

Hamstead *Hornet*

Hamstead Marshall's quarterly newspaper since 1996

September 2023

issue no 107

LOCAL LINKS

[Parish council](#)

[Community market FB](#)

[St Mary's Church FB](#)

[Dogs Trust at Plumb's Farm](#)

[Good Hope Farm](#)

[HM Wildlife Group FB](#)

Whatsapp groups

Community chit-chat, news, tips, advice, requests. Contact [Sarah Stevenson](#)

HM Growing Tips gardening triumphs and disasters. Contact [Lanie Allen](#)

Charity field sold

Neighbourhood Watch new group

Garden society flower show and fete

Speedwatchers at work

Village hall meeting

New WBC councillors on the job

Parish council news

Bob Brown

Good Hope Farm

Planning applications

Village property on the market

What's on in the village

Charity field sold *relief in need continues*

Hamstead Marshall's Relief in Need charity was created by the (more-or-less obligatory) donation to the parish of a field of about three and a half acres as compensation for the loss of certain rights when local common land was enclosed by the Craven estate in 1815.

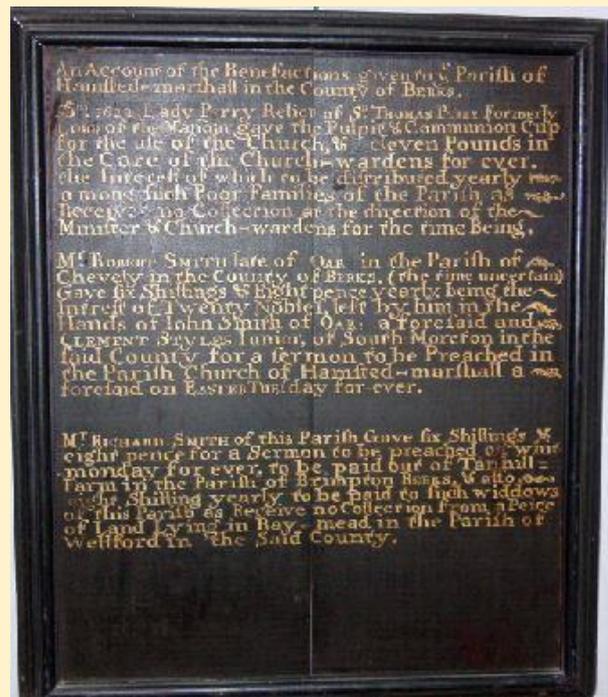
The field, formerly known as Poor's Allotment, lies on the southern boundary of the parish, adjacent to Gore End. The land is not of the highest quality, and probably has never been cultivated, having been former common land. In 1880 Ordnance Survey marked it as liable to flooding.

The field has been rented out as pasture to generate revenue which could be distributed once a year to parishioners in need. In the past few years this gross income has varied from £150 to £350, but expenditure on maintenance has sometimes been higher.

In December 2022 three supporters responded to the trustees' appeal for financial assistance towards upkeep of the field.

Earlier this year the trustees put the field into the hands of Carter Jonas for sale at an asking price of £50,000. The sale was completed in August to a private individual (not of the parish).

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission, which approved the sale and reconstitution of the charity as fund-based rather than land-based. Trustees are currently listed as Anne Budd (chair), Liz Copas, Richard Cotton, Kevin Barbey and David Hadnutt. These trustees are reviewing management of the reconstituted charity, and would welcome suggestions from parishioners who know of need within the parish. Contact Anne Budd (in confidence) on anne.budd1@btinternet.com or 07479 986897.



This board in St Mary's Church details several of Hamstead's earlier parish charities, all long since vanished, probably because benefactors failed to make enduring arrangements for trusteeship.

Neighbourhood Watch *a new scheme is starting at Ash Tree Corner*

Details are available from Liz Copas on 07557 380670



Enborne and Hamstead Marshall Garden Society Flower Show and Fete

Entries for the many and varied classes of this show have now closed, but you can still admire the horticultural achievements of others on display from 2pm this Saturday (2nd September) at Hazel Paddock in Enborne, opposite the school. Most of the produce submitted will be auctioned later in the afternoon, and while you are waiting to snap up someone else's prize onions or dahlias, you can enjoy a variety of stalls, refreshments and the East Woodhay Silver Band.

Watch your speed

Hamstead's community speedwatchers are now in operation on a regular basis. Ash Tree Corner is the first police-approved site for monitoring drivers through the village, but more sites will be added soon.



Kevin Barbey, Alan Budd, Liz Copas, Margaret Faithfull, David Harris and Chris Moss have completed the volunteers' online training, and observation sessions have now been held at least twice, with several registration numbers reported to TVP.

Anyone interested in joining should contact Chris Moss on 07775 666660.

Hamstead Marshall Village Hall



Please feel free to come to a general meeting of the village hall at 7pm on Tuesday 10th October.

The management committee is seeking someone interested in joining the team to ensure the hall is maintained to a high standard for community events. The role entails attending four meetings a year.

WBC councillors on the job

Our three newly elected (in May) WBC councillors are taking on various responsibilities within WBC's labyrinthine structure.

Both Tony Vickers and Denise Gaines are members of the (nine-member) Executive Committee, appointed at the first meeting of the new council. Denise Gaines' portfolio is Housing and Highways; Tony Vickers' is Planning and Community Engagement.

Tony Vickers and Dennis Benneyworth serve on the District Planning Committee, which considers recommendations from the area planning committees. All three members are on the Western Area Planning Committee.

Tony Vickers (as a substitute) and Dennis Benneyworth are on the [Environment Advisory Group Open Forum](#).

Tony Vickers is WBC's representative on the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Beauty (AONB) Council of Partners.

Denise Gaines is Executive Portfolio Holder for Highways, Housing and Sustainable Travel, and is the Joint Public Protection Committee (substitute) Executive Portfolio Holder.

Dennis Benneyworth has been appointed (substitute) to the [Governance Committee](#).

Denise Gaines and Tony Vickers, as the two Liberal Democrat representatives, will be producing their own monthly newsletter from September, which will report on what they have done as Hungerford and Kintbury ward members, as well as on matters more generally that WBC has been doing or plans to do where they affect the ward.

Parish council news

Chris Moss reported to the July meeting that a new wooden structure to replace the existing bus shelter at Ash Tree Corner would cost between £6,000 and £9,000. A bid to WBC for funding is being prepared by Anne Budd.

It was agreed that the new shelter should house a defibrillator.

Liz Copas is obtaining a parish map showing footpaths and byways, also to be displayed in the new shelter.



The parish council is still short of one member. Any parishioner interested in filling the vacancy should contact Anne Budd on 07479 986897.

The next meeting of the council will start at 7.30pm on Thursday 21st September in the village hall. Reports are expected on more precise costing for the new bus shelter, and on the new parish council website currently under construction. The meeting will also include a talk from Neil Whiteman from Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service on fire causes and prevention. All parishioners are welcome.

Bob Brown



The death occurred on 1st June of Bob Brown, the well known artist who lived and worked for around 20 years in Hamstead Marshall.

Bob and his wife Sue came in the 1980s to North Lodge, where they converted the former barn in the grounds into his studio. He was a regular supporter of the church, village hall, and local activities.



North Lodge at the time when the Browns lived there

Bob's career took off early, with a painting accepted for the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition in 1955. From 1964 he was an active member of the New English Art Club, and his work was exhibited in this country and abroad. A figurative artist working mainly in oils, Bob travelled widely in search of his subject matter, visiting Turkey, Syria, Iran, Greece, Georgia, France, Italy, Russia, US and China.

Bob and Sue left the village to live in the Brighton area in the first decade of this century. North Lodge and the studio were sold separately, the latter being converted into a family house which later burnt down, and has now been rebuilt as Park Lodge.

An appreciation of Bob's work and an interview with him can be seen on the [NEAC website](#).

Good Hope Farm



Karine reports an abundant summer at Good Hope Farm, with tomatoes, cucumbers, courgettes, runner beans, potatoes, flowers, sweet peas, aromatic herbs, lavender and popcorn filling up the little farm shop at the gate.

Two open days are planned:
Friday 22nd September
10.30-2pm for professionals (social services, special needs schools, colleges and

parents) and Saturday 23rd September 10.30-12.30 for families and the local community.

Planning applications

Details taken from the WBC planning portal on 28th August 2023. To see more details visit [this site](#) and search on the application number.

APPROVED

Pear Tree Cottage, Irish Hill Road RG20 0JB

23/00634/LBC validated 17th March 2023

Dismantling and removal of a late twentieth-century external brickwork chimneystack. Repair and reinstatement to the external wall and thatch roof covering where the chimneystack has been removed, including render finishes. Blocking up of the associated redundant fireplace internally and making good internal finishes.

Approved 21st June 2023.

Oak Tree Barn, Holtwood RG20 0JH

23/01073/COND validated 5th May 2023

Application for approval of details reserved by condition 7 (ecology enhancements) of planning permission 20/00901/FULD for conversion of existing redundant building into a dwelling and garage, together with associated landscaping.

Approved 20th July 2023.

White Hart Cottage* Kintbury Road RG20 0HW
23/01646/COND validated 11th July 2023
Reserved by condition 9 (CMS) of planning permission 21/00047/FULD
Conversion and extension of existing garage to new dwelling.
Approved 23rd August 2023.



** how WBC listing refers to the building formerly described as the garage serving White Hart Cottage, subsequently sold to Elm Farm. In the early twentieth century it was the pub's bowling alley.*

The Barn House, Holtwood RG20 0JH
23/00583/FUL validated 15th March 2023
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.
Approved 13th July 2023.

AWAITING DECISION

Watery Lane Farm, Holtwood RG20 0JH
23/01635/AGRIC validated 11th August 2023
Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: extension to agricultural barn.

Property on the market

No 3 Hamstead Mill

Ground floor with two bedrooms; basement.
Previously with Marc Allen at guide price £450,000, now with Chancellors seeking offers in excess of £400,000.
Last sold 2012 for £240,000 (Nethouseprices).

Holtwood Farm RG20 0JH

Five-to-seven bedroom Grade II-listed former farmhouse on offer through Hamptons. Offers sought in excess of £1,000,000.
Historic England dates this house from the seventeenth century. From the early twenty-first century it has housed a riding school and livery yard.

White Hart Inn

Inn with five letting bedrooms offered by Colliers for £895,000.

Hamstead level crossing will be closed from 22.20 Tues 5th to 05.00 Wed 6th September.

The Harvest Afternoon Tea has been cancelled.

What's on in the village

September

| | | |
|----------|-------------|---|
| Sat 2nd | 14.00 | E&HM Garden Society show, Hazel Paddock |
| Thu 7th | 19.00-21.00 | Circle of Friends in village hall |
| Sat 9th | 10.00-13.00 | Community market in village hall |
| Sat 23rd | 10.00-12.30 | Open day at Good Hope Farm |

October

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|----------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| Thu 5th | 19.00-21.00 | Circle of Friends in village hall |
| Tue 10th | 19.00 | Village hall meeting |
| Sat 14th | 10.00-13.00 | Community market in village hall |

November

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|----------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sun 5th | time tba | Bonfire and fireworks at hall field |
| Thu 9th | 19.00-21.00 | Circle of Friends in village hall |
| Sat 11th | 10.00-13.00 | Community market in village hall |

December

| | | |
|---------|-------------|--|
| Thu 7th | 19.00-22.00 | Circle of Friends' Christmas party in village hall |
| Sat 9th | 10.00-13.00 | Community market in village hall |

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

Ladies who Brunch meet monthly for brunch with bubbles. For details contact Lanie Allen 07775 804143.

Circle of Friends contact is Sue Watts 07884 004418.

The mobile library will stop at Ash Tree Grove from 10.40 until 11.10 on Thursdays 31st August and 21st September, and at three-weekly intervals thereafter.

The *Hamstead Hornet* is published quarterly online, in March, June, September and December. Back copies can be seen on <https://www.hamsteadmarshall.net/social-life/hamstead-hornet/>. Readers who have supplied their email addresses to the editor receive a link as soon as each issue is posted. News stories are updated between issues

on the [village website noticeboard](#). The *Hamstead Hornet* is edited and published by Penelope Stokes admin@hamsteadmarshall.net.