

Hamstead *Hornet*

Hamstead Marshall's quarterly newspaper since 1996

December 2022

Issue 104

LOCAL LINKS

Parish council

White Hart Inn:
website; FB

St Mary's Church
website; FB

Dogs Trust at
Plumb's Farm

Community
market FB

Hamstead
Marshall Wildlife
Group FB

Whatsapp groups

Community chit-
chat, news, tips,
advice, requests.
Contact Sarah
Stevenson

HM Growing Tips
local gardeners'
triumphs and
disasters. Contact
Lanie Allen

White Hart

Park stile

Bus shelter
refurb

Peter's funeral

Doggy food
bank

Hamstead's
remembrance

Christmas
carol singing
local history

What's on

Planning
applications

Property
market



White Hart closed and for sale

The White Hart Inn is to be offered for lease or sale by Colliers, following its recent closure.

Stella Coulthurst, the owner since 2011, says:

"The decision about whether or not to re-open the White Hart Inn in the New Year remains open, and I wait to see how the economy fares in the next couple of months. In the meantime, I have decided to offer the pub for sale (both freehold and lease). The decision does not mean anything other than that, but if anyone has questions, I am happy to chat, meet, have a coffee. Please feel free to email via the website or give me a call."

WHITE HART TIMELINE

2010 Bought, restored and reopened by Stella Coulthurst.

2015 Closed. Change-of-use planning application. Lease offered.

2016 Application refused.

2017 Second application. Refused. Goes to appeal.

2018 Appeal dismissed. Lease still offered.

2019 Partial reopening with new microbrewery.

2020 Reopened after lockdown, Weds to Suns.

2021 Seven-day opening.



Refurb for Village Information Point

In June 2008 the bus shelter at Ash Tree Corner was made over into a village information point with maps, village hall and church information, contact lists and announcements as well as the bus timetable. Cyclists and walkers are often seen making use of it.

Now the shelter is to get another makeover, led by Chris Moss and Paul Hansen. The overall shell is deemed to be sound, but thought is being given to additional comforts and services which it might accommodate.

A fitting farewell

The funeral at St Mary's of Peter Benest, long-term resident of Hamstead Marshall until his death in early September, concluded with a flypast of Tiger Nine, the Tiger Moth display team to which he had belonged since 2005.

The funeral was attended by more than 200 people, and was followed by a wake at Little Farm, to which Peter moved in 1992 (from no 7 Salters), and where he built an airfield.



Don't forget the dogs

Doggy Food Banks are being set up by the Dogs Trust in recognition that economic hardship can affect pets as well as families. **Donations of unopened, in-date dog food would be welcome at the trust's rehoming centre at Plumb's Farm.**

"This way we can respond quickly to the ongoing crisis and supply local dog owners in need with free dog food, to help ease their financial burden and to help ensure no dog goes hungry. We hope that this support will help people who are feeling they have no other choice than to give up their much-loved dog." says Karla Haines of Plumb's Farm.

Dogs Trust Christmas gifts and cards can be ordered from

<https://www.dogstrustgifts.com/>

Hamstead's remembrance

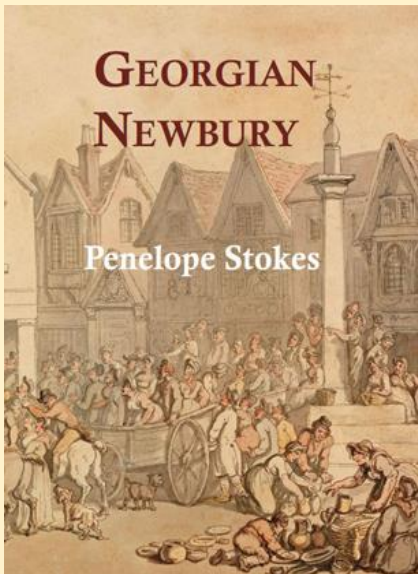
Veterans and others gathered at the US Forces memorial stone in Hamstead Park for a short commemoration, followed by a service in nearby St Michael's Church in Enborne.

In St Mary's, Hamstead, Robin Tandy read out the names of casualties from the village in the two world wars.



Village carol-singing returns this year on Tuesday 20th December. Sarah Ward is once again leading the group and she invites all-comers to meet at the village hall at 7pm. Warm clothes and torches are advised. Park Lane and Ash Tree Corner will this year be serenaded, and funds will be collected for Fair Close Day Centre and Vetlife. Call Sarah on 01488 658817 for more details.

Two local books recommended for Christmas



Georgian Newbury by Penelope Stokes

200 pages and 42 pictures describing the everyday lives of bakers, bankers, brewers, coachmen, corn merchants, clergymen, doctors, foundlings, gentry, hairdressers, housemaids, iron-founders, paupers, papermakers, peat-diggers, publicans, tanners, teachers...

Where did they live? What did they eat and drink? How were they educated? How safe was coach travel? What if they fell on hard times? Or broke the law? And what did they do for fun?

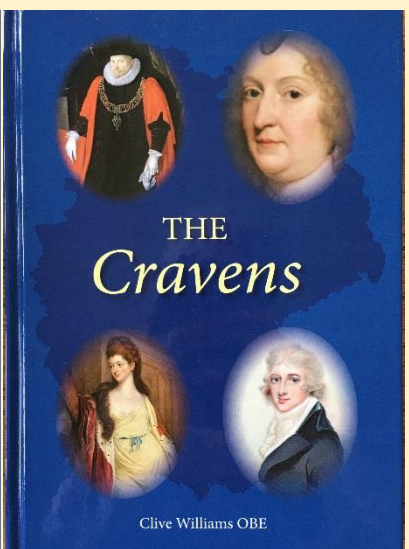
Available at £15 from West Berks Museum, Hungerford Bookshop or [direct from the author](#).

The Cravens by Clive Williams

The rise and fall of one of Berkshire's most famous families, from humble beginnings in Yorkshire, through the lord mayoralty of London, to unimaginable wealth: racehorses, yachts, and property across many counties (including pretty much all of Hamstead Marshall).

Very little of it remains in family hands today. Where did it all go wrong?

Available at £30 plus £3.50 p&p from Clive Williams. Contact him on 01491 671631 or 07974 314929, or clivewilliams@gmx.co.uk.





Hamstead Park stile saga

David Harris's campaign to get the Hamstead Park stile (left) replaced with a more accessible kissing gate (example right) seems to have lost momentum between the interested parties of the parish council, WBC, the Ramblers, the park tenant and the landowner. Ramblers have agreed to instal a new gate, but the landowner's permission has not been ascertained, and it is not clear who will pay for it.



What's on in the village

December

Thu 1st 19.00: Circle of Friends Xmas party at the village hall

Sat 10th 10.00-13.00: Community market in the village hall

Thu 14th: 19.30: Garden Society meeting in the village hall

Tue 20th: 19.00: carol singing around the village, meet at village hall

Thu 1st 19.00: Circle of Friends at the village hall

Sat 10th 10.00-13.00: Community market in the village hall

The mobile library will stop at Ash Tree Grove from 10.40 until 11.10 on the following Thursdays: 22nd December, 12 January, 2nd and 23rd February and 16th March.

Pilates in the village hall continues on Tuesday mornings, 09.30 to 10.30. To enquire or join, contact [Jenny Carter](#).

Ladies who Brunch: for details contact [Lanie Allen](#).

News in brief

The parish council website is to be redesigned with the help of Chris Moss.

A request has been put into WBC Highways for Holtwood Road to be resurfaced.

The parish council is actively looking to co-opt a fifth member.

Hamstead is now registered with Speedwatch, and traffic monitoring by volunteers with a hand-held device is expected to start in the spring.

The Craven Keep quarry plan appears to be in abeyance, with Earthline having lost its appeal in the case of its HGV depot at Wroughton.

Property for sale or rent

Hamstead's newest house, built on the site of the former Sovereign garages in Kintbury Road, is being offered to let at £2,500pcm. The detached property has four bedrooms and three bathrooms. The site was sold in April 2021 for £169,000.

Marc Allen of Hungerford is offering the ground floor (and basement) flat of No 3, Hamstead Mill leasehold for £425,000. The flat changed hands in 2012 for £240,000.

Planning applications

Details taken from the [WBC planning portal](#) on 29th November 2022.

To see more details visit this site and search on the application number (and be patient, because the site can be slow to load).

APPROVED

Fishery Cottage RG20 OJD

21/02912/FUL validated 1st December 2021.

Section 73 application to vary/remove conditions 2 (plans) and 3 (materials) of approved application 20/00320/FUL: 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.

Approved 28th September

North Lodge RG20 OJD

22/01846/NONMAT validated 1st Aug 2022.

Application for a non-material amendment following a grant of planning permission 21/01391/HOUSE - first floor extension and alterations to the existing dwelling.

Amendments: change the window on the west elevation to the proposed ensuite on the first floor to a roof window.

Approved 26th August

REFUSED

The Barn House Holtwood RG20 OJH

22/01915/FUL validated 8th Aug 2022

Erection of replacement dwelling, following substantial demolition of existing dwelling and conversion of remaining floorspace for ancillary residential purposes; with associated parking, turning, landscaping, private amenity space and access.

Refused 6th Oct 2022 on grounds of disproportion to original dwelling.

AWAITING DECISION

Good Hope Farm (Lot 5 Elm Farm) RG20 OHR

22/01789/COMIND validated 2nd Aug 2022.

Construction of a new farm access track, parking area and the installation of temporary structures in association with the provision of a daily care farm facility.

East Gate House Craven Hill RG20 OJD

22/02789/HOUSE validated 10th November 2022.

Glazed infill to existing floor.

APPEALS

Land adjacent to Holtwood Farm 22/00055/WR

Oak Tree Barn, Holtwood RG20 OJH 22/00053/INQ