

HINTS VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
December 2015

Hints web site www.hints-village.com

Editor's notes (Peter Edwards)

Please remember that the deadline for inclusion of items in the Newsletter is the **25th of each month**. I need to print 72 copies of the newsletter. If you are willing to receive it by e-mail, send me an e-mail saying so. So far I've had 67 "e-mailers" (the number is slowly increasing!). Please help by saving postage and printing costs!

Hints Golf Society (Elaine & Jez Clarke)

A field of 11 golfers turned out for the final HGS event of the season at Whittington Heath. With bookies favourite Simon Clarke and rank outsider John Taylor locked together at the top of the Order of Merit it came down to a thrilling final round shoot out. Course and weather conditions were benign although the slow greens proved difficult to master. John recovered from a disappointing front 9 to card a respectable 32 points but this was no match for President Simon who, fresh from a week's warm weather training in Spain, surged to the top with a very impressive 35 points. Stuart Turton was runner up with 33 points and David Fifield took 3rd place on countback with 32 points. In total 23 golfers have played at least one event this season and thanks go must to Elaine for organizing the varied monthly venues. Thanks are also due to all those volunteers who have contributed to the post golf social evenings in the Village Hall which have been greatly enjoyed by golfers and villagers alike.

To mark the end of the golfing season and to get us in the festive spirit with some 'Ho Ho Ho', this year's HGS Christmas Party will be held on **Sunday, 13th December 2015** in Hints Village Hall and Santa will be opening the bar at **3pm!** As always, this is open to **everyone** and we'd love to see as many people from the village there as possible but don't worry, there won't be any boring 'golf talk'....just a few drinks, a good natter and some lovely food! So Catering are doing a 'Festive' buffet for us. So, if you're free we'd love to see you and it goes without saying, family and friends from outside of the village are also very welcome - in fact, the more the merrier! The cost for So Catering is £10.00 for adults and £5.00 for children which I think you'll agree is very reasonable! However, I do need to confirm numbers with the caterers, so please can you let me know if you are able to come (and how many adults/children) so I can organise the catering accordingly!

New Years Eve (Debbie Whittaker)

Please note for all people who have booked for New Year that all monies should be paid to Deb Whittaker by the 5th December.shus

NEW Walking Group (Deb Whittaker)

A new walking group will start in the New Year. Please see the flyer.

Hints wildlife update (Steve Bourne)

Villagers might like to know that I saw an otter running across the ford at about 7.20am on 28th October. First time I've ever seen one there, although other residents may have seen some? A complete guess, but it was quite large so, possibly a male? Anyway I'll keep an eye open for more sightings.

Hints Curry Club (John Toogood)

On Friday 27th November a new initiative took place that may proceed on a more regular basis if we get enough interest. "**Hints Curry Club**" will be open to everyone. We've agreed with a local award-winning restaurant to accept advance telephone orders and payments off individuals for their curry requirements, up until midday on Thursday. This will then be individually delivered all at the same time to the Village Hall at 7.30. The benefit is that villagers will have the opportunity to eat at take-away prices, but with the benefit of the bar at the Village Hall being open for business from 7pm. Eat in fabulous surroundings with your friends and neighbours, and don't worry about the drive home - walk! (Ed - no report from this, but if you want it to continue, you know who to contact!)

Bird Update (Janet Clarke)

It's wonderful to see great numbers of birds visiting our feeders again. The seed and nut bills have risen sharply but they are all worth it. We have lots of blue tits at all the feeders, along with chaffinches, robins, gold and green finches and the woodpecker makes an occasional appearance. He is the one visitor who discards more seeds than any of the other birds, so the pigeon waiting patiently below benefits greatly and he is so fat that he can only waddle around. We have a cock pheasant eating what is thrown out but we haven't seen the hen pheasant for a long time. The bird bath is filled every day and this morning the frost had to be removed. The pigeons make an awful mess of the water. They bathe regularly and leave a scum over the surface. Recently we had two jays fighting furiously and suddenly they both took off together like a Harrier Jump Jet! One of our near neighbours has had four quite small hedgehogs in the garden and they have been having dishes of cat meat every evening. The worry is will they have reached their proper weight before hibernating? A heron has been visiting our pond but he must be so disappointed because there are no fish in there. The blue tits have been inspecting the bird boxes; perhaps they are turning them into winter accommodation!

At a school nativity play, three young children were cast as the kings. Presenting their gifts at the stable, the first said: "Gold," the second: "Myrrh" and the third: "And Frank sent this"

"A well-known foreign secretary once toured a hospital and asked a patient if she knew his name. "No dear," she said, "but if you ask matron she'll be able to help you."

And finally... "As a writer once said, we love the earth but we don't get to stay. So why not have a decent sunrise or two while we're hanging around?"

Parish Council (Geoff Kynaston)

At the last Parish Council meeting on 10th of November our new parish clerk presided. He is Peter Young who can be contacted on 01543 250730 or hints.canwell@gmail.com.

Resolutions were passed to purchase two defibrillators and storage cabinets, one for each village hall. Grants have been obtained to cover the total cost and maintenance charges for several years. They should be installed around the turn of the year. When installed demonstrations will be arranged, in conjunction with the ambulance service, on how to use and operate them in the case of an emergency. Full minutes of the meeting can be seen on the village web site.

The next Parish meeting will be in Hints Village Hall on 12th Jan 2016.

Garden Guild (Maureen Casson)

Our members enjoyed the last meeting on Thursday 12th November when Patrick Clement spoke to us about Garden Butterflies and Moths. Many colourful slides helped us to think about the differences between moths and butterflies as both are, when viewed in this way extremely colourful, and all have titles, and the information of where they were first spotted in this country was readily available, so once again an interesting and informative evening which finished with a raffle and tea, coffee in the usual way. Christmas is fast approaching and our next meeting will be on 10th December at the usual time of 7.30pm in the Village Hall when we will be enjoying a social evening.

Sunday Lunch at the Village Hall (David Fifield)

On Sunday 8th November, neighbours met for lunch at the Village Hall. Beforehand, many attended the Remembrance service in our church. The service was led by Trevor James and at 11 o'clock the congregation stood outside facing the war memorial for the Two Minutes Silence. The setting was just right as a CD of the bugle call 'The Last Post' and the 'Reveille' was played. (Thanks Martin). Then it was off to the Village Hall for lunch. A delicious starter of soup made by Debbie was followed by beautifully tender beef with Yorkshire puddings cooked by Jez and Elaine. Finally, we had Tracey's renowned puddings of fruit crumble or cheesecake. And to cap it all, there was then cheese and biscuits!!



Together with drinks from the Village Hall Bar, the meal was a resounding success, and all for £15 – fantastic value. Many thanks to the cooks who worked so hard, and also to Kevin who, above and beyond the call of duty, did most of the washing up!

Christingle & Carol Service Sunday 20th December (Jeannette White)

This year there will be a combined Christingle and Carol service at 6:30 pm, with supper served in the Village Hall after the service. All villagers are welcome. Supper will be: £6.00 for adults, children under 11 years old £3.00. To cater for the supper numbers, please contact Jeannette White: jeannette.white@hotmail.co.uk or 480066 by 14th December 2015. Also see the flyer!

CONTACT DETAILS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

Editor: Peter Edwards - 01543 480088, peter@weardrive.demon.co.uk
Hints web site www.hints-village.com
Churchwardens – Jeannette White 480066 and
Simon Clarke 07798 740209
Chairman of the Village Hall - Graham Whittaker 480090
Chairman of the Social Club – Stuart Turton 481162
Chairman of Hints with Canwell Parish Council
Geoff Kynaston 0121 308 6145
District Councillor – Brian Yeates 0121 323 2200
County Councillor – David Smith 01543 374690
Chairperson of the Garden Guild – Pam Kynaston 0121 308 6145
Art History - Val Edwards 480088
Village Hall Bookings Secretary - Gill Needle 481220
Art Classes – Janet Clarke 481214

St. Bartholomew's CHURCH SERVICES December 2015

13 December		No service
20 December	6:30 pm	Christingle and Carols Jason Philips
Readings		tba
24 December (Christmas Eve)		Holy Communion Jason Philips
Readings	Isiah 9:2-7 Luke 2:1-14	
27 December	6:30 pm	Holy Communion Jason Philips
Readings:	1 John 1 John 21 19b-end	

Art for St Bart's (Val Edwards)

We are taking a recess during December but hope to recommence on January 11 2016, courtesy of the Village Hall. We are continuing to look at German art and will start the New Year with 19th century German landscape painters such as Caspar David Friedrich. We meet on Monday evenings at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall. £3 per session, refreshments included, all proceeds to St Bartholomew's Church.

Breakfast Club (Graham Whittaker)

There will not be a breakfast club in December as it is Christmas week.

Christmas Tree (Sally Sheperd)

A big thank you to Kay and Andrew Barnes from Bourne Brook Farm/Nurseries for supplying St Barts again this year with a fabulous Christmas tree. Thank you very much."