater.co.uk/drought)

## In Memory

Ken Peak

The last few months have seen the sad loss of many village characters, mourned by their families and friends and missed by all of us in our recollections of their time here and the part they each played. It is fitting to mention the departed with a note in local newspapers we may read, but the recent funeral services have shown the affections of the people who knew them so well.

Among those now gone, each due our respect and sympathy, we recall the grand horse-drawn carriage of Mrs 'Pat' Hinson, arranged by Robin, her only son, and his family. Also Mrs Ann Berridge, whose many children came from all over Britain to remember her life and the whole family dynasty. The late actor and thespian, Philip Madoc, also passed away suddenly in the New Year, leaving an indelible mark with his TV portrayals and his rich Welsh accent, as in the detective series 'A Mind to Kill', set in Wales. A remarkable man of great intellect, but always ready to help in cleaning the river which ran past his home on the village green!



We also lost Mrs Lynne Kauder, another well-known personality, who leaves her husband Ken and their boys David and Lee, and many friends to grieve.

A special celebration Charity Football Match (see photo above) was organised in memory of Wally Vernon, who died just before Christmas after a long illness. Wally was a man who earned the respect of all who met him. His practical skills

were always in demand, with soul-mate Celia caring for his failing health even as he chaired the Local History Society, and edited the latest issue of THE RECORD magazine. A Memorial Tree was planted on The Clock Green by the Parish Council, and donations were sent to worthy causes on his behalf. Many special tributes were received for our modest but heroic friend. RIP.

# Beans - Good For Your Heart!

Rachel Keane - [www.fishingforfruitcake.blogspot.com](http://www.fishingforfruitcake.blogspot.com)

Yiyantes (yee-gan-dees)

I love butter beans for their soft floury texture and in my uncle's recipe they have a delightfully crispy edge to them too.

**Ingredients**

- 4 x 400g can of butter beans
- 400g can of tomatoes
- 4 celery sticks
- head of garlic
- 2 medium onions
- 3 tbsp fresh chopped parsley
- 350ml olive oil

Chop onions and stick in a very hot oven (250C) with all the olive oil – don't worry if it looks like a lot of oil, this dish really needs to crisp the butter beans.

Whilst the onions are cooking, chop garlic cloves as finely as you can. Add the garlic to the onion and cook for a further couple of minutes. Remove from oven

Slice celery and finely chop parsley. Add both to the onions and garlic along with the butter beans. Season and mix thoroughly.

Put back in the oven for about 40 minutes, taking out to stir every 10 minutes or thereabouts. Keep cooking until the butter beans have become crunchy and golden.

Add chopped tomato and cook for a further 20-30 minutes.



The first time I helped my uncle cook yiyantes was when we were on holiday on the little Greek island of Evia and I remember being startled by how delicious butter beans can be. Yiyantes still brings me back to the yellow grass and balmy sea air of my Greek summer holidays and in some ways I think it is symbolic of good Greek cooking: clever use of herbs, olive oil and tomato to make simple ingredients taste really good.

Since pinching his recipe, yiyantes has been a favourite recipe in our house because it is so simple to make and tasty. Yiyantes is substantial enough to serve as a main dish; Mum and I had it with a green salad, feta and potato wedges for dinner yesterday. Or you can serve it as a side dish to a meaty main such as sausages or kebab or with a barbecue. A couple of years ago, we had an Easter meal of roast lamb, yiyantes and briami (which is another Greek dish quite similar to ratatouille).

As an experiment, I asked some of my friends and family their favourite things to do with pulses. The results came in. Mixed bean salad was one: chuck a couple of tins of mixed beans in a bowl with plenty of fresh coriander, spring onion dressed in olive oil, lemon juice and a dash of tomato ketchup. My sister said: chop aubergine, red onion and chickpeas and bake in garlic and olive oil in a hot oven. Another favourite was Boston baked beans: mix some butter beans, ham (or bacon or anything pig-derived) and chopped tomatoes in a oven-proof dish, add a bit of brown sugar, Lea Perrins and mustard powder and a bay leaf and bake for 2 hours.

If you enjoyed these recipes, please visit my blog at [www.fishingforfruitcake.blogspot.com](http://www.fishingforfruitcake.blogspot.com)

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# Elected Representatives

## Parish Council

### North West Ward

Maria Aguado	369 High Street	823528	maria.aguado@dsl.pipex.com
Jane Hobday	14 Telford Road	769784	janeantonia@gmail.com
Mike Hobday	14 Telford Road	07853 292 307	mike.hobday@ntlworld.com

### South West Ward

Jacob Quagliozi	5 Morris Way	07807 096824	cllr.j.quagliozi@stalbans.gov.uk
Norman Mahony	36 St Annes Road	767348	ncmahony@ntlworld.com
Ian Orton (Chairman)	8 Jubilee Avenue	825169	ianorton@btinternet.com

### East Ward

Laurel Blyth	30A St Annes Road	769530	laurelblyth@hotmail.co.uk
Katherine Gardener	47 Thamesdale	07765137453	auxin@hotmail.co.uk
Tony Smith	2 Summers Way	821314	tony@happylyfe.co.uk

## St Albans District Council

Simon Calder	28 Norris Close	07949 479370	cllr.s.calder@stalbans.gov.uk
'Dreda Gordon	29 Collyer Road	826233	cllr.d.gordon@stalbans.gov.uk
Jacob Quagliozi	5 Morris Way	07807 096824	cllr.j.quagliozi@stalbans.gov.uk

## Hertfordshire County Council

Chris Brazier	The Cottage, 3, Park Lane, Colney Heath, AL4 0NR	823586 07836 738853	chris.brazier@hertsccl.gov.uk
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## Member of Parliament

Anne Main	House of Commons, Westminster, London	0207 219 8270	maina@parliament.uk
	Constituency Office	01727 825100	

## Members of the European Parliament

There are 7 MEPs for the Eastern Region. Contact them at these numbers...

Conservative: 01245 345188,

Labour: 01223 240202,

Liberal: 01223 566700,

UKIP: 01245 266466

**Parish Council Meetings** are held on the first Friday of each month except in August. The next meeting will be on Friday 1st June at 7pm in The Pavillion at Morris Way Playing Fields. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Early in each meeting Police Community Support Officers give a report of the previous month's crime in the village followed by 15 minutes of Public Question time if you wish to ask questions of the PCSOs or the Councillors.

The dates for the forthcoming meetings are: 1st June, 6th July, NO MEETING IN AUGUST, 7th September.

### PLANNING

Planning applications received from St Albans District and Herts County Council will be available at the next Parish Council Meeting to view on a laptop provided by StADC. The District Council will soon stop supplying paper copies of plans to the Parish Council or to members of the public so this will be an opportunity to test the new system for those who have no computer access.

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# London Colney Baptist Church

Adrian Wood Minister

St Francis of Assisi is one of the best remembered and most admired monks in history. Setting up a monastery is probably not very high on most people's 'To Do List' today in the 21st Century, but it is accepted that Christianity would not be the same if it had not been for the faith of people like St Francis.

The quote below is attributed to St Francis, although no-one is sure whether he actually said this or not. Something about not having an MP3 voice recorder to hand at the time!

"Preach the gospel at all times; when necessary, use words."

At London Colney Baptist Church, we think it is important to use both words and actions to show the community that we care.

Parents/carers with small children can come and enjoy a cup of coffee at our Toddlers group on Friday mornings (10am until 11.30am).

Anyone wanting some legal advice can come to our Solicitors Surgery on the first Wednesday evening of the month.

Open Doors on Thursday afternoons is a Bible Study group for retired people. There's coffee and biscuits too!

Sunday services are at 10.30am and we welcome anyone who would like to either 'pop in' or is looking for somewhere longer term. There is coffee available as well.

If you would like to know more about any of the above or have other questions then our phone number and email address are below.

t: 01727 825450

e: londoncolneybc@gmail.com

## Meander Along the Ver

Jacqui Banfield-Taylor

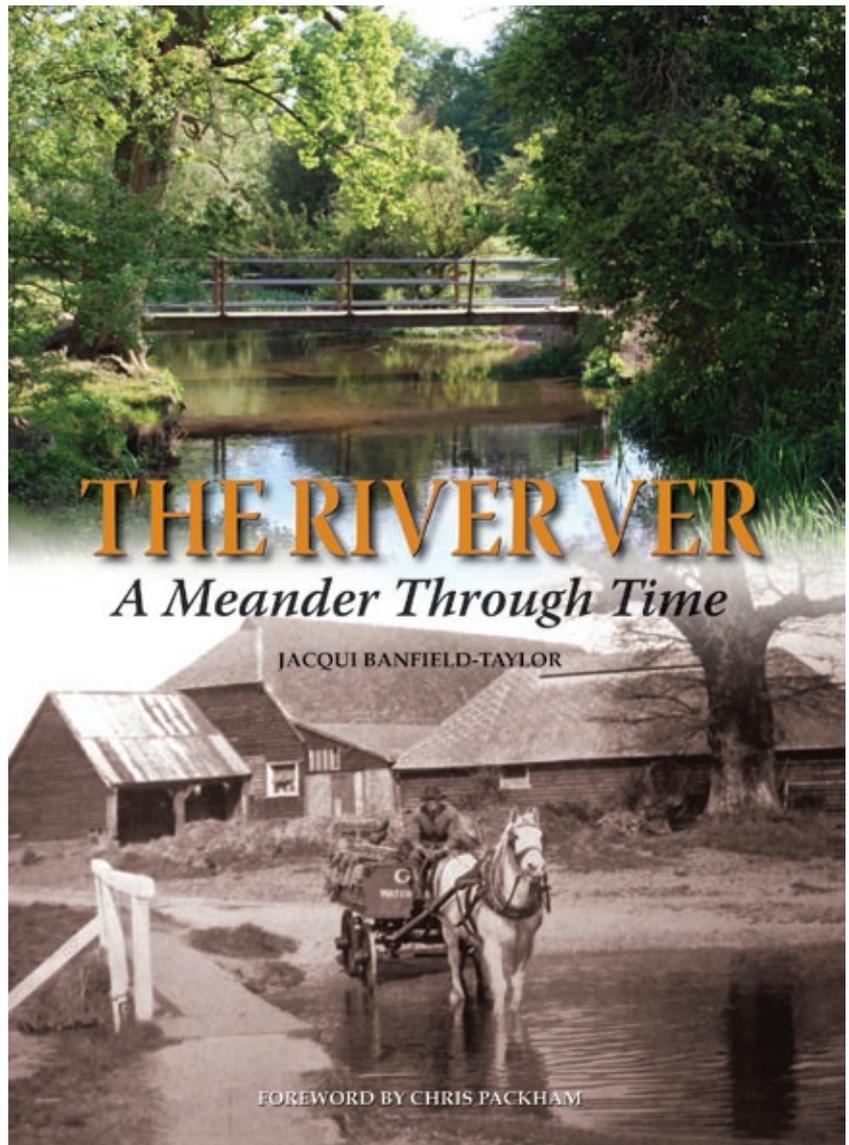
This first major and comprehensive work on the River Ver reveals a fascinating story from source to confluence and prehistory to the twenty-first century of a chalk stream that has shaped not only the local landscape but the lives of people past and present.

With a foreword by the renowned television presenter and wildlife photographer Chris Packham of Spring and Autumn Watch fame, the book tells of the Ver's long, interesting and chequered history, including archaeology and geology, milling and watercress growing, problems with abstraction along with rainfall and aquifer records, abstraction and flow charts and comprehensive records and details of a selection of local flora and fauna.

There are wonderful personal memories and experiences sprinkled throughout the book of people who have lived, worked and played on or near the river; helping to bring the past to us here in the present, all complemented with over 350 illustrations, many never seen before in public and some going back more than 250 years.

The River Ver, A Meander through Time, makes it clear how valuable and important our chalk streams are and how vital it is to raise their profile and that of the rich diversity of wildlife they support. This beautifully written and illustrated book hopes to encourage readers to take an interest in exploring and caring for this superlative resource and its surroundings and help to give the River Ver its rightful importance now and for future generations.

This hardback book is due to be published in July 2012 and signed copies will be available in the first instance direct from the author at £24.99. Please email [riverver@btinternet.com](mailto:riverver@btinternet.com) or call 07792 588892 and from good bookshops.



# Olympiad Film Festival

Tuesday 31st July to Saturday 4th August

What are your favourite films?

Let us know and the most popular films will be shown at the Community Centre during Olympic Week! Choose your favourite Children's Film, Western Film, Musical Horror Film and Favourite Film of All Time!



Looking forward to seeing you

– the films will be free but we will have to charge for the ice creams and sweets!

Fill in the film strip below, clip and return to the Parish Council Office, Community Centre, Caledon Road

or email your choices to: [info@londoncolney-pc.gov.uk](mailto:info@londoncolney-pc.gov.uk)

Children's film...	Western film...	Musical film...	Horror film...	All Time Favourite
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

## Park Street Camera Club

Rosemary Wenzelul

Park Street Photographic Society as it was originally called, was formed in 1962 and met above an electrical shop at 1-2 Park Street Lane (now Park Street Guns). The Club Chairman at that time was Mr. D.S. Bithell who actually owned the shop. The Club then moved to various premises in Park Street - Homewood School in Hazel Road, a dancing school in Orchard Drive, Primary School in Branch Road and finally to St. Stephen Parish Centre in Bricket Wood, where we still meet today.

In 2001 and 2007, the Club received grants from 'Awards for All'. These went to the purchase of club equipment to bring the club into the digital age of photography, a series of training sessions on digital photography for, not only our own members but, any interested members of the local community. We also arranged outings for our members to places of photographic interest.

Cameras are still at the heart of our hobby and the skills of composing a good image are timeless but little else in photography is the same as it was when the club started.

On 29 March we held our Annual Dinner and Award Presentation at the Metropolitan Police Sports Club in Bushey, this was officially the



beginning of our 50th Anniversary Year (photograph above by Martin Wise).

We are a small and friendly Club, and welcome new members of all abilities. We currently have a membership of 40+ photographers.

The Club meets every Thursday at 7.45pm in the Tennyson Room, St. Stephen Parish Centre, Station Road, Bricket Wood, AL2 3PJ.

SUMMER BREAK: 28 JUNE RETURN 6 SEPTEMBER 2012

Please contact Rosemary Wenzelul, Publicity Officer, on 01923 677111 for further information

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## Jazz Evening & Supper

Saturday July 7, 2012, 6pm  
Greenwood Park Community Centre, Chiswell Green  
Entertainment from the BSV Community Jazz Band  
£15 per person, including supper.



## World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Friday September 28, 2012, 10am - 1pm  
Greenwood Park Community Centre



## Autumn Quiz Night

Saturday October 6, 2012  
London Colney Community Centre  
Caledon Road, London Colney

Enquiries for all events to Avril Foster on 01727 862079 or by email to [avril.foster@ntlworld.com](mailto:avril.foster@ntlworld.com)  
If you would like regular updates about our events, please provide us with your email address

# Mosquito Makeo

Ken Peak

Those who have visited our local De Havilland Aircraft Heritage Centre at Salisbury Hall (beside the M.25 motorway at Junction 22) will know what a fascinating place this is, even for people with little knowledge of old aeroplanes! It really was a well-kept secret from our foes when Britain needed every chance to survive a deadly war some 70 years ago.

Since then, the sole remaining prototype military aircraft of WWII has been kept safe for public viewing here, along with other planes made by the de Havilland company, previously based at Hatfield. These days, we have to abide by many regulations to ensure safety and avoid any risks, so the directors have ordered a programme of work to meet such demands. There are many changes in hand now, which will give more convenience to our visitors in future: but the displays will stay open in the meantime, with modified opening hours on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays now set at noon-5pm, and Sundays from 10.30am (with last entries at 4pm each day) We are sure you will have a great time, meeting people from all countries as they inspect the famous machines created by this amazing firm and its ingenious design team, whose imagination was given full encouragement by 'the Boss' even when the 'boffins' scoffed at the ideas proposed by a man who became a living legend in due course, as Sir Geoffrey de Havilland.

If you haven't been here before, take a few hours to take a look around. Bring your camera and a picnic lunch,



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ver

or ask for some light refreshments in the shop where you buy your tickets (at sensible rates) and get ready for a unique experience on board some of our real aircraft...with guides to explain how it all happens in peaceful flight - or in mortal combat! And dare you ask about the strange past of the moated mansion next door?

But we should pay tribute to those who are still helping today, trying to restore fading fabric and tired mechanisms to pristine condition with old skills that were wasting away. Several buildings are also being repaired, with better facilities for visitors, and more security features to protect the valuable relics of aviation history. We are most grateful for the help offered by our local business contacts, who cut our costs with their many specialist abilities. Len Rodell erects the scaffolding; Willows Farm sent Pete Goody to raise the huge RR Merlin engines into place on a Mosquito'6' with a fork-lift; LaFarge provided concrete mix for new floors; Skanska/BB promised materials to improve access and parking as their M.25 job finishes and Portacabin HQ donated towards a new wheel-chair route. Some benefactors have served in the Air Force, or were DH employees, or simply want to help us to remind a new generation of the way we were, and why they are so proud of what can be achieved if we all work together.

"Keep Calm - and just Do It!" - to parody a great slogan...

Our website is at [www.dehaviandmuseum.co.uk](http://www.dehaviandmuseum.co.uk)



# St Albans Food & Drink Festival

Jenny Swatton

This year's festival runs from 26th September to 7th October 2012, with a wide range of food and drink events around St Albans City & District.

Highlights during the 12 days include the CAMRA St Albans Beer Festival (from 26th to 29th September), the Food & Drink Awards, and the outdoor Finale in St Peter's Street on Sunday 7th October.

See the website or 'like' our Facebook page for updates.

For the third year you can also nominate an individual for the Kate D'Arcy Award, to recognise someone who has exceeded expectations by providing outstanding customer service.

Nominations for this year's Food and Drink Awards are open from 1st to 31st July. You can nominate your favourite food and drink businesses from anywhere around the district in the following categories:

- Best Restaurant
- Best Bar
- Best Pub
- Best Café / Coffee Bar
- Most Family Friendly
- Local Gem
- Best Local Producer

You can nominate online at [www.stalbansfoodanddrink.com](http://www.stalbansfoodanddrink.com), or post us your nominations to St Albans District Council, between 1st and 31st July.

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## Fruit & Veg Stall

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**London Colney Children's Centre, Alexander Road, London Colney AL2 1JG**

# Gardening

Anne Kitchener

Gardeners are always at the mercy of the weather which in this country can be quite erratic, helping or hindering any efforts in the garden. It is particularly so this year. We have had another dry winter followed by early unseasonably warm weather, so there is now the need to reduce the demand on dwindling water reserves. With April came the hosepipe ban, and also the rain, but supplies are still low. I only use my hosepipe on the garden if I have done a lot of new planting, but the problem will be with my pots as these need to be kept watered in summer even if there has been rain. I have rather a lot of pots.



In most years these pots are easily looked after by our irrigation system, which is particularly useful if we go away, but with the ban in place I am unable to use this as we do not have a water meter. To reduce demands on the water supply I have resigned myself to having fewer pots and to using a watering can. I have quite a few perennial plants or shrubs permanently in pots, some of which were gifts, and all will have to be kept watered by hand. I keep geraniums and fuchsias from one year to the next by overwintering them in the conservatory. I have had some of the geraniums for many years and they have become old friends, so to keep them going will have to water those by hand as well.

In the autumn I took cuttings of fuchsias and a white flowered bacopa for this year's pots. Having lovingly nurtured them through the winter, I am not going



to throw them out now, so these also will need to be kept watered. Then there are the crops I am growing from seed..... it goes on! It looks as if I will be spending a lot of this summer with my watering can. To conserve water we have two water butts and I will use these to supply the water needed as far as possible. We have already had our major holiday of the year, so will only be away for short periods during the summer months and hopefully the pots and crops should survive this.

I am particularly fond of agapanthus, and having lost some in the previous winter's very low temperatures I decided to give them one more go. I was seduced by several different varieties at last year's Spring Gardening Show in Malvern, and even invested in new pots for them. I lovingly fed them last August, at the same time as feeding tomatoes, to encourage flowering this summer. I wrapped the pots in bubble wrap and put them in a sheltered spot over winter and even covered them with fleece in the coldest weather – I do not usually go to such lengths. I generally try to have plants which will fend for themselves if they have to be outside over winter, but with agapanthus I have made an exception. After all this I don't want them to perish for lack of water over the coming summer so these too will be added to the long list of pots to water. Then there are my lilies, these have now multiplied over the years to fill several pots. They are generally very easy to look after, survive the lowest

temperatures without any cossetting, quietly re-emerging in larger numbers each spring. A quick tidy up, feed and top dress in spring and occasional re-pot in autumn is all they have needed, although some vigilance is required to keep lily beetles at bay. Now, these too will need to be added to the watering list, at least I will be able to inspect them for lily beetles at the same time.

I have tried to give my permanent pots a good start to the growing season by removing the top layer of compost then feeding with slow release granules and topping up with fresh potting compost. I'll try to reduce water loss from evaporation from porous pots, such as those made of unglazed terracotta, by lining them with plastic whilst potting them up and all will have water retaining granules added. Placing the pots in groups to create a little microclimate and watering in the evening should hopefully help reduce water loss too. It looks as if I am going to have a busy summer with my watering can, but my pots are an important part of the garden in summer, adding greatly to my enjoyment, and I would not be without them.

As a footnote, I have just discovered that households with water meters can continue to use pressure controlled irrigation systems so I won't have to 'carry the can' as much as I anticipated if the water meter can be installed before the real drought begins again.

# St George's Day

Richard Gannon

We hosted our first St George's day celebration on Saturday 24 April and I am pleased to say that it was a success. We had over 250 guests who, undeterred by the promises of rain, turned up and enjoyed the day's entertainment. Even when the clouds did decide to open, the revellers poured inside and ended up making our usually quite large community room feel a little on the cosy side.

When the rain let up, our guests were able to emerge and enjoy the sun out on the green. They were entertained by a sterling performance of the story of St George and the Dragon performed by our very own Ian Orton and Jacob Quagliozi with the wonderful Anna as the maiden. We had planned for an adults only tug of war too. Our plans were scuppered however when after carefully hand picking the teams and laying out the rope in preparation, 30 of the younger visitors took it upon themselves to have their own competition. Carefully and fairly judged by Jodie Carter, one of our local Police Community Support Officers, it seems the girls were on form; managing to beat the boys 2 – 1.

We also had a cheerleading group from the village and a funfair all whilst a jazz band played an eclectic mix of hits throughout the afternoon. A much better turnout than expected for a first event when once again, the people of London Colney turned out in force for an afternoon of entertainment hosted by the London Colney Parish Council.

Ian Orton, Chair, London Colney Parish Council said "When you put on an event like this there is really no telling how it will turn out, worries about rain and attendance were soon allayed on the day though when we saw the full support of our local residents. The really rewarding thing about an event like this however, is to know that all of the hard work put into it pays off. We'll definitely do it all again next year"



The winning team in the 'volunteer' Tug of War

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# St Peter's Church

Rev'd Lynne Fawns



Jubilee! It's a word presently resounding not only throughout the United Kingdom but also on the many distant shores of the Commonwealth. Of course as we all know it's because we are celebrating The Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The word "jubilee" denotes a time of celebration and rejoicing and is very apt as we give thanks for someone who has served this country and Commonwealth so wonderfully for 60 years.

Yet, as wonderful as this is for the nation, it is particularly special for Anglicans, as the Queen is the "Supreme Governor of the Church of England". Whilst her authority over the Church is now mainly symbolic, she has offered an image of Christian faithfulness that has been nothing less than inspirational. Yet, there is

nothing "symbolic" about her life of faith. She is a deeply religious person. She is a Queen who attends church and chapel at least once a week and her life of faith underpins all that she does and all that she is called to be.

In fact her Coronation Service that took place on the 2nd June 1953 is steeped in religious symbolism and language, that in part goes back to Old Testament times. The service also recognises that being the "Supreme Governor of the Church of England" and the "Queen of England" is not something she is just born into but that it is her vocation, her call from God and can only be carried out through the grace of God. Her vocation is to serve – God and His people! She has done that with distinction.

It is true that the Queen was born into immense wealth and so she could have just "done enough" and enjoyed the "good life" but we see that even in her later years she has a diary of appointments that would run a person a third of her age, ragged. This work is always done with utmost preparation, very often done without a fanfare, always with joy and with a true sense of service and humility ..... and with no material benefit to herself at all. This is a true sacrificial offering of a life and a wonderful image of Christian service!

So, St Peter's looks forward to joining in all the Village celebrations in June and we too will be giving thanks for The Queen at a Jubilee Service on Sunday 3rd June at 10am. It will be a Communion service with special activities for the younger

people who will all receive a Jubilee gift to remember this special day. We will round off the service with a celebration cake and sparkling wine. Do come and join us at this celebratory service.

Whilst we are all enjoying ourselves celebrating the Jubilee perhaps you may feel called to do more by saying a prayer for the Queen. If you do here is the official prayer written for the service to be held in St Paul's Cathedral on June 5th.

God of time and eternity,  
Whose Son reigns as servant, not master;  
We give you thanks and praise  
That you have blessed this Nation, the Realms and Territories with ELIZABETH, our beloved and glorious Queen.

In this year of Jubilee,  
Grant her your gifts of love and joy and peace as she continues in faithful obedience to you, her Lord and God and in devoted service to her lands and peoples, and those of the Commonwealth, now and all the days of her life;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Fun and celebration will also be the theme at St Peter's Summer Fayre, which will take place on Saturday June 16th between 11am and 3pm, complete with London Colney's new sensational group "Brushed Silk", the duck race, plate painting, stalls, BBQ ..... and much much more. Look for further details on our notice boards very soon.

God Bless!  
Lynne and the family of St Peter's

### The Jubilee Emblem (top left)

A national competition to design an "official emblem" for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012 attracted over 35,000 entries from school children across the nation aged between 6 and 14.

The overall winner of the competition, which was supported by Buckingham Palace and promoted through the BBC's Blue Peter Programme, was ten year old Katherine Dewar from Chester.

The winning design, which becomes the official Diamond Jubilee emblem, is for use by organisations and individuals who have an interest in celebrating the Diamond Jubilee. The emblem is free of charge to use and is available, along with instructions for use, via the British Monarchy website.



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## Caring - Dawn to Dusk

Jo Ivory



The Dawn to Dusk Carers Group meets at The Charles Morris Hall in Tyttenhanger Green from 11.30 - 1.30 on Thursdays; anyone who is a carer be it a family member or a friend is welcome to join us.

We restart on the 24th May for exercise therapy with an Extend trained therapist. Extend exercise is recommended by NHS Physiotherapists it is gentle movements using every part of your body

Adult care services or AgeUK can pass our contact numbers on if they think this group would be helpful to someone. If carers are not registered with Social Services or AgeUK they can ring either myself on 01727 568552 or Rosemary on 01727 873385 for more information if they need to, otherwise they can just turn up at the hall.

People can dip in and out as they want to; we understand that there will always be the unexpected circumstances that arise for all of us.

We finish the exercise course on the 26th July and restart again on 6th September that session will finish on 22nd November; at the moment we are undecided what kind of therapy that will be. At our AGM in May we discussed with carers what courses they would like to have. Suggestions so far are; Reflexology, Art and Craft, Gardening, a basic First Aid course and Card Making.

We meet between courses for a lunch or coffee morning to keep in touch with each other and catch up on everyone's news and thoughts about the group.

Dawn to Dusk carers are very grateful to Chris Brazier for his support with funding and also to the Big Lottery Fund

Awards for All. Both grants have enabled us to plan for the rest of this year. We have also applied to the District Council for funding which will start the group off again next year.

Being carers our time is not always our own; we have doctors appointments, hospital appointments as well as unexpected crises to deal with and of course the every day chores we all have. Being with other carers who understand how difficult life can be at times and not needing to explain how you feel. It is so important having that two hours a week to do something enjoyable and different learning a new skills to show we are people beyond our caring duties.

We originally belonged to an Age UK group but in March 2011 they lost their funding for carer support groups and we decided to run the group ourselves. The hall we use is free from the Management committee in Tyttenhanger and as we have always met there we decided to continue the meetings there. We run each course for ten weeks three times a year. We currently contribute £3 each week we meet to ensure we always have some funds besides the grants we have received for this year we are always looking ahead and hope this group will carry on and go from strength to strength.

## Headway

Kelly Smith, Headway Hertfordshire



the brain injury association

Has someone you know had a brain injury?

Brain injury is a subject you may know something about if it has happened to someone you know otherwise you probably haven't ever thought about it. Brain injury usually happens very suddenly, maybe after an accident, an assault, a stroke or a heart attack. This can have a devastating effect on the person themselves and also on the whole family. Often called the "Hidden disability", brain injury effects may not be noticeable if you pass someone in the street. Having to cope with memory loss, cognitive difficulties, sometimes speech and communication difficulties and changes in behaviour after a brain injury can make life very challenging and life changing.

At Headway, we are passionate about what we do. In Hertfordshire we offer a life line to people affected by brain injury. We have supported people to regain their independence, to get back to work or study, we provide reliable information and resources, and most of all we understand how brain injury affects real people, their families and friends.

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## Dog Lost

Nik Oakley



When a dog goes missing it isn't just a pet, it's a well-loved family member who's no longer there. It leaves a gaping hole as local mother, Sally Fishleigh and her children have found out.

Socks, a Parsons/Jack Russell Terrier was last seen near the railway line near Napsbury Park on Saturday 21 January. Out for her usual walk, Socks disappeared to the other side of the railway line and despite intensive searches hasn't been seen since.

Sally has mounted an extensive campaign to find Socks, with the help of DogLost, the national missing dogs' organisation. Socks' story has appeared in local papers and radio stations. Posters are everywhere and thousands of flyers have been delivered. Sally has visited farms, open spaces, travellers' sites and more in her quest to find their beloved dog. They have even offered a large cash reward.

Said Sally: "There isn't a day that goes by when I don't think about her. I dream about her too. My kids are sad and desperately miss her. They talk about her all the time and are hopeful she will come home one day."

Sally has had a few sightings in London Colney and Park Street areas and on the Gorhambury estate. It's difficult to know whether it was Socks, but every lead has to be followed up. Searching for a lost dog is emotionally draining, time-consuming and can be expensive. For many owners, they simply don't know whom to turn to. This is where DogLost helps: Each dog has a website page with posters for printing. Local volunteers and special advisers offer advice and help on the ground.

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year. Some are stolen, some escape from home and others, like Socks, wander off on a walk. If an animal is chipped it has a far better chance of being returned to its owner. However, some people who come across a cute and lost dog will take it home. This is 'theft by finding', and heartbreaking for an owner who may never know.

DogLost believes that Socks has been taken in: The cuter the dog the more likely it is. And although Parsons Terriers are popular with the travelling community, Socks has been spayed and can't be used for breeding.

Sally continued: "I get calls from complete strangers giving me advice and trying to help. These messages fill me with such hope that it helps to spur me on.

Socks is completely white with brown ears. Her coat is long, she has brown spots on her tummy and stands about 14" tall. If you see Socks or want to help Sally and her family, please call her on 07711 416245.

## Short Walk From St Peters Church to Coppice Wood

Maria Aguado

One of a number of walks devised by Rosie Sanderson which were originally published by the Parish Council in two booklets.

Starting in front of St Peter's Church on Riverside, walk through the trees and onto the river bank. Turn left along the bank, cross the entrance road to the industrial estate and continue, always keeping as close to the river as you can. At one point you will have to walk down some steps to stay on the path. Continue under the road bridge and along the path straight ahead until you reach the concrete bridge in Willows Farm.

Turn left here, up a concrete road for 20 yards or so. **(Point A on the map)**

**For a shorter walk, continue up the concrete road until you reach the corner of Coppice Wood - Point B on the map**

At Point A, branch right onto a rougher track, crossing two stiles. You will now have a hedge on your right between you and the lake and open fields to your left sloping uphill to Coppice Wood. Keep to this track alongside the fishing lake. Wild fowl are common on the lake. Watch out for great crested grebe, swans, mallard, canada and greylag geese, moorhens and herons as well as birds of passage such as terns and oystercatchers. There is a good view of Tyttenhanger House through the trees across the lake on the right.

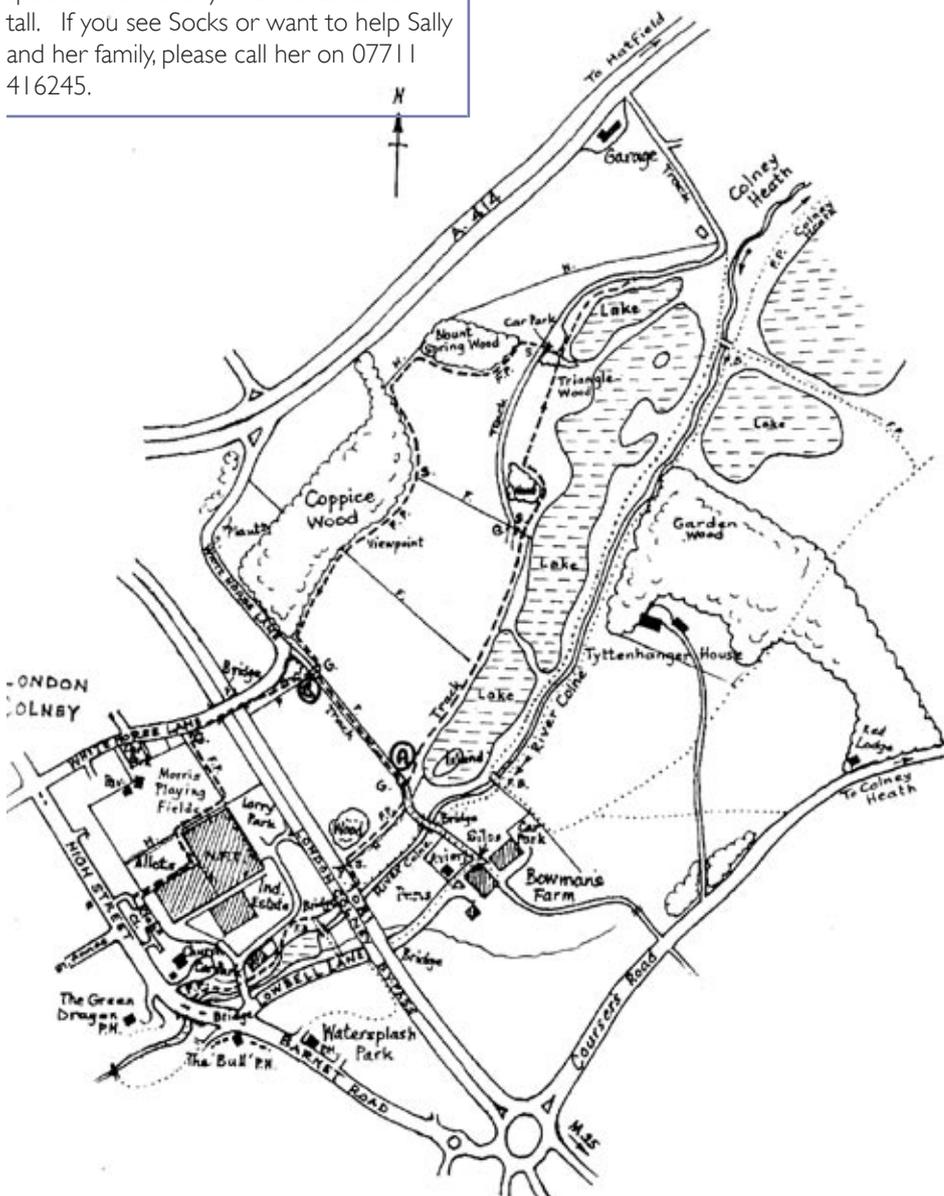
As the track begins to curve left, leave it, cutting through the trees on the right until you are on the shore of the lake. Following the shore and skirting round the young trees on the left, carry on, under the power lines until you reach the third of the lakes, separated from the second by a bank covered in scrub. Bear left here, uphill slightly to the car parking area. Continue through the car park following signs for Footpath 33. Cross the track and walk up the field path to the corner of a small wood called Blount Spring. Turn left here and, keeping to the edge of the field, follow the path round to your left, skirting Coppice Wood.

Coppice Wood is managed by the Forestry Commission. You are welcome to enter and enjoy the bluebells in season though the footpaths can be very muddy.

Continue along the edge of Coppice Wood until you reach the end of the wood at the corner of the field. Turn right down the track then left after 50 yards, crossing the track into the trees. The path is wide and misses the overgrown wooden kissing gate in the trees on its left. **(Point B on the Map)**

**The shorter walk continues here.**

On the far side of the small belt of trees, turn left and walk along the verge, across the road bridge over the London Colney ByPass, until, just before the childrens' play area, you see a finger post on the left pointing to Richardson Close. Turn left into the field here, keep the hedge on



*St Peters Church to Coppice Wood,  
continued from previous page...*

your right as far as the corner of the field where you can turn right into the Morris Playing Fields. Now turn left and follow the boundary of the field as far as a small fence and a waymark on the left. Turn left here into the allotments and follow the path around the edge to Richardson Close. You will emerge onto the close between numbers 11 and 13. Cross Richardson Close, follow the pavement round to the right and turn left onto the High Street. Walk down the High Street back to your starting point in front of the Church.

**Points of Interest:**

**St Peter's Church**

Built in 1825 by Philip, Earl of Hardwicke, it is a plain, rectangular building of red brick with a slate roof and italianate style windows. The front wall has been recently renovated as has the interior. Prior to 1825 there was no church building in London Colney which then formed part of the parishes of Ridge, Shenley and Colney Heath. The ecclesiastical Parish of London Colney was not officially formed until 1909.

**The Bull Public House**

The Bull can be traced back to 1726, originally called the Black Bull, it was one of a pair of inns. The tradition was for the gentry to stay at one of the pair while their servants put up at the other. The Bull's twin, the Bull and Butcher, stood alongside it until it closed in 1926.

**Tytenhanger House**

Tytenhanger House was built in 1654 by Sir Henry Blount (hence Blount Spring Wood). It was probably designed by Peter Mills, surveyor to the City of London. It stands on the site of two previous manor houses, both owned by the Abbey of St Albans. It is at the centre of a network of small farms which would have been part of the original estate. The estate came into the possession of the Caledon family in 1834 from whom the house was purchased by its present owners who use it as offices as well as living accommodation.

**Coppice Wood**

Old coppiced trees can be seen in the wood, these have many thin trunks starting at ground level. Coppicing is the practice of cutting trees down to ground level to harvest the straight poles produced when they regrow. Chestnut fencing and hurdles are examples of the uses for coppiced timber.



On this walk one chilly May morning we saw a heron - even it looks cold. A longhorn cow trying to persuade its new calf to stand. This young man who'd just delivered a beautiful golden carp from Willows fishing lake. 12lb 1oz! It looked enormous but the fishermen told us there were much bigger ones to be had. And here's a 'Welcome' from the Forestry Commission - be quick or the bluebells will be over.



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# Group Oil Purchase

Kath Sexton, CDA

The Community Development Agency for Herts is looking for local communities to join us in our new venture. It's a new Bulk-buying scheme for domestic heating oil.

There are 121,962 households in Hertfordshire 'off gas' we would like to help those residents to access oil at the best price possible. Over the last few months our members have saved around £50 compared with the market average price for 1000 litres of heating oil (a staggering £120 against the highest prices). That is the power of bulk oil buying.

All you need to do to take advantage of the scheme is to pay an annual membership fee of £20, which will cover as many oil orders as you need during the course of the year.

We can help the residents of Hertfordshire save money! The Community Development Agency for Hertfordshire have joined with other Rural Community Councils throughout the country to enable domestic, business, or community users of oil to buy at lower prices to read about our scheme please click the link below. We are asking for your support in publicising this unique opportunity to the residents of Hertfordshire. The link below is for our website which has the information about the scheme.

<http://www.cdaforherts.org.uk/focus-areas/environment-and-energy/oil-buying-group/>

## The Latest Prices

In April the average price from all suppliers was 62p per litre. The highest supplier price was 71p per litre while the members price was 56.8p per litre.

Prices will vary and are quoted excluding vat @ 5%.

This means that the savings against the average price in April were a very healthy £52 per 1000 litres.

## Contact Us

Call us if you use heating oil - it will be well worth your while!

Our office is open 9.30 – 5.30 Monday to Thursday and 9.30 – 4.30 on Friday.

t: 01707 695504

e: [office@cdaforherts.org.uk](mailto:office@cdaforherts.org.uk)

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### OPENING HOURS

Sunday - Thursday : 5.30pm - 11.00pm  
Friday & Saturday: 5.30pm - 11.30pm

# WI

Anne Kebley



The London Colney Women's Institute meet monthly on a Tuesday evening in the Baptist Church Hall, Kings Road.

This lively group welcomes new members to its meetings. Speakers and competitions are the order of the day. Join them! You'll never look back!

## Programme of Meetings June - September 2012

- |         |                                                                                   |                |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 12 June | The Story of Grasse, Centre of the perfume industry<br>Comp Pretty perfume Bottle | Mark Davis     |
| 10 July | A Taste of Beryl (Beryl Cook - Artist)<br>Comp Design a Book Cover                | Jean Dennis    |
| 14 Aug  | Garden Party                                                                      |                |
| 11 Sept | Harvest Home - An East Anglian Childhood<br>Comp A Childhood Treasure             | Julia Marriage |

Anne Kebley, Secretary,  
54 St Annes Rd, AL2 1LJ t:01727 823428

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