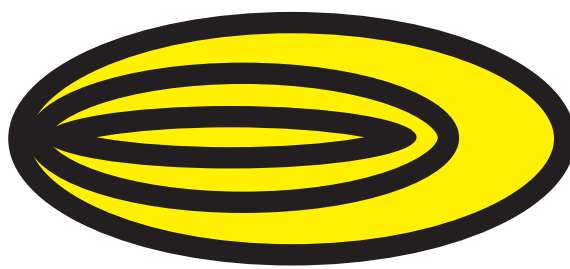


Hamstead Hornet



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December 2016

White Hart: new planning application in prospect

Rumours that a local chain of restaurants might be interested in taking on the White Hart seem to have come to nothing and, according to the owner, the inn's lease remains on the market. Probably not for long, though: a recent statement from Stella Coulthurst raises the likelihood of another planning application:

"The marketing has now been carried out and completed in accordance with the recommendations of the Western Area Planning Committee. The public house remains on the market and I am considering the resubmission of the planning application as over 12 months of extensive marketing has not been able to secure a viable future for the public house."

White Hart's history in brief

- 1985 - 2004: owned and run by Aromandos;**
- 2004 Mar: bought and run by Reillys;**
- 2010 May: first failure; the pub abandoned;**
- 2011 July: re-opened under Coulthurst ownership;**
- 2015 Sept: closed again after second failure; lease advertised;**
- 2016 Apr: planning permission refused.**

Dorothy's charity up and running



The Dorothy Aromando Art Fund has now been registered as a charity (no. 1126083) to raise funds for the Mesothelioma UK charitable trust.

A year ago Susie Aromando announced her intention of setting up a charity in memory of her mother, Dorothy, who died of mesothelioma in early 2015. Dorothy, the well known and much loved landlady of the White Hart from 1985 until 2004, left a

substantial portfolio of artwork which Susie is using to create a range of gift and housewares.

Prints, cards, coffee mugs, mats, notebooks, aprons and more, all decorated with Dorothy's designs, will be on sale at the village Christmas market at Elm Farm this Saturday. Susie also plans to open an online shop in the coming months. Anyone who would like to buy merchandise in the meantime, but cannot get to Elm Farm this Saturday, should contact her on dorothyartfund@gmail.com.



What's on in the village

19.30 Wed 7 Dec	E & HM Garden Soc Christmas meeting talk on Tutts Clump Cider	village hall	Penelope Lake 01635 48701
10.00-14.30 Sat 10 Dec	Christmas Community Market gifts, food, crafts, refreshments, story corner for children	village hall	Sue Watts 01488 658932 Lanie Allen 01488 658168
16.00 Sun 11 Dec	candle-lit Christingle service	St Mary's	church secretary 07597 127801
16.00 Sun 18 Dec	Carol service	St Mary's	church secretary 07597 127801
19.30 Thu 22 Dec	Carol singing at Ashtree Corner all welcome; bring torches; refreshments afterwards	meet at village hall	Sarah Ward 01488 658817
10.00-13.00 Sat 14 Jan	Community Market artisan bread, local produce, refreshments, crafts	village hall	Sue Watts 01488 658932 Lanie Allen 01488 658168
19.00-21.30 Thu 2 Feb	Circle of Friends informal women's group, usually with a speaker or demo	village hall	Sue Watts 01488 658932
10.00 Thu 9 Feb	Ladies who Brunch £16, booking essential	Halfway Inn	Lanie Allen 01488 658168
19.00-21.30 Thu 2 Mar	Circle of Friends informal women's group, usually with a speaker or demo	village hall	Sue Watts 01488 658932
10.00 Thu 9 Mar	Ladies who Brunch £16, booking essential	Halfway Inn	Lanie Allen 01488 658168
10.00-13.00 Sat 11 Mar	Community Market artisan bread, local produce, refreshments, crafts	village hall	Sue Watts 01488 658932 Lanie Allen 01488 658168
19.00-21.30 Thu 6 Apr	Circle of Friends informal women's group, usually with a speaker or demo	village hall	Sue Watts 01488 658932
10.00-13.00 Sat 8 Apr	Community Market artisan bread, local produce, refreshments, crafts	village hall	Sue Watts 01488 658932 Lanie Allen 01488 658168
10.00 Thu 13 Apr	Ladies who Brunch £16, booking essential	Halfway Inn	Lanie Allen 01488 658168

regular events in the village hall

13.30-16.00 Mons termtime	Oil painting classes for beginners & improvers	Chris Turner 01488 658587
09.30-11.30 Saturdays from 17 Sept	Latin and ballroom dancing classes for 4 - 16 year-olds	Leanne Herdman 07787 504123
weekday mornings termtime	Jane's House Montessori pre-school	Jane Doyle 07738 969358

Bonfire night went with a bang

With 5th November falling on a Saturday this year there was plenty of time to prepare. This year the guy competition drew three entries: one from the new Montessori preschool (Jane's House) in the village hall; one from the Vallance family in Marsh Benham; and one from Sue Watts. Trevor Goodall, whose charity New Life was this year's beneficiary, did the judging and awarded a prize for each guy before they met their fate on the bonfire.

The bonfire was brilliant, and there was a great atmosphere throughout the evening. The barbecue food, soup and mulled wine all sold out and, after costs were covered, £400 was donated to New Life.

Lanie Allen thanked everybody concerned: those who helped to build the bonfire, collecting wood from around the village; those who bought the supplies, prepared the food, cooked and served on the night; and those who gave to support the event beforehand and on the night. Special thanks go to Mike, Chris, Geoff and James as the heroes who lit and took care of the bonfire, and then let off the rockets and fireworks.

Planning applications

taken from <http://publicaccess.westberks.gov.uk> on 5th December 2016. To see more details visit this site and search on the application number.

16/02564/COND1 Morewood RG20 OJD
Validated 26th September 2016
Re planning permission 15/03064/FUL for formation of new riding arena and reduction in size of existing arena: soil dispersal on site and hedge planting.
Approved 9th November 2016

16/03117/TPC Land east of Hamstead Mill, belonging to North Lodge RG20 OJD
Validated 18th November 2016
Tree work, including felling three cherry trees and one birch tree.
Approved 1st December 2016

16/03064/FUL
Validated 3rd November 2016
The Old Pound, belonging to no. 24 Chapel Corner RG20 0HR
Change of status for the bottom 25 per cent (closest to the road) to residential use, ie off-road parking, including re-erection of a brick shed. Remainder of The Old Pound to continue to be used as agricultural land.
Awaiting decision

**Enborne & Hamstead Marshall
Garden Society
Christmas meeting
7.30pm Wed 7th December
in the village hall
A talk by Tim Wale
of Tutts Clump Cider**

Twenty years of village news

The first *Hamstead Hornet* came out in December 1996, since when it has appeared quarterly (missing only one issue: December 2001).

Since 2004 the *Hornet* has been published on www.hamsteadmarshall.net, although printed copies continued to be delivered to around 150 local homes until 2013, when the newsheet went almost wholly digital. Printed copies are now produced only for a select few who do not have an internet connection, and for Newbury Library, which keeps a file of back copies.

Digital copies are also stored (as part of www.hamsteadmarshall.net) in the British Library Web Archive, a project which harvests "specially selected websites that represent different aspects of online life in the UK".

Parish plan revival

Sue Watts reports that work on the questionnaire is under way, and it is hoped to be ready for approval in early 2017. If you have any ideas about how village life might be improved, please feel free to contact one of the Parish Plan team, which includes Anne Budd 01488 657022, Hallam Goad 07597 127801 and Sue Watts 01488 658932.

The show went on...

Neither sabotage nor rain could hinder the Enborne and Hamstead Marshall Flower Show on 2nd September. A potentially hazardous substance was poured into the public entrance and the padlock was glued to the gate by person(s) unknown, but the show nonetheless opened on time, with 106 exhibitors and over 350 entries of fruit, veg, flowers, handicrafts and culinary exhibits, all to the usual high standard. Everyone enjoyed the friendly atmosphere, despite rain setting in at 4pm.

Grow your own at Elm Farm

Nic Lampkin of ORC Elm Farm is offering village residents the opportunity of an allotment within the Elm Farm grounds. If you'd like to know more, contact Elm Farm on 01488 658298 or elmfarm@organicresearchcentre.com.

If you have £4m to spare...

You could make an offer for Holtwood Corner, the six-bedroomed mansion in 17 acres opposite Little Farm. It was built just a few years ago for the O'Donohoe family, and is now on the market with Strutt and Parker for £3,950,000.

Christmas Community Market
10.00 - 14.30 Sat 10th Dec
at Elm Farm

hand-carved spoons, cake stands, Christmas decorations, ceramic pots, jewellery, buttons, scarves and bags, gifts, chocolate, jam, marmalade, chutney, rapeseed & olive oils, cheeses, free-range eggs, game, bread, cakes, sausage rolls and home-made soup



Hope at last for Chapel Corner's eyesore

There are few sorer sights in the village than the parish council's noticeboard at Chapel Corner. It has languished in dereliction for several years: the doors used to fall off regularly, and were patiently wedged back in place by passing local residents. Three years ago they were carried off into final oblivion by a bad storm, since when the rotting board has been shunned even by flyposters.

Rescue may be in prospect, now that responsibility for the board has passed to the new Parish Plan team. Sue Watts reports that a funding application is in process to buy and instal a new board.

Carol Singing around Ashtree Corner Thursday 22nd December
Meet 7.30pm at the village hall; carol sheets provided but bring a torch.
This year fund-raising for New Life, a registered charity
which raises money for local special-care baby units



View from the past

This engraving of red deer being fed in Hamstead Park featured in the *Illustrated London News* of 1866. Hamstead Park was at one time famous for having the only red deer herd in Berkshire apart from Windsor Castle. (Englefield might dispute this, according to date.) In the nineteenth century they were still occasionally hunted here; the future King Leopold of the Belgians took part in such a hunt as Lord Craven's guest in 1821. However by date of this picture Hamstead Lodge had tenants rather than Cravens in residence, and the deer were regarded more as pets.

The Hamstead herd was corralled within the park behind chestnut palings, but neither the red deer nor the palings survived the Second World War, when a succession of armies camped in the park. Contrary to popular belief, the American troops were not generously provisioned, and the temptation of roast venison proved irresistible.

Hamstead Hornet

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