



HARTFORD HUNDRED WEST
Bayford, Brickendon, Essendon,
Little Berkhamsted & Ponsbourne.



THE PARISH MAGAZINE

**January
2023**

New Subscription Rates
for 2023.
See page 4.

Price
80p

The Parish Magazine Team
would like to wish all our readers, advertisers,
distributors and contributors a very
Happy New Year.



Long-tailed tit.
Photo RSPB

DIOCESE OF ST. ALBANS



The Bishop of St Albans: The Rt. Revd. Dr. Alan Smith
The Bishop of Hertford: The Rt Revd Dr Michael Beasley
Archdeacon: The Venerable Janet Mackenzie .
Rural Dean: The Revd. Mark Dunstan
Assistant Rural Dean:

THE PARISHES OF BAYFORD & BRICKENDON, LITTLE BERKHAMSTED, ESSENDON & WOODHILL, PONSBOURNE:

RECTOR: Rev'd Theresa Musiwacho,

Hartford Hundred Rectory,
1 Little Berkhamsted Lane, Little Berkhamsted, SG13 8LU.
Telephone: 01707 875940 email - hartfordhundred@outlook.com

*Communion to the sick, Notice of Banns and of Marriage by arrangement with the Minister.
Please advise us of any cases of sickness so that prayers may be offered
or where they may be of any assistance.*

ST ANDREW'S - LITTLE BERKHAMSTED

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parishmag@begeford.co.uk

The Parish Magazine is also available online, free of charge.
Google 'HHW Parish Magazine'.
For the HHW web site Google 'Hartford Hundred West'.

Rector's Article.

Dear All

At the beginning of each year people often take stock of themselves. Some people reflect on what they have done and also think of the trajectory they're now on. To some, it may be a time of wondering what the year will bring. However, a year can be a time of new beginnings. Sometimes we spend time reflecting on the past and trying to set right what went wrong. There is nothing wrong with that but there is not much sometimes we can do about it, though we can learn some lessons from the past.

January can be a unique and special time to call people back to what matters most. With all the New Year's resolutions, chances are there will be some who are going to decide to accept Jesus as their personal saviour for the first time and some who are going to recommit their life to Christ.

This is the opportunity to help people be on the right path and walk alongside them. Paul reminded the Church about the importance of our faith – the death and resurrection of Jesus. 1 Cori 15:3-4 *“For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures”*.

Some people at the beginning of the year make some resolutions e.g reading the Bible, losing weight or eradicating debt. All these are important. Also imperative is to remind people of another important resolution: to make Jesus first in their life. The starting of the year is the perfect time to encourage, motivate others to have their “Inspiring moments” by declaring the richness of God's grace through Jesus.

It is easy in the business of life, to forget that we are commanded to love God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind Lk 10:27. Giving Jesus first place may look more like an intentional instant of recommitment for others, and perhaps even for our communities.

At the start of the year, while resolutions are a priority for most people, why not inspire others with a message of hope. Jesus came to give hope and He is alive. His Word is active and will accomplish what it says.

New Year is all about new beginnings. Happy New Year!!

Revd Theresa Musiwacho

Group Announcements

Prayer Share

Almighty God, give us such a vision of your purpose and such an assurance of your love and power, that we may ever hold fast the hope which is in Jesus Christ our Lord who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever, amen.



Weddings, Baptisms and other matters. Saturday Registration is held on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month 10.00 am to 11.30 am at Little Berkhamsted Church.
No appointment necessary

2023 Subscription Rates

Increases in the cost of living now never seem to be out of the news, adversely affecting all of us whichever way we turn. The Parish Magazine has not been exempted from such price increases, which has seen the costs of printing significantly increase since the start of the year.

Against this backdrop and to allow for further year-on-year price increases, this year's subscription rates will be as follows:

Annual subscription: £8.00
Monthly rate: 80p
Postal rate (2nd class): £21.00

We believe that despite these increases, the magazine still offers excellent value for money and will allow us to continue to financially support both local and national initiatives that are compatible with our objectives.

With the magazine being such an integral part of the support network within our parishes, we trust we will be able to count upon your continued support,

The magazine, including back copies, continues to be available free of charge online. Just Google 'HHW Parish Magazine'.
PC



photo: Avni

JANUARY CALENDAR

Sunday 1st January The Holy Name

9:30am, Parish Communion, Essendon
9:30am, Family Service, Ponsbourne
11:00am, Parish Communion, Brickendon



Sunday 8th January First Sunday after the Epiphany

9:30am, Parish Communion, Bayford
11:00am, Family Service, Little Berkhamsted

Sunday 15th January Second Sunday after the Epiphany

9:30am, Family Service, Essendon
9:30am Parish Communion, Ponsbourne
11:00am, Family Service, Brickendon

Sunday 22nd January Third Sunday after the Epiphany

9:30am, Parish Communion, Little Berkhamsted
11:00am, Family Service, Bayford

Sunday 29th January Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

10:15am, Group Parish Communion, Essendon

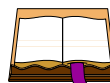
Wednesdays

9:30 am, Parish Communion, Essendon For joining instructions see
10:00 am, Telephone Service Free hartfordhundred@outlook.com

PARISH REGISTER

Baptisms

27th November 2022 Sorella BONURA Little Berkhamsted
 Alessio BONURA



Deaths

7th November 2022 Linda Eva PORTER Ponsbourne
 (95 years)

7th December 2022 Elsie BROOKS Ponsbourne
 (99 years)

Interment of ashes

7th December 2022 Michael Anthony FRANCIS Essendon
 R.I.P 22. September 2022 Aged 76

Little Berhamsted Village Pantomime (see page 30)



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Please visit my website for more details

www.fittawithpilates.com

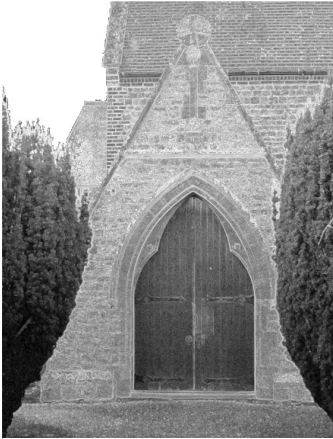
or contact Keti on

07718386195

keti.snee@googlemail.com



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Bayford

St. Mary's Church

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CHURCH CLEANING.

8TH & 22ND JANUARY

Christina Parker and Elaine Thorne

FLOWERS

8TH & 22ND JANUARY

Caroline Fletcher.

BAYFORD PARISH COUNCIL.

To read the minutes and agendas just Google 'Bayford Parish Council' and follow the link to 'Minutes'.

Bayford Parish Council would like to wish all Parishioners a peaceful and Happy New Year.

The Rose Triangle

This is more complex. It seems clear now that we must involve Herts Highways in any work. Jane is arranging a meeting with Highways to find out how we stand, and what they recommend. A project undertaken by Highways is likely to be very expensive.

Mineral Plan.

The latest **mineral/waste plan** for East Herts has been published. It makes no reference to Bayford. Some restoration work appears to have been carried out on the former gravel/waste site near Water Hall.

Community

The community of Bayford Village has experienced a renewed coming together since the lockdown was lifted. Events such as the Queen's Jubilee picnic, the Knitting group, the Community Choir, the impromptu sing-along in the Baker Arms, the Bayford Village What'sApp Group and other acts of kindness, such as, helping members of the community who are finding it difficult living alone, are most heartening and joyous.



Meetings.

23rd January 8pm

Please check the web site.

Michael Wainwright (Dr),
Chairman.

pc@begesford.co.uk

01707 875970.

www.begesford.co.uk

If you would like to receive emails of PC news, please drop me an email.

Bayford

The Baker Arms.

Martin & Beverley, 01992 511235



Knitting and Crocheting Group

Our Christmas projects were a huge success, with two post box toppers, a “heavenly host” of angels for the bus shelter and an “Elfy Christmas” entry to the Ponsbourne Christmas tree competition . We also had a delicious Christmas dinner at the Baker Arms. If you would like to join us, we meet on the first and third Wednesdays of each month in the Baker Arms from 8pm. All welcome. First meeting of the new year will be 4 January. Call Caroline Fletcher on 07919 317212 for more information



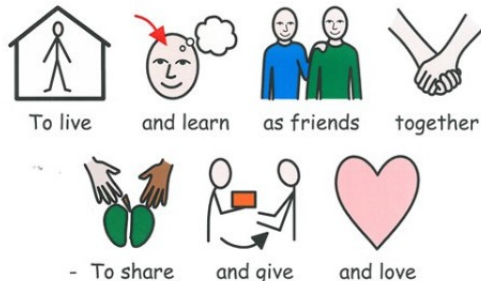
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Yarnbombing—Bayford Bus Shelter



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kathythecleaner@hotmail.com



Brickendon

Chapel of the Holy Cross & St. Alban

Sunday 1st January – 11.00am Parish
Communion
Sunday 15th January – 11.00am Family Service
Sunday 29th January - 10.15 Group Communion
Service at Essendon

For enquiries concerning the Chapel, please contact Richard Haryott **01992 511575** or email richard.haryott@gmail.com

Flowers

Virginia Haryott
Virginia Haryott
Virginia Haryott
Maureen Reid
Maureen Reid

January

30th December
6th
13th
20th
27th

Cleaning

Amanda Davey
Janie Corbisiero

Brickendon Clubs:

We have some excellent clubs in Brickendon which are always happy to welcome new members.

Book Club - meets every first Tuesday of the month at 8pm, contact **Andrea Trendler for venue - 01992 511588**

Pilates - Every Tuesday morning in Fanshaws Room (the village hall) at 9.15am, to register contact **Harriet Barton, 07944 500504 or pilateswithharriet@hotmail.com**

Fanshaws Room (The Village Hall)

The Village Hall in Brickendon is a lovely space for meetings and other gatherings. More details and photos can be found on the village website www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk

Hire charge for non-residents is £10 per hour.

Phone **01992 511551** for further information or to make a booking.

Tennis Courts.

The fee for hire is still £5 per court per hour for everyone. Last summer the courts and pavilion were renovated and are in excellent condition.

For further information and to book see Brickendon website (www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk)
Brenda Lambie



Brickendon Petanque Boules Club

Play at The Farmer's Boy

Winter Play Times

Sunday 10am -12 noon

Tuesday 5.30pm -7pm

Thursday 10am - 12 noon

Further information and enquiries
Contact Janet 01992 511515



Parish Council

Meetings

Meetings are normally held in the Fanshaws Room at 7.30pm and all parishioners are welcome to attend and to raise any issues of concern. Agendas are posted on noticeboards at least 3 days before the meeting.

Parish Clerk: Laura Brooks-Payne
Brickendon Liberty Parish Council
PO BOX 81, Knebworth, SG3 6YZ

Email clerk@brickendon-liberty.org.uk
Mobile 07803 906291

Minutes: Brickendon website
www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk for .

Meetings:
are on 28th July, 29th September and
24th November

*Few things are as
disappointing as when you
ask
“What is for pudding?“,
and receive the reply,
“There is a yoghurt in the
fridge”.*



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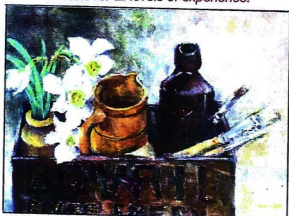
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You can drop off donations at Bridge Road East, WGC (near B&Q)

For more information, visit www.isabelhospice.org.uk/teaparty

For a list of fundraising events, visit <https://www.isabelhospice.org.uk/>

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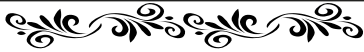
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Interior

-J C-

Exterior

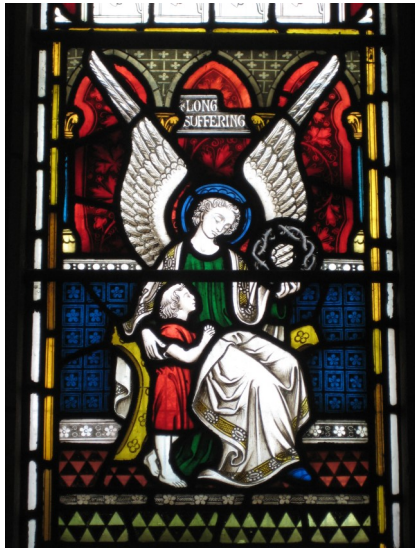
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Bible Study

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More information and dates from
mckellartrish@gmail.com

Tennis Courts

New members always welcome.

To join the club or any questions
please contact,

Nicki Whitelaw 07946300512

nicki.whitelaw@sky.com

Essendon Tennis Club Committee



POPPY APPEAL 2022 ESSENDON, WILDHILL AND EMMY'S VILLAGE STORE

Once again, I would like to say an enormous “Thank You” to all who gave so generously to The Poppy Appeal. I would also like to thank all the wonderful collectors who do the door to door collections. Every year they amaze me with the time and effort they give to the Poppy Appeal, some go back three or four times! and the incredible amount of money they raise. This year we had a few new collectors and I am extremely grateful to each and every one of you! The Pubs, Country Club, School and Emmy’s also raised a wonderful amount. Together this year we have raised nearly £1741.00, which is a fantastic amount! Especially in today’s economic climate - So “**Thank You**” all for this money, so very gratefully received by the British Legion.

Hilary Pickard, Poppy Appeal
Organiser

ESSENDON PARISH COUNCIL

REVISED MEETING DATES

Tue. 1ST Nov 2022
Tue. 13th Dec 2022
Tue. 10TH Jan 2023
Tue. 14TH Feb 2023
Tue. 14TH Mar 2023
Tue. 18TH Apr 2023

ALL MEETINGS AT

ESSENDON VILLAGE HALL, @ 7PM

Agendas will be available on the PC website,

(<https://www.essendonpc.org.uk/>)

and on noticeboards in the village. Minutes of all meetings are also available on the website.

Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings.

ESSENDON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Christmas celebrations began for Essendon W.I. on Wednesday 7th December when they visited The Beehive in Epping Green. A delicious three course lunch was enjoyed by fifteen members seated at a beautifully decorated table. In a relaxed environment lots of chat and lively conversations ensued with excited talk of plans for the forthcoming festive season.

Essendon W.I. meets on the third Wednesday of each month in the Village Hall. Please call Lyn MCash 01707 269907 if you should be interested in joining.

Lyn McCash on 01707 269907

photograph page 9



Scouts THE 1st NORTHAW Scouts SCOUT GROUP



Both our **Beaver Colony** (6-8 years) and **Cub Pack** (8-11 years) have resumed "normal" activities including hiking, camping and learning new skills and having great fun.

The numbers in both Sections are growing and we would love to welcome new members. We would also be really happy to have more adult helpers and leaders to support this. Beavers meet on Thursday and Cubs on Monday.

Meetings are based at our Headquarters in Northaw Village.

To find out more contact Gordon Marshall at

gordon.marshall@pscouts.org.uk

The Village Hall.

Tel: 07442 499601

email:

essendonvillagehall@hotmail.com

[facebook.com/essendonvillagehall](https://www.facebook.com/essendonvillagehall)

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All Sorts Dementia Group.

Social and activity group for people with mild to moderate dementia starting at Essendon Village Hall every Wednesday 10.30am till 3pm. Spaces limited so please call

01279 498938 or

email allsortsdg@gmail.com

for more information.

Website: www.allsortsdg.co.uk

Gardening

2022 was a strange year for many of us and particularly for keen gardeners with the wide variety of weather at difficult times but we are, I think, going to have to accept these climate changes and try and plan accordingly.

We can start by recycling our Christmas trees properly and, if the weather is kind, plant Raspberry canes. They like moisture but hate being waterlogged so dig the ground well but plant their roots shallowly, spreading their roots out carefully and leave the canes on a slight upward mound. Once you see signs of new growth, the canes should be cut back to a couple of health buds. It is also the time to prune your Gooseberries whilst they are dormant, pruning all side shoots and shorten the main shoots by about a quarter, back to

short spurs. Now is the time also to lift and split clumps of rhubarb to restore their vigour, pick out the most vigorous bits, particularly those with a bud, and replant in well dug ground. You can plant dormant bare-root roses with the branches just above the soil surface and firm them in well. Check Dahlia tubers in store and discard any showing sign of rot and scrub and clean your dirty pots. Keep feeding the birds and, using warm water, make sure their water isn't frozen. Enjoy your Hellebores removing any dead leaves. They live a long time but don't like being moved but their colour and long flowering are such a joy at this time of year.

Germander Speedwell

Annual churchyard leaf tidy.

A big thank you to everyone who helped this year clear the leaves and tidy the churchyard. With special thanks to Stuart for all his support on the day including taking all the leaves away for us to be put to good use on the farm. It was a really good morning's work, finished off with much appreciated home made soup and bread supplied by Belinda and Pauline. Many thanks to all.



Essendon Nature Notes

Walking the back route through the woods and fields from Essendon churchyard to West End and the Candlestick on a bright still morning, the accompanying pinging call of the long-tailed tit is a welcome soundtrack and distraction from the cold. They never seem to travel on their own in these winter months, but are usually part of an acrobatic troupe. Long-tailed tits are also often accompanied by their blue and great tit cousins, the characteristic bounding flight distinguishing them from their foraging party compatriots.

Given how beautiful this tiny bird is with its fluffy pink and black body and absurdly long tail, it is surprising that it is not more widely celebrated. Perhaps it is because, in winter, it is only an occasional visitor to our bird tables and in spring it favours dense hedges and thickets. Nonetheless our warming winters are helping its numbers climb as it can be vulnerable when there is a touch of snow on the

ground.

In past times it must have had a greater presence in the consciousness of rural folk given the legion of country names for the bird including Long-pod, Mumruffin, Oven bird and Bum Barrel. The latter two are references to its amazing nest which is a real beauty of the bird world. Lichens, spider silk, moss and wool form an oval masterpiece, nature's Faberge egg, lined on the inside with up to two thousand feathers.

We have had a pair nesting in the hedge of the neighbouring field the last couple of seasons but winter is actually the best time to discover the disused nests amongst the bare branches of the hedgerow. Keep an eye and ear out for Long-pod and if you are lucky enough to spot a nest this coming spring deep in the thorns and brambles, pay tribute to the art, craft and beauty of this creation.

DC

Essendon Food and Warm Bank

Thanks to the generosity of many villagers and the splendid school Harvest festival contributions, the Food Bank in the Church Porch has a much more secure future than it had a few weeks ago. Please continue to remember it, both for donations or if you need to use it. There is a free food bank – Jedidiah - at 138 Fore Street in Hertford (near M&S food) which also has fresh food.

We are starting a weekly Warm Bank on 26th October, on Wednesdays from 10.00-13.00. This will run initially in

the cosy Church Room through November, and then move to the Village Hall for December. We will serve coffee, tea and biscuits, with bread and homemade soup for lunch from 12.00. This is in addition to the Essendon Connect coffee mornings which continue in The Village Hall on Friday mornings.

Any offers of help would be very much appreciated.

Belinda Kent-Lemon 07976-447263

We hope to see you there.

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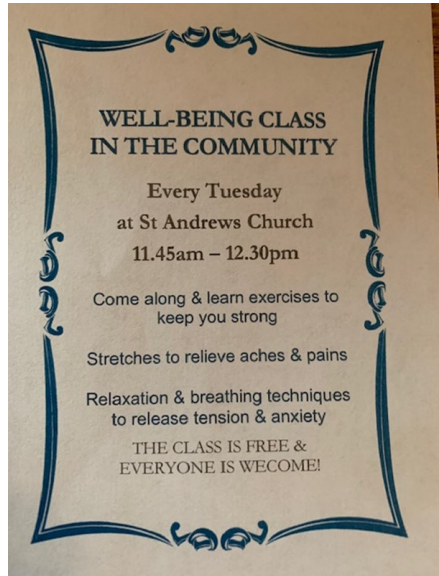
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'A Lad in a Manger', by Michael Forster

8th, 9th and 10th December 2022, at St Andrew's Church,

This year's eagerly awaited Christmas Panto was a spectacular production of Michael Forster's riotous comedy "A Lad in a Manger". Four performances were staged over three evenings in St Andrew's Church, which provided the dramatic setting for the story of The Nativity – with the story told like it had never been told before! The highly talented Little Berkhamsted Players were once again in great form, with wonderful acting and even ad-libbing the latest World Cup football scores to everyone's delight.

The first act opened with the 'Nazareth Carpentry' workshop setting the scene, as the familiar and much loved characters took to the stage: Joseph with the serene Mary at his side with her donkey, the incomparable Shepherds double act, the wonderful Three Wise Guys, the heavenly Angel Gabriel, the dastardly King Herod prompting plenty of boos and hisses, and of course the irrepressible Ruth and Widow Swanky.

Individual performances were a joy. Every cast member and the production team really excelled, with stunning costumes, superb lighting and scenery. Delightful music from Sally to accompany the excellent singing from the cast all created a truly memorable occasion. Credits are listed in full below - congratulations to everyone involved in this festive feast of fun and laughter.

Thanks in particular to the Director Sandie Ash, and a special thank you to Rev'd Theresa Musiwacho for again giving permission to use the church for the Village Panto, proceeds from which go to Herts Young Homeless. JO'R

CAST

Narrator - Wayne Morris
Joseph – Pip Wilson
Mary – Jayme Lake
Widow Swanky – Kevin Edwards
Ruth – Jane Elson
Salami - Jane Elson
Angel – Les Wilson
King Herod - Neil Lake
Shepherd 1 – Wayne Morris
Shepherd 2 – Maurice Squirrell
Wise Guy 1, Casper – Poppy Hedley
Wise Guy 2, Melchior – Richard Chaplain
Wise Guy 3, Balthazar – Bridget Toomey

Donkey – Paul Curson

PRODUCTION TEAM

Costumes – Diane Stanbrook
Props - Mark Elson, Simon Hedley,
Lighting - Richard Chaplain, Wayne Morris
Music – Sally Kee
Director – Sandie Ash

Mulled Wine & Mince Pies by courtesy of Marie Squirrell at 'The Beehive'

Photograph page 6

News from Little Berkhamsted Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on **Wednesday 18th January 2023** at 7.30pm in the village hall. The agenda is published on the website and village noticeboard the week before the meeting and residents are welcome to send questions and comments to the clerk beforehand, clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk or attend the meeting and ask in person.



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The PC are arranging for a traffic survey to provide HCC Highways with up-to-date data of the volume and speed of the traffic passing through the village each day. This information will help Highways officers to determine the best ways of slowing vehicles down so that they are at least complying with the 30mph speed limit. The campaign to have a 20mph limit through all built up areas across the county continues.

The Community Café

This is held every Friday morning in the Cricket and Community Pavilion from 10.00am to 12.00. For just £1 come and enjoy a tea or coffee, often with delicious homemade cake and good conversation with your friends and neighbours. Everyone welcome!

Home Farm Dog Training

Now running weekly classes on the recreation field. For further information and to book please contact Chris at admin@dogtrainingherts.co.uk or drop into the café at the pavilion on a Friday morning.



East Herts Lottery

Have you bought a Lottery Ticket yet? For just £1 a week you can be in with a chance of winning a jackpot £25,000 and a special monthly prize and at the same time be supporting the village, helping to raise much needed funds. To register just go to: www.easthertslottery.co.uk/support/little-berkhamsted-cricket-and-community

Thank you for your support and good luck with your numbers!

Little Berkhamsted Community Facilities for Hire



The Village Hall has disabled access and toilet, a fully equipped kitchen for any refreshment needs, internet access and projector equipment.



The cricket and community pavilion has a fully equipped kitchen, bar area, changing rooms and shower facilities.

Hire Charges (per hour): Little Berkhamsted Resident: **£12** Other: **£17**

For further details contact: Sandie Ash 01707 875221
or clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk



Little Berkhamsted.

Baby Group

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Master Art Workshops are back in Little Berkhamsted

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www.newgatestreet.org/

Follow the link to Hall Rental and Book the Hall .

Book Exchange.

A BIG THANK YOU for the donation from the BOOK EXCHANGE which continues to run at the **Post Office** in Newgate Street Village Hall on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings .



What's On in Newgate Street

Table Tennis: Tuesday evenings 7.30 - 9.30pm in the Village Hall. £1 pay and play

Tennis - Tuesday mornings 9.30-10.30am Village Courts. Term time only. Contact 07710 507 215

Book Swap - Pre read books to buy £1 or swap 50p, in the Village Hall Post Office Tuesday & Thursday mornings.

Village Chat - WhatsApp group for people living in the village. To join the group contact 07710 507 215

Village Pub Social - 8pm the second Friday of every month in either The Crown or The Coach & Horses Pubs, come along to meet friends and make new ones. See Village Chat WhatsApp group or Village website for details.

Post Office.

A small Post Office is open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings in the village hall.



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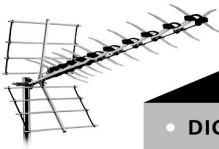


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