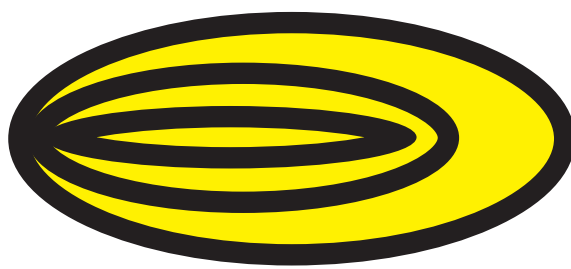


# Hamstead Hornet



Issue no. 67

Hamstead Marshall's online quarterly newspaper  
(copies printed only for those without internet)

September 2013

## Biofuel project moves forward

The woodfuel heating project launched by the Organic Research Centre (ORC) at Elm Farm earlier this year moves forward with the creation of the **Hamstead Marshall Sustainable Energy Group** which, now that ORC has gone firm on switching to biofuel for its own heating, will investigate the feasibility of extending the project to embrace the local community.

The group's membership comprises Sally Westaway, Jo Smith and Mary Crossland from ORC, and Robin Tandy (chairman), Matthew Prince and Katie Wallis from the village. In early September this group is making a two-day visit to Marburg, in central Germany, to attend a conference at Philipps University, and to visit bio-energy villages\* in the area. The overall project, which is funding the visit, has been supported by the Ashden Trust and has received European Regional Development Funding through INTERREG IVB. (\*See <http://tinyurl.com/onzja46> for a *Wall Street Journal* article on Oberrospe, a bio-fuelled German village.)

Meanwhile, Sally Westaway has written to all households which have expressed interest in the project, announcing a more detailed feasibility study into, among other things, the costs of connecting individual properties. This stage of the project is to be carried out this coming winter. The households immediately around Elm Farm (and therefore likely to be the first phase of expanding the scheme into the community) have been designated into groups 1, 2, 3 and 4, according to forecast connection costs. Estimated fuel savings per group range from £5,700 to £9,000 per annum, and the payback period from six to nine years.



## Changes at church

The Walbury Beacon benefice, to which Hamstead St Mary's belongs, bids farewell to two of its clergy team this autumn: the Rev Cathy Pynn, who joined at Easter 2006, retired with her husband to their family home near Reading at the end of August, and the Rev James Cook, who has served in the benefice since June 2010, is moving with his wife Suzanne to a parish on the Isle of Wight in October. Both were house-for-duty priests, ie, part-time, and the benefice will be advertising for replacement clergy to work with the team.

At the same time, services in all six of the benefice churches (Hamstead Marshall, Enborne, West Woodhay, Combe, Inpken and Kintbury) are under review. Each parochial church council has nominated two representatives to examine all the options and submit proposals in September.

"Church services can take many forms," says the Rev Rachel Lewis, "including family service, songs of praise, evensong or matins. Not everything has to be a communion service. We want to make sure that our worship pattern reflects what people want to come to, so we're asking people to let us know."

# What's on in the village

20.00 Wed 4 Sep	Monthly mindbender quiz at the White Hart <i>£1pp entry to benefit charity</i>	01488 657545
19.30-21.30 Thu 5 Sept	Circle of Friends (ladies' group) in the village hall	Sue Watts 01488 658932
14.00 Sat 7 Sept	Garden Society Flower Show and Fete Hazel Paddock, Enborne	Dawn Taylor 01635 32006 Penelope Lake 01635 48701
10.30 Thu 12 Sept	Ladies Who Brunch, at the Halfway Inn	Lanie Allen 01488 658168
10.00-13.00 Sat 14 Sept	Community market at village hall <i>food, books, crafts, gifts, woodcraft, jewellery</i>	Sue Watts 01488 658932 Lanie Allen 01488 658168
13.00 - 17.30 Sat 21 Sept	Cheese-making class in village hall (£65/£55)	book with Louise 07795 436 707 www.cuttingthecurd.co.uk
20.00 Wed 2 Oct	Monthly mindbender quiz at the White Hart <i>£1pp entry to benefit charity</i>	01488 657545
19.30-21.30 Thu 3 Oct	Circle of Friends (ladies' group) in the village hall	Sue Watts 01488 658932
10.30 Thu 10 Oct	Ladies Who Brunch, at the Halfway Inn	Lanie Allen 01488 658168
10.00-13.00 Sat 12 Oct	Community market at village hall <i>food, books, crafts, gifts, woodcraft, jewellery</i>	Sue Watts 01488 658932 Lanie Allen 01488 658168
19.30 Fri 18 Oct	Harvest supper in village hall <i>bar, food, auction, good neighbourly company</i>	Robin Tandy 01488 658048
10.30-16.00 Sat 19 Oct	Singing workshop at Elm Farm (£20/£16)	book on 01635 42963 or email singingtheworld@gmail.com
early evening Tue 5 Nov	Bonfire and fireworks in the village hall field <i>bar, barbecue, guy competition</i>	Lanie Allen 01488 658168
20.00 Wed 6 Nov	Monthly mindbender quiz at the White Hart <i>£1pp entry to benefit charity</i>	01488 657545
Wed 6 Nov	Garden Society AGM, wine and cheese	Dawn Taylor 01635 32006 Penelope Lake 01635 48701
10.30 Thu 7 Nov	Circle of Friends (ladies' group) in the village hall	Sue Watts 01488 658932
10.00-13.00 Sat 9 Nov	Community market at village hall <i>food, books, crafts, gifts, woodcraft, jewellery</i>	Sue Watts 01488 658932 Lanie Allen 01488 658168
10.30 Thu 14 Nov	Ladies Who Brunch, at the Halfway Inn	Lanie Allen 01488 658168
20.00 Wed 4 Dec	Monthly mindbender quiz at the White Hart <i>£1pp entry to benefit charity</i>	01488 657545
Wed 4 Dec	Enborne & Hamstead Marshall Garden Society evening meeting (details tba)	Dawn Taylor 01635 32006 Penelope Lake 01635 48701
10.30 Thu 5 Dec	Circle of Friends (ladies' group) in the village hall	Sue Watts 01488 658932
10.30 Thu 12 Dec	Ladies Who Brunch, at the Halfway Inn	Lanie Allen 01488 658168
10.30-14.30 Sat 14 Dec	Christmas community market at Elm Farm <i>seasonal goodies to buy and mulled wine served</i>	Sue Watts 01488 658932 Lanie Allen 01488 658168
evening Fri 20 Dec	Trip to see Ballet Theatre UK's performance of The Nutcracker at Arlington Arts	Sue Watts 01488 658932

## ***regular events in the village hall***

13.30-16.00 Mons termtime	Oil painting classes for beginners & improvers	Chris Turner 01488 658587
17.00-18.30 Weds	Yoga classes	Inga Craven 01488 658744
weekdays termtime	Little Sunflowers nursery school	Teresa 01635 253201 Trudy 01635 255363

# Property on the market

estate agents' websites checked 1st September 2013

The two-bedroom flat at **Hamstead Mill** offered for sale in June by Atkinson Keene at £320,00 is now down to £309,950.

**Merrowmead** at Chapel Corner is being offered for sale by Hamptons at a guide price of £579,950.

## HARVEST SUPPER Fri 18th October in the village hall

£7 (£5 children) tickets available at the door, **but please let Robin Tandy know at least a week before the event if you are coming**, on <randptandy@gmail.com> or 01488 658048.

Good food, drinks, excellent company and the traditional auction.

Proceeds to benefit St Mary's Church.

Make your contribution by offering: an **item for auction** (to Robin Tandy) or **food for the table** (to Trish Tandy 01488 658048 or to Angela Chamberlayne 01488 658748)

# Planning applications

taken from <<http://publicaccess.westberks.gov.uk>> 1st September 2013. To see more details visit this site and search on the application number.

## Approved

12/03021/FUL  
**White Hart Inn** RG20 0HW  
Extension of change of use of out-buildings to create four B&B rooms.

13/01022/COND1  
13/01147/COND2  
**East Gate Cottage** RG20 0JD  
For approval of details re application 12/02785/HOUSE approved in 2012.

13/00351/NONMAT  
**Foxlee Farm** RG20 0JH  
Non-material amendment to planning permission 10/01683/FUL Appeal ref APP/W0340/A/10/2138116  
Erection of replacement dwelling and garage/plant room – (amendment)  
Insertion of two Velux roof windows in north-east elevation.

13/01094/HOUSE  
**50 Hamstead Marshall** RG20 0JG (Craven Hill)  
Demolition of existing single garage and water supply room. Replace with double garage and space for water supply needs. (A similar application, ref 12/02921/HOUSE and 12/02922/LBC2, was withdrawn earlier in 2013.)

## Pending consideration

13/0290/LBC2 and 13/0290/HOUSE  
**Old Post Office** RG20 0HW  
Single-storey extension to create utility room.

13/01991/CERTP  
**East Gate Cottage** RG20 0JD  
Minor alterations to the existing dwelling including the addition of three rooflights, the enlargement of existing windows and addition of windows to the cottage building, a minor bin storage area, the extension of the existing vehicular entrance, the reduction in height of a small section of the existing brick boundary wall.

## Refused

13/01008/FULD  
**Rickety Gate Farm** RG20 0JH  
Relocation of existing dog breeding establishment involving the erection of a single storey kennel building; siting of a temporary mobile home; isolation kennel building and change of use of existing barn to ancillary storage building; the use of land as canine exercise area, associated parking, turning and landscaping. (A similar application ref 12/00311/FULD was turned down last year.)

## Sing your heart out

**Singing workshop**  
10.30am to 4.00pm  
**Sat 19 October**  
at Elm Farm  
£20.00/£16.00

For complete beginners or experienced singers. No music-reading ability needed, as all teaching done by ear by Natural Voice\* practitioner **Becca Flintham**. Book by email at <singingtheworld@gmail.com> or ring 01635 42963.  
\*<[www.naturalvoice.net](http://www.naturalvoice.net)>

Sing The World also runs fortnightly sessions at Speen village hall Monday evenings. Details on <[www.letsingtheworld.org.uk](http://www.letsingtheworld.org.uk)>.

## Learn to make cheese

**Cheese-making class**  
1.30 - 5.30pm  
**Sat 21 September**  
in the village hall  
£65/£55

How to make halloumi, mascarpone, mozzarella cheese and butter at home. Good mix of theory, hands-on practice and tasting. Take a selection of cheese and butter home. £30 kits available for purchase (not compulsory). Book with Louise on 07795 436 707.  
More information on <[www.cuttingthecurd.co.uk](http://www.cuttingthecurd.co.uk)>.

## Win a prize for (knowing) your onions

**Flower show and fete**  
2pm onwards  
**Sat 7 September**  
**Hazel Paddock**

opposite Enborne School  
*How's your garden looking? Got something worth entering in one of the show classes?*

Schedules available from Dawn Taylor 01635 32006 or Penelope Lake 01635 48701

Beenham Wind Orchestra • teas and barbecue • sideshows & stalls • tombola • Granny's attic • raffle • auction • archery • tombola • many stalls and sideshows

**N** **The White Hart Inn** has launched a monthly email newsletter, Sign up or see more details on <<http://www.whitehartinnhamsteadmarshall.co.uk>>.

**E** *The second attempt to get planning permission for a dog-breeding farm at **Rickety Gate Farm** in Holtwood has met with refusal from WBC, much to the delight of local residents who protested en masse about such a project's potential for noise, pollution, extra traffic and general nuisance in a quiet rural area. The WBC planning website records no known appeal against the decision as yet, but it is widely assumed to be the longer-term purpose behind an application which was so similar to the first.*

**W** In August WBC highways department installed a second chevron bend warning sign at **Chapel Corner**, together with some additional reflective poles on the grass island. This, in addition to earlier resurfacing work, will, it is hoped, lessen the frequency of crashes by speeding motorists.

**I** *New doors on the **Chapel Corner noticeboard**, installed by the parish council a few months ago, have already come loose and seem likely to go the way of the last pair (ie, falling out into the road). The problem lies not with the doors themselves, but with the wooden grooves along which they slide.*

**N** The fire brigade was called out on Friday 2nd August in response to a call from Hamstead Marshall to free a woman from a locked bedroom.

*According to the Guardian of 27th August 2013, **Anthony Stansfeld**, who is both Hamstead Marshall's WBC councillor and Thames Valley Police Crime Commissioner, has cut nearly £600,000 from the Thames Valley Police budget.*

**B** Several **ORC Elm Farm** land sales are going through, but details are not yet available because some have yet to complete.

**R** *The **Elm Farm Trail** has three new guide leaflets. One maps the trail itself, marking points of interest on route, such as pollarded willows, old clay pits and historic hedge lines (and seats for weary walkers). Two others are aimed at 10 to 15 year-olds, entitled the Farm Trail Explorer, posing questions and answers. Copies of the leaflets can be obtained from ORC, or from leaflet boxes along the trail itself.*

## The Walbury Computer Group

offers free, one-to-one help with computer skills, every Wednesday morning from 4th September until Christmas, at St Mary's Room, Kintbury (next to the church). Help can be given on such topics as: email; decluttering the desktop; finding files; getting rid of unwanted items; downloading and editing pictures from cameras and phones; backing up files; downloading freeware for security and office applications; customising websites; and editing photographs, using either clients' own laptops and tablets, or the group's own (donated) equipment.

Bookings are taken one week ahead, for 10am or 11 am. Phone Patricia Poyton (01488 668901) to book a session.



### Hamstead Hornet

The *Hamstead Hornet* is published quarterly online at <[www.hamsteadmarshall.net/hornet.htm](http://www.hamsteadmarshall.net/hornet.htm)>. Readers who have supplied their email addresses to the editor receive notification with a link as soon as each issue is posted.

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