



FORUM



HARPENDEN TOWN COUNCIL'S AWARD WINNING QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

CLOSER TO THE COMMUNITY

DECEMBER 2010 - ISSUE 135

Seasons Greetings and Best Wishes for 2011 to all residents and the business community of Harpenden.



HARPENDEN IS BLOOMING IN 2010

On the 30 September 2010 all of the Harpenden in Bloom Garden Competition Winners were presented with their awards by the Town Mayor Councillor Daniel Chichester-Miles and the Harpenden in Bloom Chairman Councillor John Chambers.

Chairman Councillor John Chambers said *"the standard of entries were excellent, I am delighted that so many residents have participated in the Harpenden in Bloom competition and want to make Harpenden a better place to live"*

The judges found the task of judging extremely difficult, the standard of entries being extremely high. However, after deliberation the following winners were announced:

Best Young Person Project Under 12 years	Roundwood Primary School
Best Young Persons Project 12-18 years	St George's School
Best Front Garden	Mr & Mrs Jenkins
Best Back Garden	Phil Thompson
Best Allotment Plot South Harpenden Allotments and Gardening Society	Mr Upton
Best Floral Allotment Plot South Harpenden Allotments and Gardening Society	Mr Dack
Best Allotment Plot East Harpenden Gardening Club	John Hope
Best Communal Garden	Park Lodge
Best Commercial Sector Floral Display	Spire Hospital
Best Public House (Category A)	The Engineer
Best Public House (Category B)	The Carpenters Arms
Tallest Sunflower	Robert King

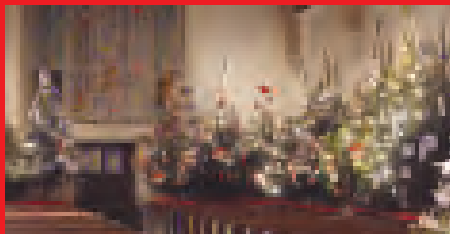
DISTRICT IN BLOOM

At the District in Bloom Awards ceremony held at Aylett's Nurseries in St Albans on the 6 October Harpenden won joint first prize with Redbourn in the Best Parish in Bloom category.

The District in Bloom initiative has been reinstated this year and it has been confirmed that it will continue for at least another year.

There were a total of 6 categories in this year's initiative and other Harpenden winners included Mrs Hopkins who was awarded 3rd place in the Best Senior Citizen Garden and The Harpenden Directory came 2nd in the Best Retail Frontage.

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Town Mayor Daniel Chichester Miles with Georgie Thomas of Harpenden YTC and Daniel Olive of St Albans YTC.

HARPENDEN YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL – ANOTHER GREAT YEAR!

This year we had a busy year, taking part in events like the summer and Christmas Carnival's to raise funds for our charity of the year, Kicoshep, who work in slums in Kenya. We raised £300 by selling hot chocolate at the Christmas Carnival and running a bouncy castle at the summer carnival. In 2011 we are raising funds for Hertfordshire Young Homeless Group, who works to prevent homelessness amongst young people (aged 16 to 25) and where they do become homeless support them to access accommodation and support appropriate to their needs.

At our AGM, Dan Mawhinney was elected Chair, supported by Tash Warren as Vice Chair, Jon Harrison as Treasurer, Kieran Stanbridge responsible for our website www.hytc.co.uk, Remi Bridgeman as Media Officer and Kyle Riley as Events Manager. Afterwards, we had a fantastic presentation event with certificates of achievement being awarded by the Town Mayor, Councillor Daniel Chichester

Miles to all Youth Councillors. Councillor Chichester Miles said, "Their commitment is both impressive and evidence of a maturity that belies their age".

We're busy working on our project to install a youth shelter adjacent to the skate park in Rothamsted Park. We are currently looking for designs for youth shelters and funding to purchase and install the shelter.

We have some great designs around the theme, "What does Harpenden Mean to You?" and these are being worked into a mural to be painted onto the pedestrian tunnel in Station Road.

Several Youth Councillors are looking at how political education is taught in schools and working to deliver informative and imaginative lessons to pupils of all ages.

If you'd like further information on any of these projects, please contact Emma Payne on Tel: 01582 768278 or email hytc@harpenden.gov.uk.

Harpenden, Redbourn and Wheathampstead Neighbourhood Watch Group - Smart Water presentation



On Wednesday 8 December at 7.30pm in Park Hall, Leyton Road, SmartWater are giving a special presentation to the Harpenden, Redbourn and Wheathampstead Neighbourhood Watch members.

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If you would like to join your local Neighbourhood Watch which is free to join visit their website: www.owl.co.uk or contact Andrew Upton on Tel: 01582 766180.

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ALLOTMENTS not only provide you with fruit, vegetables and flowers at a very reasonable cost, but allotment gardening is also a very healthy relaxing outdoor exercise.

HARPENDEN TOWN COUNCIL provides allotments at 15 sites throughout Harpenden. Two allotment societies administer the allotments on the Town Council's behalf. All sites have a water supply and most have an adjoining car park. If you would like more information, or would like to rent an allotment, please contact one of the allotment societies below:

EAST HARPENDEN GARDENING CLUB

The Club was formed about 45 years ago as a trading club. For the past 35 years, the Club has administered allotment sites in the Batford area in co-operation with Harpenden Town Council.

The Club's headquarters and store are at Holcroft Road (next to Batford Memorial Hall) and are well-stocked, with a wide variety of horticultural requisites at very competitive prices. The store is open on Sundays between 10.00am and 12 noon.

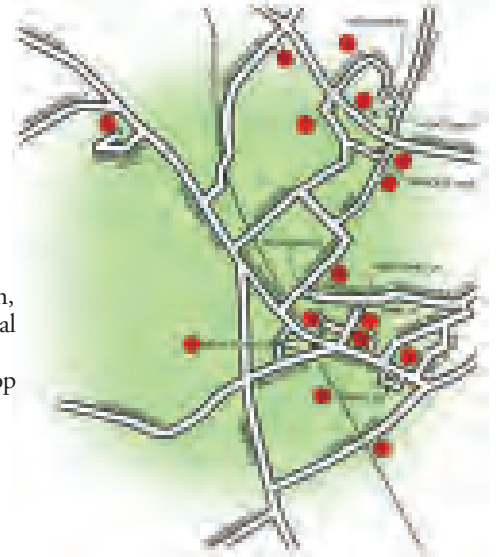
For membership details, including fees, please contact: Mrs Heather Rennoldson Tel: 01582 764030 Email: heather@rennoldson.org.uk

SOUTH HARPENDEN ALLOTMENTS AND GARDENS SOCIETY

As the name suggests, the nine sites managed by the society are mainly in the south of the Town. Plots vary in size but at an average cost of £10 per year and the use of the society's machinery is excellent value. Allotment holders are automatically entitled to use the society's shop in Dark Lane which stocks a comprehensive range of gardening items including seeds, seed potatoes and bulbs in season.

For a very modest fee and annual subscription, Associate Membership is also available for local residents not wanting a plot but wanting to enjoy the benefits of bulk buying that the shop can offer. The shop is open on Sundays 10.00am-12 noon throughout the year.

For further details please contact: Brian Cooper on Tel: 01582 620534 or check out the website at www.geocities.com/shallotments



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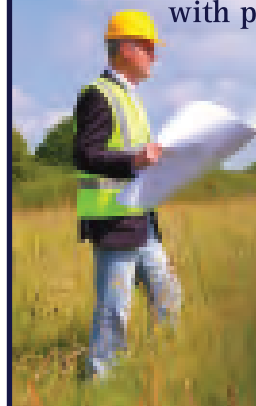
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CHOIRS OF ANGELS TWINKLE IN HARPENDEN

Harpenden High Street Methodist Church will be transformed by thousands of lights as the Christmas Tree Festival takes over for the five days of 1 to 5 December. The event is being organised to raise money for Keech Hospice Care and the Building Fund at the Church and will be opened at a special Gala evening on Wednesday 1 December. Community groups in Harpenden have been invited to decorate a basic tree with lights to the theme of "Sing Choirs of Angels" and each will interpret the theme in a completely different way resulting in a fantastic display which will enchant and delight visitors.

The Festival was last held in 2007 when it raised £12,000 and organiser Arthur Taverner hopes that this year's event will attract similar support.

Arthur told us "This is a lovely event to plan although getting 70 trees into the building and in situ ready for decoration in a short space of time is not as easy as it sounds! But we know that all the hard work will be worth it and we shall be rewarded by a wonderful sight once all the trees have been decorated. And hopefully we will raise lots of money for these two very good causes too."

In addition to the spectacle of seeing so many trees in one place there will also be a programme of musical events during the Festival and details of these can be found in the Church nearer the time.

Keech Hospice Care provides specialist palliative care for children diagnosed with life-limiting conditions. Through its hospice and community nursing team, Keech aims to help the children enjoy the best quality of life possible, while providing vital support for their family and friends throughout the child's illness and in their bereavement. All of the charity's services are offered free of charge, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The Church Building Fund is £80,000 short of its target and has been raising money for a new Youth Centre and improvements works in the Hall and Sanctuary.

The Christmas Tree Festival will be open from 9.30 am to 17.30 pm from 1 - 4 December and 12.30 - 17.30 on the 5 December. Wesley's the Church café will be open every day too. Entrance £3 children under 16 free.

For more information contact Maggie Grand on Tel: 07742 617735 or email: maggieland@btconnect.com

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YOUR LOCAL CREDIT UNION



Formed in 2002, the St Albans District Credit Union is fast approaching £1,000,000 of total loans granted. It has over 600 adult members, with saving deposits of over £300,000, and normally has money available for quick loans (subject to status) at rates that are often cheaper than credit cards, many banks and, of course, doorstep lenders.

In its fourth year, the Harpenden branch, run by volunteers and situated behind the High Street Methodist Church, is now open on Saturday mornings only, from 10.00am to 12 noon. The main office in Hatfield Road, St Albans still opens every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday between 10.00am and 1.00pm and the Credit Union's website, www.stadcu.org is increasingly popular, for downloading both membership and loan application forms or as a source of general information.

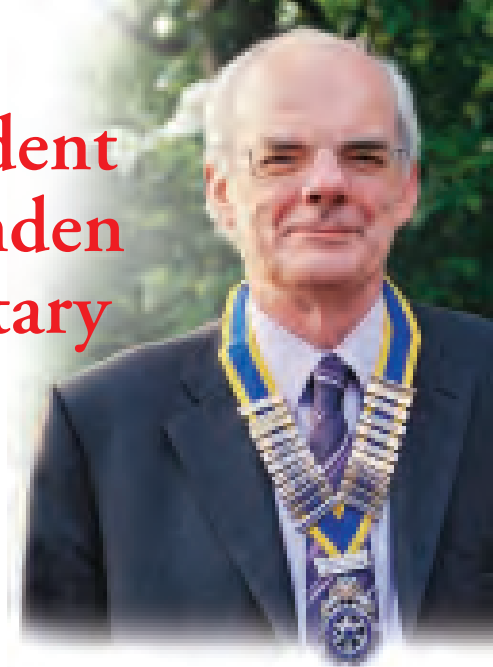
Whilst activity at the Harpenden office continues to be patchy, we still believe that residents should have local access to the Credit Union, particularly in these uncertain economic times. There are many examples where the Credit Union's services have proved invaluable to members and we welcome any enquiries or offers of help, either in person or by telephone (07972 370857 or 01727 859135). **Use it or lose it.**

New President for Harpenden Village Rotary Club

Harpenden Village Rotary Club has elected Cedric Kennedy as its 23rd president. He takes over from Lynn Blackwell.

Cedric has lived in Harpenden for more than 30 years. His two children were born and brought up in the town and now live away from the family home. He works in London as a finance director, a second career after 30 years with the major accounting firm, KPMG.

His theme for his presidential year is to continue to develop the club. He said: 'New members are always welcome because they allow us to take on more hands-on activity locally – and there is no shortage of demand for that. They also strengthen our charitable fund-raising capacity which, given the



growing financial constraints, will become all the more crucial.

'New members soon find that, through the club's regular meetings, they benefit from the fellowship for which Rotary is renowned. They can also take pride in what Rotary is achieving internationally, such as ridding the world of polio.

'As president I can choose one of the charities the club supports,' Cedric added. 'Having seen the good work it does in two recent cases I have chosen Grove House Hospice in St Albans.'

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FOCUS ON A STALL HOLDER THE PUDDING STOP

“My first memory of baking is helping my mum bake sticky toffee pudding. I think that’s where it all stems from – the family love of baking”.

Jonathan Shepherd, a successful contestant on BBC 2’s “The Great British Bake Off”, has recently set up a new company “The Pudding Stop”.

Baking is in the blood of Jonathan’s family: his great-grandfather, Wilfred Johns, ran a successful bakery in Somerset, which his grandfather continued into the 1990s. But like many independent traders they struggled to compete with supermarkets and there came a time when the family was forced to make the heartbreaking decision to end Wilfred’s legacy.

Jonathan has inherited the same passion for baking as his grandfather. He carries on his grandfather’s legacy by maintaining the standard that every pudding is handmade using local ingredients. Today, Jonathan can be found baking puddings at the Redbournbury Watermill to sell at Harpenden and other local farmer’s markets.

Jonathan’s philosophy for the ‘The Pudding Stop’ is that he has picked family favourites that bring back “great memories”. Some puddings, like Lemon Tart, Treacle Tart, Sticky Toffee Pudding, and Chocolate Fudge Cake are weekly features at The Pudding Stop. There are also seasonal specialties – don’t miss this winter’s edible Christmas tree decorations, jars of sticky honey buns, mince pies, chocolate roulade. Most importantly, each pudding can be accompanied with a sticky toffee sauce or “proper” homemade traditional or chocolate custard!

Jonathan was successful on the recent BBC show “The Great British Bake Off”, where he was crowned ‘King of the Scones’. “My aim for doing the show was that it might open doors for me. It certainly confirmed the decision to turn my passion into my profession”.

To find out more about Jonathan, his puddings, his next market and home delivery, visit: www.thepuddingstop.com

WALKER’S WEBSITE GETS BETTER – AND GOES NATIONAL!

Walking in Herts www.walkinginherts.co.uk is a website packed with useful information for walkers.

With more than 150 walks to download and print off for free, and details of around 100 guided walks every month, it also has books of walks, contact details for all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

Now, after three years of hard work local man John Harris has taken the concept countrywide. Walking in England www.walkinginengland.co.uk has thousands of walks to download and print – and all free of charge!

John said “There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in England has brought it together in one place so whether you are

walking from home or away on holiday you will be able to find a walk suitable for you”.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

Did you know that walking for just 30 minutes a day can help you to:

- Feel good (you will feel fitter, your body will be more toned, and you will feel better about yourself).
- Have more energy.
- Sleep better.
- Reduce stress (have you ever noticed how it’s difficult to walk and worry at the same time?).
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- Manage your weight.

So home or away, check out the website and get walking!

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BE POSITIVE – RECYCLE YOUR BATTERIES!

The average Hertfordshire household uses 21 domestic batteries a year, all of which could be recycled. The UK is currently one of Europe's poorest countries at recycling its unwanted batteries, achieving only 2.8% of recycling in 2008. Around 600 million UK domestic batteries (22,000 tonnes) the equivalent weight of 110 jump jets is sent to land fill unnecessarily every year.

Why recycle your batteries?

- Putting batteries into your rubbish bin means they are likely to be sent to a landfill site and the valuable resources the batteries contain could be lost.
- Once in landfill, the harmful heavy metals such as lead, cadmium or mercury could then leak out, potentially damaging the environment.

- Each battery placed in the recycling box is, once collected for reprocessing, sorted by chemistry, shredded and many of the important elements recovered to make new batteries or a range of other metal items.

There is a Recycling Box for you to recycle your unwanted batteries at the Information Point at the Town Hall, Leyton Road.

Most types of household batteries including all AAA and AA cells, sizes C and D, button batteries (e.g. watch or hearing aid batteries), mobile phone batteries, laptop batteries and power tool batteries can be recycled.

In addition to the recycling point at the Town Hall, batteries can also be recycled at the Harpenden Household Waste Recycling Centre, Dark Lane.



Girlguiding Harpenden needs you!



Girlguiding UK is the largest voluntary organisation for girls and young women in the country. Despite having 800 members locally we still have a considerable waiting-to-join list. We could easily have 1000 members if we could offer every girl a place.

Would you be willing to spare a few hours to volunteer and help Girlguiding Harpenden & Redbourn put girls in the lead?

We are very fortunate in Harpenden and the surrounding villages to have a thriving network of Rainbow (age 5 – 7), Brownie (Age 7 – 10), Guide (Age 10 – 14) and Senior Section (Age 14 – 25) units. Through an exciting and modern programme we enable girls to learn and develop, grow in confidence and make new friends.

Leaders benefit from it too – it is something different from everyday work; you meet new and interesting people and learn new skills. Maria Moyses, leader of 10th Harpenden Guides, sums it up: "It's brilliant seeing the girls enjoy themselves and feel proud of their achievements. Everyone should try it!"

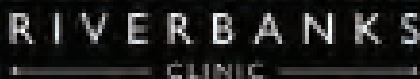
With the high demand for Guiding locally we would like to open more Units – most urgently we need to re-open 2 Brownies Units which have recently closed. Leaders are females aged 18 – 65 although Guiding thrives when supported by teams of males or females, young and old, working together. If you can't commit to helping on a weekly basis why not consider helping out as a treasurer or providing administrative support?

To find out more visit us at www.guidingharpenden.org.uk and look at our volunteering section or send an e-mail to recruitment@girlguidingharpenden.org.uk



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Harpenden's Sky



In a recent Issue Response survey about aircraft noise over Harpenden more than 200 Harpenden residents responded. 34% of those responding said they were affected by aeroplanes and helicopters flying overhead, 46% were occasionally affected and only 20% were not affected.

The National Air Traffic Services (NATS) were due to carry out a consultation which included the flight paths leaving Luton Airport but it has now been announced it has been postponed.

Some residents are so concerned about flight paths over Harpenden they have set up a campaign called HarpendenSky whose aim was to ensure the views of Harpenden residents were heard during the NATS consultation but are now lobbying for the consultation to be re-instated - details of their

campaign can be found at www.harpendensky.com

LUTON SHORT-CUTS OVER HARPENDEN RESIDENTS

In addition HarpendenSky campaigners are protesting to the Civil Aviation Authority [CAA] about departing Luton aircrafts seemingly taking a "short cut" over Harpenden apparently below the government's advisory 7,000 feet height minimum. This appears to contradict the authorised flight corridor which is 3km wide and largely avoids the townsite. It is understood from HarpendenSky that Peter Lilley MP has kindly agreed to intercede in the matter so watch this space.

To report disturbances by aircraft noise ring 01582 395 382 or email noise@ltn.aero



Voice your Choice update

The Town Council has received an overwhelming response to the Voice your Choice campaign. Harpenden residents suggested over 115 different initiatives they would like to see funded with the £26,000 LABGI (Local Authority Business Growth Incentive Scheme) grant.

The list of feasible projects is currently being finalised and residents will be invited to vote for their favoured projects. Watch out for information on the Town's Notice boards and the Town Council's website www.harpenden.gov.uk to see how you can vote.



Money for charity and some time in the trenches- all courtesy of Harpenden Round Table's WW1 Cycle Challenge

Members of Harpenden's Round Table are estimated to have raised £10,000 on a recent sponsored bike ride across the First World War battlefields of Flanders. Seventeen cyclists (ably assisted by two support crew) covered 120 miles in just two days. On route, stops were made to pay respect at Tyne Cot Cemetery and the Menin Gate Memorial in Ypres. At a rest stop on day two, one of the cyclists even stumbled across what looked like an unexploded trench mortar! With all travel and accommodation costs paid for by the cyclists themselves, every penny raised went directly to charitable causes. The majority of the money, which was raised online, will be donated to Help for Heroes in support of soldiers injured in Iraq and Afghanistan. A further donation is being made to the Second Harpenden Scouts re-launch appeal. Anybody interested in making a donation should visit www.bmycharity.com/hrt. Trip organiser and Harpenden Round Table head of fundraising, Jamie Simpson, commented "We were delighted to raise such a large amount of money for such worthwhile causes. Given that

we were raising money for Help for Heroes, the route through the WW1 battlefields and cemeteries of Flanders was particular poignant. Apart from various punctures and one of our cyclists getting trapped in some tram tracks, I was very pleased that all our cyclists completed the ride." Harpenden Round Table is an organisation for men aged between 18 and 45 principally to have fun with a group of local friends while helping the local community. They meet locally (normally over a pint) at 7.30pm on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month, with a varied programme of activities and social events through the year. In addition, to a bi-annual sponsored bike ride, they also run the town's Santa collection and the Harpenden Carnival each year. With more than 30 local members from all backgrounds they are one of the largest Tables in the country. New members are always welcome to come along and get more involved in the Harpenden community. To find out more about Harpenden Round Table visit the website: www.harpendenroundtable.org or contact Simon Crompton via email: membership@harpendenroundtable.org.

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Boys from the Bowling Alley with their 3rd Harpenden Scoutmaster, Noel Collisson, digging potatoes in 1943 on the war-time 'Dig for Victory' potato patch in Rothamsted Park. The boys are Eric Payne, John Pinney, Jack Smith, Denis Pearce, Don Watler and Peter Smith.

THE BOWLING ALLEY BOYS WHO CLAIMED HARPENDEN COMMON AS THEIR OWN

A new book 'Bowling Alley Boyhood' is an autobiographical recollection of childhood in the old community, written by John Seabrook who was born in 1932 and lived as a boy in the new housing at Longfield Road, built quickly and cheaply on the edge of the Bowling Alley during the Great Depression of the 1930s.

The district of South Harpenden, shadowed by the enormous 'Skew Bridge', used to be known as the 'Bowling Alley'. It was supposedly named because a certain Edward Bardolph, of the nearby manor of Rothamsted was fined in 1581 for 'using an unlawful game, to wit bowling'. Nobody has ever discovered the mysterious bowling alley itself, but the community there expanded after the Midland Railway arrived and built the bridge in the 1860s. More recently, the Bowling Alley developed in the 20th Century as new houses were built between the two World Wars to create a thriving mainly working-class community around its own pubs, shops, school and churches.

The book is full of the memories of the children who freely roamed the lanes and fields, climbing trees and paddling in streams. They played their games in traffic-free streets, claimed Harpenden Common as their own and insisted on possession

of the 'Brick'll Dells'. The boys had their own rules for 'bad hands' and apple cores. They had a fierce loyalty for their Scout Troop - 'The Third'.

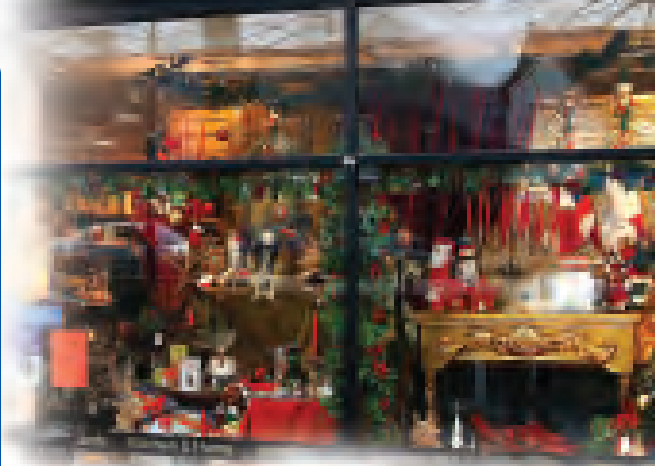
In war-time they inspected bomb craters across the Common and searched crash sites for souvenirs of shot-down aeroplanes, watching their friends and older brothers as they went off to war.

John Seabrook was one of the children who attended St John's School in the Bowling Alley before the Second World War and went on to St Nicholas School in the Village. He travelled by 321 bus to St Albans School, balancing his studies there with Scouting in the 3rd Harpenden Troop, who claimed the Bowling Alley as their 'realm'. He became a King's Scout and was one of the original cast in the Harpenden 'Gang Show'.

During the 1950s he was Chief Reporter of the Harpenden Free Press and later became briefly a member of Harpenden Urban District Council before moving away from Harpenden in the 1960s.

Bowling Alley Boyhood, published privately, is obtainable direct from the author:

john.seabrook@talktalk.net or phone 01202 709872, price £6.99 including postage.



Harpenden
directory.co.uk

Vote for your favourite Christmas Window...

Each year the Town Council challenges shopkeepers to transform their window into spectacular Christmas themed displays and enter the Christmas window competition. This year the annual window competition has changed. We are asking residents to pick your favourite window and vote. **Everyone who votes has a chance to win a £50 gift voucher.** The gift voucher is kindly sponsored by the Harpenden Directory.co.uk Details of the shops taking part can be found at www.harpenden.gov.uk, www.harpendendirectory.co.uk or from the Town Hall, Library, Harpenden Directory Office (65 High Street), Sainsbury, Waitrose and the Co-operative Food Stores at Batford and Southdown from 22 November. Choose wisely as it is limited to one vote per person! Voting closes on the 20 December and the Christmas Window Competition winner and prize draw winner will be revealed on the 21 December.

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Aeolian Singers & The Hardynges Choir

Saturday 12th February 2011 at St Albans Cathedral and Abbey Church at 7.30pm

Conductor: Stephen Jones.

Soloists: Elizabeth Cragg (Soprano) Frances Bourn (Soprano) Anthony Gregory (Tenor) and Edward Grint (Bass) and Ellie Fagg (Violin)
The Hertfordshire Classical Orchestra
Leader Dian Terry

Tickets: Reserved £25, £20 and £15. Unreserved £5.
Under 16s (accompanied) £3.
Hardynges Choir Box Office on
Tel: 0845 0583912

Programme: Hayden Te Deum (for Marie Therese).
Mozart Violin Concerto No 5 in A Major
Soloist Ellie Fagg.
Mozart Mass in C Minor.

The Aeolian Singers and The Hardynges Choir are combining for the first time to put on a major concert in St Albans Cathedral and Abbey Church on the 12 February 2011 under the musical directorship of Stephen Jones (Aeolian Singers). The programme also includes the Mozart Violin Concerto No 5 in A Major Soloist played by Ellie Fagg a Hertfordshire based soloist who is increasingly gaining national prominence. Both Choirs are busy working on these two demanding choral works under Stephen Jones and Mark Jordan the interim musical director of the Hardynges Choir and have recently held a very successful joint rehearsal / workshop at Roundwood School Harpenden with Stephen Jones leading the two choirs. Accompanied by Mathew Woodward piano.

Many people enjoy visiting and feeding the ducks at Southdown Ponds, taking their children and grand children with a bag of stale bread. Do you realise that this could be doing them more harm than good?

When ducks and other waterfowl such as geese and swans are fed human food such as bread their health could seriously suffer. Bread is very low in protein and contains added ingredients that the ducks cannot digest properly. Ducks that are fed a high bread diet have been found to be suffering from poor nutrition which in turn makes the ducks lethargic and have difficulty escaping predators such as foxes.

Uneaten bread thrown into the ponds rots in the water and creates perfect conditions for algae to grow, which pollutes the water and excessive amounts can make the water smell unpleasant.

Many people have fond memories of visiting the ponds to feed the ducks and instead of asking people to not feed the ducks at all we would like to encourage people to feed a more natural diet of grain which is available from the duck feed machine at the ponds or bags are available from the Town Hall Information Point for a small fee. Birds which have a more natural, healthier diet can expect to live a longer happier life.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Did you know that Harpenden Town Council considers all Harpenden planning applications? Did you know that interested parties can speak at these meetings? Harpenden Town Council hold fortnightly meetings to consider all development proposals submitted for Harpenden and make a recommendation to St Albans District Council, which is the statutory planning authority for the area, within the consultation period. Meetings are held in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall at 7.30pm.

Agendas and Minutes of all Town Council planning meetings are available at the Town Hall or from our website www.harpenden.gov.uk.

It is important that any member of the public wishing to comment on a planning application should make their representation in writing to the Head of Planning and Building Control, St Albans District Council, St Peters Street, St Albans, AL1 3JE with a copy forwarded to Harpenden Town Council, Town Hall, Leyton Road, Harpenden, AL5 2LX for the Committees information.

At all meetings of the Committee one member of the public may speak on behalf of objectors and one person in support of each planning application. If you wish to find out a date of a meeting, wish to speak about an application or just want further information about Planning in Harpenden, please telephone Tel: 01582 768278.

Alistair Poole BVMS, MRCVS

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COMMUNITY ACTION

Recycling at Dark Lane Waste Centre – Do you know what items you can recycle at the Harpenden Household Waste Recycling Centre, Dark Lane, off Grove Road? The number of items that you can recycle is vast and includes the following: Aluminium foil, domestic and car batteries, cans - aerosol, aluminium and steel, cardboard, carrier bags (plastic), CD's, electrical appliances (WEEE), fluorescent lighting tubes, food and drink cartons, fridges and freezers, glass, green garden waste, low energy light bulbs, metals, mobile phones, oil (cooking and engine), ovens and hobs, paper, plasterboard, plastic - rigid, bottles, shoes, soil improver, textiles, toner cartridges, TV's and monitors, tyres, any other white goods, wood and yellow pages. The site is open 10.00am – 6.00pm. Recycling points are also sited at the car parks in Amenbury Lane and Bowers Way. Tetra paks (drinks cartons) can now also be recycled at Amenbury Lane. For more information contact St Albans District Council, Tel: 01727 819285 or WasteAware Helpline, Tel: 08457 425000.

Harpenden and District Local History Society – Mounts quarterly exhibitions in Park Hall on the first Saturday of March, June, September and December between 2.30pm and 4.30pm. For further information or membership enquiries contact Miss Parrott on Tel: 01582 764359 or Mr Casey Tel: 01582 712998.

Citizens Advice Bureau – Harpenden office: First Floor, Harpenden Town Hall, Leyton Road, Harpenden, Tel: 01582 769387, is open for advice Monday to Friday 10.00am – 1.00pm.

ROTARY CLUB QUIZ OF QUIZZES

Harpenden Village Rotary Club's ever-popular Harpenden Quiz of Quizzes will be held on Friday, 11 March, 2011 at St George's School. The cost will be £13 a head, which includes supper. Club president Cedric Kennedy said: "As ever, all proceeds from the Quiz of Quizzes will go to charities and other good causes supported by Rotary. Since 1996, when we staged the first quiz, the event has raised more than £50,000. Last year's quiz was a sell-out so teams wishing to secure a place for March should contact Rotarian John Hopkins without delay at email john.hopkins@hvrc.net or Tel: 01582 760381.

Harpenden Information Point - Harpenden Information Point at the Town Hall, Leyton Road, is open between 10.00am – 4.00pm Monday to Friday, except Bank Holidays. Tel: 01582 768278.

Whilst every effort was made to ensure the information in this newsletter was correct at the time of going to print, the Town Council cannot accept legal responsibility for any errors, omissions, nor can they accept responsibility for advert content, or of the standing of advertisers or by the editorial contributions.



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For further details please contact Harpenden Town Council on 01582 768115

WHAT'S ON

Thursday 1 to Sunday 5 December

Christmas Tree Festival - High Street Methodist Church. The event is in aid of Keech Hospice Care and the Building Fund at the Church with a programme of musical events during the Festival and details of these can be found in the Church nearer the time. From 9.30am to 5.30pm from 1 - 4 December and 12.30pm - 5.30pm on 5 December. Wesley's the Church café will be open every day too. Entrance £3. Children under 16 free. Contact Maggie Grand on Tel: 07742 617735 or email: maggiegrand@btconnect.com

Saturday 4 December

Concert by 'Singing for Pleasure' - in aid of Save the Children at the Public Hall, Southdown Road (sponsored by John Curtis Estate Agents), 7.00pm for 7.30pm. For more details Tel: 01582 620921.

Tuesday 7 December

Harpenden Horticultural Society - Talk entitled Chinese Slippers. At the Conference Hall, Roundwood Park School at 8.00pm

Tuesday 7 December

Harpenden Floral Decoration Club - Demonstration by Shirley Perkins entitled "Season's Greetings", on the 1 February "In the Garden" by Jackie Watson, and on the 1 March Nick Grounds presents "Flotsam and Jetsam". All at the Harpenden Public Halls at 2.00pm. Visitors very welcome. Details Tel: 01582 621757

Saturday 11 December

"Follow that Star" - Harpenden Music Makers' Charity Christmas Concert. 7.30pm at High Street Methodist Church. In aid of the Herts Air Ambulance. Hot mince pies after the concert. Tickets contact Brian Woods on Tel: 01582 761528.

Tuesday 14 December

Haunted Harpenden - Another chance to discover haunted Harpenden, run by St Albans and District Tour Guides. Walk to some of the more spookier parts and their other-worldly occupants. Not suitable for very young children. Tickets £3.00 from the guide. Meet at the War Memorial, Church Green at 8.00pm.

Tuesday 11 to Saturday 15 January

Harpenden & Wheathampstead Gang Show - Harpenden Public Halls, Southdown Road. Ticket prices: Tuesday £8, Wednesday - Friday £10, Saturday matinee and evening £15. Box Office: 07787 606076. Box Office is open 6.00pm-10.00pm Monday - Friday, 10.00am - 6.00pm Saturday and Sunday.

Saturday 22 January

Town Mayor's Ghost Walk - in aid of the Town Mayor's charities - Harpenden Mencap and Samaritans (local branch). Led by an experienced guide. Adults £5 and Children £3. For further info Tel: 01582 463662.

Wednesday 26 to Saturday 29 January

The Hurst Children's Theatre Group presents Cinderella at the Harpenden Public Halls, Southdown Road. Don't let the winter blues get you down, have something to look forward to at the end of January! Tickets are available by ringing Tel: 01582 840245. Adults £8 and Concessions £6. For more info: www.hurstchildrenstheatre.co.uk

Saturday 5 February

English Miscellany Barn Dance - Harpenden Public Halls. Climax Ceilidh Band with caller Andrew Swaine. Tickets £9 50 from Jenny Lane on Tel: 01582 764084

Friday 11 March

Harpenden Quiz of Quizzes - Harpenden Village Rotary Club's annual quiz in aid of charity at St George's School, 7.30pm. Teams of six at £13 a head, including supper. Further details at john.hopkins@hvc.net or Tel: 01582 760381.

If you would like to contribute to the Community Action or What's On features in Forum, please write to Heather Scott at the Town Hall or E-mail: heather.scott@harpenden.gov.uk by 17 January 2011.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS -

are held in the Town Hall or Park Hall in Leyton Road at 7.30pm. Members of the public are very welcome to attend all Council meetings.

FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS -

Monday 31 January 2011 at the Town Hall

Monday 11 April 2011 at Park Hall

Monday 16 May 2011 at the Town Hall

For a full list of Council meetings please see the notice boards in the Town, visit the website: www.harpenden.gov.uk or contact Harpenden Town Council on Tel: 01582 768278. If you would like to raise a question at any Council meeting, please contact the Town Clerk.

TOWN COUNCIL -

If you wish to raise any matters concerning the Harpenden area this can be done by contacting the Town Hall at the address below.

The Town Council Office and the Information Point in Leyton Road are open between 10.00am-4.00pm Monday to Friday. Tel: 01582 768278

email: harpenden.town.council@harpenden.gov.uk

Interviews with the Town Clerk at other times by appointment.

Forum Editor: John Bagshaw, Town Clerk.

HARPENDEN TOWN COUNCILLORS 2010/2011

Town Mayor: Councillor Daniel Chichester - Miles

Deputy Town Mayor: Councillor Mrs Pat Kent

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Extra free copies of Forum are available from the Library or the Town Hall.