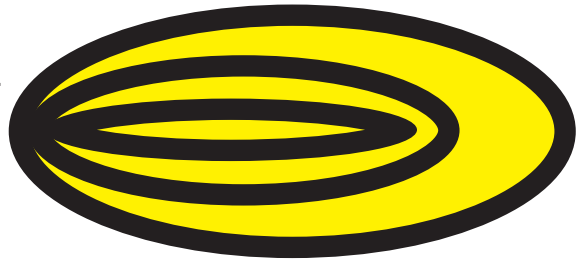


Hamstead *Hornet*

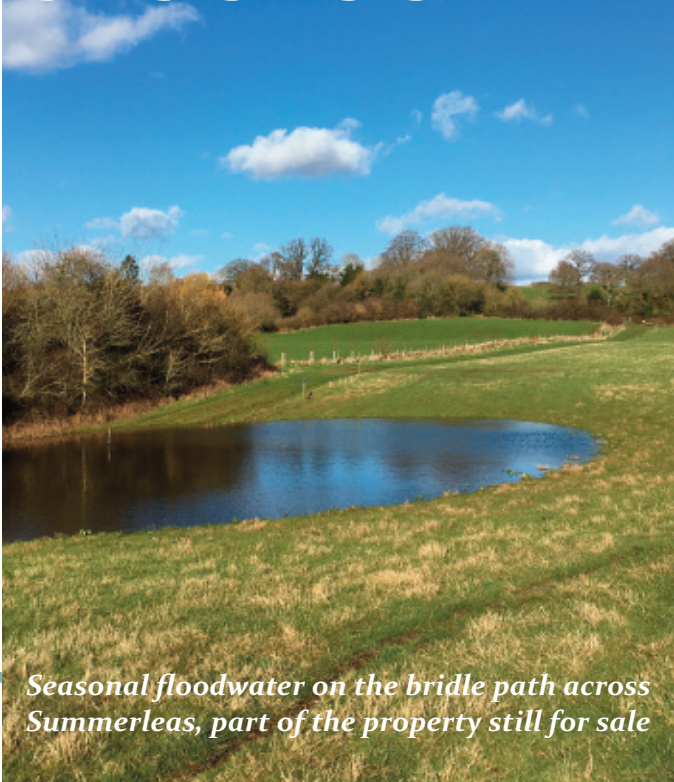


Issue no. 93

Hamstead Marshall's quarterly newspaper
since 1996

March 2020

Elm Farm: going, going, gone



Seasonal floodwater on the bridle path across Summerleas, part of the property still for sale

The Organic Research Centre left for Cirencester in January, with neither ceremony nor farewell to Hamstead Marshall after 40 years' residence at Elm Farm.

Carter Jonas' sale of the centre's former property in the village appears to be complete, save for the last parcel of 47-acres (lot 7 in the brochure) now with the added farm cottage, which is subject to agricultural occupancy. The guide price is £650,000, and at least two or three parties are thought to be interested.

Meanwhile the buyers of Lot 1 — the farmhouse, yard, barns and buildings with 48 acres on the south side of Kintbury Road — are identified in a planning application as Mr and Mrs D Oppenheim. Their application seeks to convert the former ORC research laboratory and offices to a four-bedroom house. The plans posted online indicate that this applies to the easternmost range of the yard buildings, with no extensions or demolitions proposed.

The ultimate fate of the Grade-II listed barn, which has hosted so many village markets and festivities over the years, and the unlisted four-bedroom farmhouse (for which ORC obtained still-valid permission for use as a dwelling) is unclear.

Here for the beer... and the wine, the jacket potatoes, the games....

The White Hart closed its doors again before Christmas, so villagers were more than ready for a pub night in the village hall on 28th February. About fifty people came to the hall to enjoy a pint of Mr Chubb's, wine, soft drinks, snacks and a variety of table games including David Harris' popular shuffleboard.

Another pub evening is planned for Friday 27th March.

Fourth attempt to build on former Sovereign garages site

Undeterred by three failed attempts by previous owners to gain planning permission, Dreamlodge Ltd has submitted an outline application to build a two-storey house on the plot alongside no. 1, The Village.

The site was formerly owned by Sovereign Housing Association, and accommodated garages for social housing tenants. In 2005 Sovereign sold the site, much to the discontent of local residents for whom no alternative parking provision was made.

The first buyer, Lodge House Ltd, was denied building permission in 2006, and in 2007/08 two further applications made by Templegate Ltd foundered.

Dreamlodge Ltd is registered at Hamstead Park, and is the company through which Tim Gwyn-Jones bought the Craven estate at auction in 1984.

What's on in the village

for St Mary' Church services see [here](#)

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---|
| Monday afternoons | Chris Turner's oil painting class <i>beginners & improvers</i> | Village hall | Chris Turner 01488 658587 |
| 12.30-13.30 Tuesdays | Neeta Madahar's lunchtime yoga | Village hall | Neeta Madahar 07906 752620 |
| 19.00-21.30 Thu 5 Mar | Circle of Friends <i>ladies' group £3; Bingo</i> | Village hall | Sue Watts 01488 658932 |
| 19.30-21.30 Tue 10 Mar | Speaker's Corner <i>Jim Flint: Mid-Atlantic village</i> | St Mary's Church | Venetia Dunlop |
| 10.30 Thu 12 Mar | Ladies who Brunch <i>booking essential £15</i> | Five Bells, Wickham | Lanie Allen 01488 658168 |
| 10.00-13.00 Sat 14 Mar | Community market <i>refreshments, bread, home-made cakes, eggs, books</i> | Village hall | Lanie Allen 01488n 658168 |
| 10.15-10.45 Thu 19 Mar | Mobile library | Ash Tree Grove | WBC mobile libraries |
| 19.30 Thu 19 Mar | Parish council meeting | Village hall | parish clerk |
| 19.30 Wed 25 Mar | Garden society meeting <i>John Handy: life as a tree surgeon</i> | Village hall | Penelope Lake |
| 18.00-23.00 Fri 27 Mar | Community pub night <i>drinks, snacks, games</i> | Village hall | Sue Watts 01488 658932 |
| 19.00-21.30 Thu 2 Apr | Circle of Friends <i>ladies' group £3; creative arts</i> | Village hall | Sue Watts 01488 658932 |
| 10.30 Thu 9 Apr | Ladies who Brunch <i>booking essential £15</i> | tba | Lanie Allen 01488 658168 |
| 10.15-10.45 Thu 9 Apr | Mobile library | Ash Tree Grove | WBC mobile libraries |
| 10.00-13.00 Sat 11 Apr | Community market <i>refreshments, bread, home-made cakes, eggs, books</i> | Village hall | Lanie Allen 01488n 658168 |
| 19.30 Wed 22 Apr | Village hall AGM | Village hall | Sue Watts 01488 658932 |
| 10.15-10.45 Thu 30 Apr | Mobile library | Ash Tree Grove | WBC mobile libraries |
| 07.00-22.00 Thu 7 May | Election of new Police & Crime Commissioner | Polling station Village hall | https://info.west-berks.gov.uk/elecrag |
| 10.00-13.00 Sat 9 May | Community market <i>refreshments, bread, home-made cakes, eggs, books</i> | Village hall | Lanie Allen 01488n 658168 |
| 10.30 Thu 14 May | Ladies who Brunch <i>booking essential £15</i> | Five Bells, Wickham | Lanie Allen 01488 658168 |
| 10.15-10.45 Thu 21 May | Mobile library | Ash Tree Grove | WBC mobile libraries |
| 19.30 Thu 19 Mar | Annual parish assembly & council meeting | Village hall | parish clerk |
| 19.00-21.30 Thu 4 Jun | Circle of Friends <i>ladies' group £3; plant swap</i> | Village hall | Sue Watts 01488 658932 |
| 10.15-10.45 Thu 11 Jun | Mobile library | Ash Tree Grove | WBC mobile libraries |
| 10.30 Thu 11 Jun | Ladies who Brunch <i>booking essential £15</i> | Five Bells Wickham | Lanie Allen 01488 658168 |
| 10.00-15.00 Sat 13 Jun | Summer Community Market <i>bread, eggs, cheese, preserves, cakes & savouries, beer, chocolate, jewellery, scarves & bags, tiles, toiletries, cards, toys, children's clothes</i> | Village hall | Lanie Allen 01488 658168 |

Planning applications taken from <https://publicaccess.westberks.gov.uk> on 2nd March 2020. To see more details visit this site and search on the application number.

APPROVED

Craven House, RG20 oJG

19/02502/FULMAJ validated 10th Oct 2019

Applicant: Hawkins

Proposed amendments to approved application

18/01267/HOUSE for the erection of single storey extensions, pool hall structure, alterations to external elevations, creation of leisure facilities, demolition of existing single-storey canopy structure and greenhouse. Approved 23rd Jan 2020

4 Hamstead Mill RG20 oJD

19/02902/LBC2 validated 21st Nov 2019

Applicant: Richard Samuel

Proposed internal alterations to floor plans, new kitchen and bathroom layouts, new stairs to 2nd floor, alterations to stairs on ground floor, new mechanical and electrical installations and upgrading fire separation in basement area.

Approved 15th Jan 2020

AWAITING DECISION

"Land west of Park Lane"*

19/02274/FULD validated 31st Oct 2019

Applicant: E & D G Stevens

Erection of rural workers dwelling for key worker. Objection from Hamstead Marshall Parish Council. **more specifically, at the top of the road north from White Hill Farm, beside the cattle sheds*

Cross Boundary

19/02818/FORMB validated 6th Nov 2019

Planning Notification Form related to the Electricity Act 1989: Overhead Lines (Exemption) (England & Wales) Regulations 2009. For new and replacement poles.

Enborne Equestrian Centre, Holtwood, RG20 oJL

17/02878/FULD validated 18th Oct 2017

Applicant: Ruth Gardiner

Ref 16/00775/FULD(Proposed dwelling to replace existing mobile home) (Nothing posted since 2019.)

Former garages site next to no. 1 The Village, RG20 oHN

19/03076/OUTD validated 11th Dec 2019

Applicant: Dreamlodge Ltd

Outline application for demolition of existing garages and erection of a two-storey detached dwelling with three parking spaces.

Barrs Farm RG20 oHS

19/02271/FULD validated 28th Jan 2020

Applicant: E & D G Stevens

Erection of additional rural workers dwelling for key worker [see 19/02274/FULD]

Land at Foxlee Farm RG20 oJH

20/00557/AGRIC validated 28th Feb 2020

Applicant: Patrick Early

Agricultural barn to replace storm-damaged barn.

51 (Park Lane/Craven Hill) RG20 oJG

20/00358/LBC2 validated 10th Feb 2020

Applicant: S Tyzack

Enlargement to an existing window to the rear of the of the property and internal alterations to replace existing stairs including forming an opening in a Grade-1 listed, 17th-century boundary wall.

Fishery Cottage RG20 oJD

20/00320/FUL validated 11th Feb 2020

Applicant: Richard White

Demolition of current dwelling to be replaced with larger dwelling. Shortening of the southern fish pool. Demolition of the barn to be replaced with a new barn of the exact design and size.

Elm Farm RG20 oHR

20/00196/FULD validated 3rd Feb 2020

Applicant: Mr & Mrs D Oppenheim

Conversion of former research laboratory and offices to a single dwelling house with associated parking, turning, landscaping, private amenity space, and access.

Ever fancied taking the law into your own hands?

If you fume helplessly at traffic speeding through the village, here's your chance to take action. Training is being offered in the use of SIDs, aka Speed Indicator Devices. This will take place at WBC offices from 6.30 to 7.30pm on Wednesday 22nd April. Contact Sarah Bosley, the parish clerk, for more info or to sign up.





When will WBC do something about fly-tipping?

First it was the old mattresses (and more) in the former gravel field in Park Lane. Being inside the fence, this was on private property, but councils do have the authority to enforce clearance. Then, because one dump inevitably attracts more, two bags of builders' rubble appeared outside the gate, on highways department land. One bag was subsequently tipped out, and an old radio was added. The latest arrival is a dead Christmas tree.

WBC and the parish council have been kept abreast of this unfolding story, with photos, to no result so far. The most recent response quoted yet another reference number, saying that "the enquiry is now closed" because it "should be resolved within the next four to six weeks."

By that time, if anything is done, the problem may have increased.

The man who named our village



William Marshal, the Anglo-Norman nobleman who gave our village its name, died 801 years ago this year. A move is afoot within the village to organise some kind of physical commemoration of him within the village, to let people know who he was and why he was important. It's felt that such a move could add to Hamstead's identity, following the loss of the pub and Elm Farm.

If you would like to know more you can:

- a) read about William the Marshal here;
- b) contact John Handy for more information;
- c) be at St John's Room, Newbury, 7.30pm Thursday 9th April to hear Dr Elizabeth Matthew, lecturer in medieval history at Reading University, talk about William Marshal's life in Berkshire.



In memory of Dorothy

The Dorothy Aromando Art Fund has presented a £1,000 cheque to the Mesothelioma Trust.

The fund (registered charity no. 1169871) was set up by Susie Aromando in memory of her mother Dorothy, who died of the disease in 2015. It raises money for research into mesothelioma by marketing products based on Dorothy's artwork. Details can be seen here.

Susie is pictured here presenting the cheque to Samantha Westbrook, the first of 27 mesothelioma specialist nurses to be funded nationwide by the charity, at Basingstoke Hospital.

Susie has expressed her thanks and appreciation to all those who have supported the charity through home sales, village markets and on social media.

News in brief

Sarah Ward's carol singers raised £210 for the Living Paintings Trust.

The parish plan Mk2 with updated action plan is still awaiting WBC approval.

Local farmland owners E & D G Stevens have filed planning applications for two new houses in the village, to accommodate workers for their expanding dairying operation.

The village hall continues to diversify its activities, hosting a Thames Valley Police consultation session and an astronomers' telescope workshop, in addition to regular bookings for ballroom dancing, band practice, tai chi, yoga, painting classes, Young Farmers and the monthly community market.

Hamstead Hornet

The Hamstead Hornet is published quarterly online.

Readers who have supplied their email addresses to the editor receive notification with a link as soon as each issue is posted.

News stories are updated between issues on the village website noticeboard.

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