

Friends of Bunkers Park

Summer has come and gone since the last update so I hope you used the Park to best advantage. The Banded Galloway cows were with us for a short time this year but as the grass was so dry they had to be taken back to better quality pasture where the water table was higher in Boxmoor. Hopefully, next year, with more rain at the right time, we will have them for longer.

We completed our first set of summer working parties where we started cutting the grass in some of the rides and opened up the scallops again as well as clearing nettles from some of the entrances and steps. Now that we are better trained on some of the equipment we hope to be faster next year so we can keep all of the rides clear to walk.

This year saw the departure of Colin Chambers, our mentor from DBC, who helped start the group. Having retired from Local Government he has now joined the Friends group so he is not completely lost to us. Luke Johnson has taken over and is known to most of us as he has been working with the group over the last year and is enthusiastic for the future of the Park and the Group.

The Park retained its Green Flag status during the inspection in the summer and is having information boards installed to help make the park more accessible to all. The judges recorded that the Park was a hidden gem in West Hertfordshire so we are trying to make it a little less hidden.

The summer went all too quickly with the BBQ which a fair number managed to attend and the inevitable Ragwort pulling. Next year we need a better plan because as soon as we think we have made progress it creeps up in another area. I think little and often will be the trick so we will be calling for all hands to help over the summer.

The Parish Council have generously offered help with an information board to be sited near the car park to let people know about what can be seen in the park as well as what is happening with the Friends Group.

The last piece of news this year is that the Friends have won an award from the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) for the way the Park has been developed and looked after by the group. (See page 16)

So onward and upward for the New Year.

Have a walk in the Park over Christmas as part of your New Year's resolutions and why not join the Friends.

Geoff Doole

YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS ARE: -

Councillor Lisa Bayley – (Chair of the Parish Council)

lisabayleyparish@btinternet.com

Tel: 01442 211602

Councillor Jan Maddern – (Vice Chair of Parish Council)

jan.maddern@hotmail.co.uk

Tel. 07711066696

Councillor Dave Jackson - (Chair of Finance)

david.jackson@nashmillsparishcouncil.gov.uk

Tel: 01442 230892

Councillor Louise Gross- (Chair of Personnel)

louisemckaygross@yahoo.co.uk

Councillor Peter Lardi – (Chair of Planning)

NMPC.planning@gmail.com

Tel: 07501008199

Councillor Rosie Moubray (Vice Chair of Finance and Personnel)

rmoubray5@yahoo.co.uk

Tel: 07966463987

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Councillor Terence Collins

terence.collins2@ntlworld.com

Tel: 01442 405220

E: clerk@nashmillsparishcouncil.gov.uk

T: Linda Sutton - 01462 735553 or visit:

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Would you like to advertise in our Parish Magazine? We have three editions published annually - spring, summer and winter. Our magazine is circulated to approximately 1100 residents and to some local businesses and schools within the Nash Mills parish area. We also upload a pdf of the magazine onto the parish council's website so visit:

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Or contact the Parish Clerk on 01462 735553.

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David Drew 'Community Champion' (Individual Category)

David has worked as a Parish Warden for Nash Mills since 2013, but it is his dedication to improving his community in his spare time that has earned him the accolade of 'Community Champion' 2017.

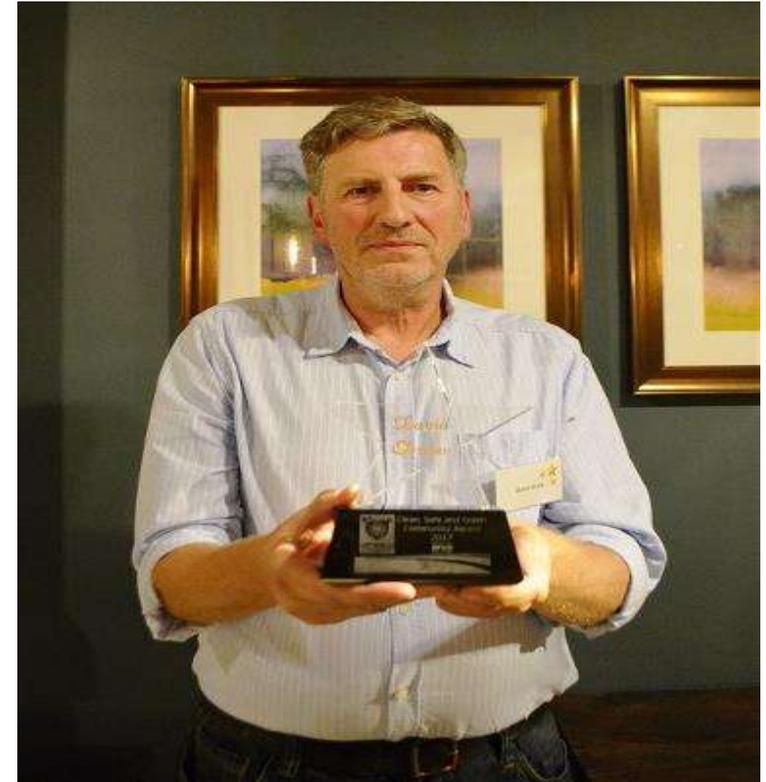
Outside of work, David can be found regularly litter-picking along the canal side, collecting any recyclable items separately and bagging them up for collection, sometimes with the assistance of his grandsons. If any lost property is discovered whilst tidying the streets, David will try his best to return the item - he once even reunited a donkey with its owner!

His passion for keeping his local area as clean and safe as possible means that David will remove any dangerous litter he discovers, such as broken glass or needles and regularly reports issues such as fly-tipping, dog fouling and abandoned cars to the Clean, Safe and Green department. During cold snaps, David regularly checks local grit bins to ensure that they are full and has previously helped deliver grit supplies to areas where elderly residents live, to make sure that they could leave their homes safely.

David will grab any opportunity to improve his local area and has even been spotted painting, staining and maintaining benches for the community to enjoy relaxing on.

His friend Linda, who nominated him, says: "David is a humble, modest, hardworking individual who is quite happy to stay out of the spotlight. However, his ongoing

fervour for keeping Nash Mills a clean, safe and green area ensures he will always be in the limelight!"



After winning the award, David said:

"From a personal perspective it's great to be in the fresh air and keeping fit. For the community, we all benefit from a clean and safe environment."

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A Message From David Lloyd, PCC for Hertfordshire

Five years ago, the first elections for Police and Crime Commissioners were held across England and Wales. This was the first time that the public truly had a say in the running of their police service and the first time an election was solely focused on the single issue of policing.

British policing at its best has always been defined by the Peelian principle of policing by consent. When voting at the ballot box, both in 2012 and 2016, the people of Hertfordshire breathed new life into this ambitious principle. This was not an uncontroversial election. However I believe the concerns raised at the time, as sincere as they were, have not materialised.

Each PCC has to write a plan setting out their principles for policing their area. It sets the strategy for the police and it's produced in consultation with the public. My strategy is called the Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan. This underlines what I think are the main issues facing us in the county: keeping our residents safe, having a strong footprint in the community and ensuring that should you be unfortunate enough to be a victim of crime, you are supported and that the process is as smooth as possible.

Local Policing

I have been able to protect neighbourhood policing in Hertfordshire, unlike other areas of the country. We have ten districts, each with at least one major police station, and each with their own dedicated team of community police officers and PCSOs. They are our eyes and ears and the public have told me again and again this

is the model of policing they want to see in the county. The police inspectorate has also recognised that we spend more on frontline policing in Hertfordshire than in most other parts of the country. I've been able to introduce a number of successful initiatives in my time as PCC, which have made a difference to the lives of residents in the county. The Road Safety Fund uses the money raised from offenders to implement safety measures on our roads. The successful Beacon victim care service has helped thousands of people and joined up the care of people who have experienced crime. As your PCC, I took an oath to serve the people without fear or favour, to act with integrity and transparency, to ensure the police are able to cut crime and protect the public, and to give a voice to the public in all that we do. After five years the office of Police and Crime Commissioner has done so much to bring democratic accountability into the heart of British policing, and yet it is my firm conviction that this is only the beginning.

David Lloyd, Police and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire.



Free Dog Bag Scheme

If you are a dog walker or dog owner and would like to supplement your own dog bag supply then visit 'Town Tub' launderette and drycleaners or 'Buggsy's unisex hair salon who have both kindly agreed to store dog bags on our behalf. They are situated at The Denes, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, HP3 8AP. Alternatively, speak to Dave Drew, Parish Warden.



Abbot's Hill is a happy, dynamic and thriving school for girls aged 4-16 years. Our Day Nursery and Pre-School caters for girls and boys from 6 months. Our happy and united community gives each pupil the opportunity to shine.

The school is set within 76 acres of parkland on the outskirts of Hemel Hempstead, where our first-rate facilities provide space for outdoor sport and extra-curricular activities. We have a strong record of academic success. Throughout the school, pupils are taught in small classes in which excellent teaching and personalised support ensure that everyone is inspired to exceed their potential and to shine.



At Abbot's Hill, we pride ourselves on our pastoral care. The sense of being part of an extended family is frequently commented on by pupils, parents and staff alike. The School's ethos is one which places the well-being and success of the individual child at its centre, and this is reflected in many aspects of School life.

Our extra-curricular clubs offer a lively balance of sport, performing and creative arts, science and technology, journalism, problem-solving and debating. The school is involved in charitable and school partnership activities in the wider community. In such a nurturing environment, pupils grow naturally in confidence, are happy to embrace new challenges and eagerly take on increasing responsibilities. Pupils leave Abbot's Hill fully equipped to take on with passion the challenges and opportunities life has to offer. To experience Abbot's Hill for yourself, come along to one of our Open Events (full details are available on our website) or you can email our Registrar at registrar@abbotshill.herts.sch.uk or call us on **01442 240333**.



'Winter Warmers' Quiz

- 1) Who wrote the 'Snow Queen'?
- 2) Where are the 2018 Winter Olympics to be held?
- 3) When is the feast of Stephen?
- 4) In the sixties and again in 2015 which 'gardener's friend' was crowned the UK's national bird?
- 5) What did 'my true love' send to me on the eighth day of Christmas?
- 6) How many ghosts visit Scrooge on Christmas Eve?
- 7) On the Fahrenheit scale what is the freezing point of water?
- 8) In 1983 which singer released 'A Winter's Tale'?
- 9) Since 1947, which city donates the Trafalgar Square tree to the people of Britain?
- 10) When is the Winter Solstice?
- 11) Which country celebrates Hogmanay?
- 12) Galanthus are small white flowers - what is their common name?
- 13) What stretch of water in London is used for a Christmas morning swim?
- 14) 'Walking in the Air' is a song from which seasonal film favourite?
- 15) How many sides does a snowflake have?
- 16) Which Disney film is the highest-grossing animated musical film of all time?
- 17) Which animals are also known as caribou in North America?
- 18) In the harsh winter of 1962-63 in the UK, it snowed for 71 consecutive days - true or false?
- 19) In which of Shakespeare's plays does the line - "Now is the winter of our discontent" appear?
- 20) In which city would you find Wenceslas Square?

Answers to 'Summer Fun' the Summer Quiz 2017

- 1) Billy Idol
- 2) Olivia Newton-John and John Travolta
- 3) Abba
- 4) Paul Weller
- 5) Bananarama
- 6) 1958
- 7) In the Summertime
- 8) 2012
- 9) Here Comes Summer
- 10) Don Henley
- 11) The Isley Brothers
- 12) Nat 'King' Cole.
- 13) Troyal Garth Brooks
- 14) Van Morrison.
- 15) Brian Wilson.

Thank you for all your entries. Congratulations to Nicky Thurgood, Swan Mead who wins the 'rollover' amount of **£20.00**.

Please post your entries for the **'Winter Warmers' Quiz** to the Parish Clerk or alternatively email your entry to: clerk@nashmillsparishcouncil.gov.uk by the **28th February 2018**. The winning entry (drawn at random) with all 20 correct answers will win £10.00.

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News From ST Mary's Church, Apsley



Many thanks to all those who came along to our Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 18th November. The event was the most successful event we had held for many years, with over 450 people coming to it, enjoying what was on offer. Indeed, looking at all the items that were on offer before it started I was quite concerned as to what was going to be left! My concern was short lived as by the end of the morning over £3,778 had been raised and the event itself had brought the people of Apsley and Nash Mills together in a real community spirit - and most of the items on sale had been bought.

We now turn our attention to the Angel Festival which will be held from Saturday 9th to Sunday 10th December. This event will be supported by many of our local businesses, schools and organisations. It will be open between 10am -6pm on the Saturday and 12pm - 6pm on the Sunday with a Carol Bash & Hymn-a-Thon being held at 3pm. Although there will be no entrance charge any

money raised at the event will be going to the Billy's Wish Fund.

On Sunday the 3rd December we will be starting a new church year when we enter the season of Advent, a time of preparation to celebrate the coming of Jesus over 2017 years ago. It is indeed a very busy time for all of our church members as we go out into the local community with seasonal greetings. The first of such events takes place on Tuesday 12th December with a visit to Florence Longman House for an evening of seasonal entertainment. This is followed on the next Tuesday with a visit to the Water Mill House Care Home in Nash Mills where we will join the residents with some carol singing. We also will be singing carols outside Sainsbury's in Apsley on Friday 15th December in aid of DENS. This year we will be holding our Christingle service on Christmas Eve at 3.30pm, as well as our normal Christmas services.

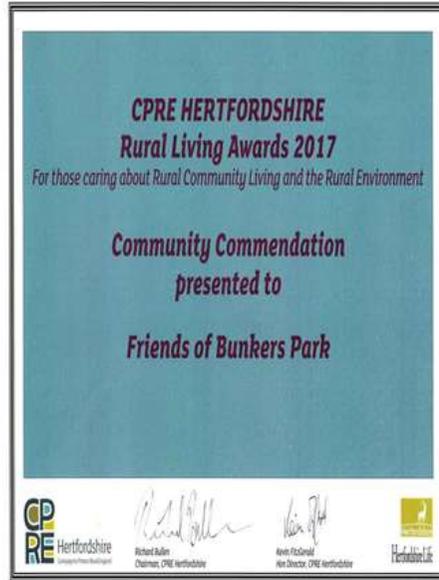
More details concerning all services and events across our Benefice can be found on our web site which is www.beneficeoflangelei.org.uk

Meanwhile, from us all at St Mary's, we wish you a peaceful Christmas season and a very Happy New Year, and don't forget to listen for the church bells as they welcome in 2018 at midnight on the 31st!!



Peter Bladon

FRIENDS OF BUNKERS PARK - AWARDED RURAL COMMUNITY COMMENDATION 2017



Bunkers Park was initially planted with mixed woodland in 1997 by Dacorum Borough Council and local volunteers including schools groups.

Whilst a friends group was started then, membership waned until Nash Mills Parish Council and members of Dacorum Borough Council (DBC) woodlands team reinvigorated it in October 2009.

After this first meeting to discuss survey results, about 60 people wanted to be part of the group, with 15 of those willing and able to take part in regular working parties to help manage the woodland.

This initial interest has expanded to include members from Leverstock Green Village Association, an area which also forms a boundary with the park.

The Friends of Bunkers Park (FoBP) volunteers have been active ever since 2009 and won the DBC community volunteer group award in 2014. In 2015/16 Bunkers Park gained Green Flag status which was renewed in 2017 with comments that it was a hidden gem in this part of Hertfordshire.

Also, in 2017 the group was awarded the Rural Community Commendation from the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) with comment that "the plan for Bunkers Park to provide diversity of habitat was evident all around" and "all praise to the FoBP for making this such a happy and truly environment-friendly place".

The result is very much a partnership between the Dacorum Trees and Woodland team and Nash Mills Parish Council, together with help from the Leverstock Green Village Association to support the work of the group.

We aim to be around to see the Park develop over the next 20 years into mature woodland and fulfil the original plan for the area.

Geoff Doole, FoBP Coordinator

Merry Christmas



HAVE YOURSELF A GREEN CHRISTMAS



Christmas may be the season to be jolly, but it's also the least eco-friendly time of year, with an extra 30 per cent of waste created each festive season! But you don't need to be a Grinch to have a Green Christmas, with our top tips to help you 'reduce, reuse and recycle', you can enjoy the festive season, and spoil yourself and your loved ones without spoiling the planet.

Sensible Shopping

Last-minute Christmas shopping can be stressful, with poorly picked presents likely to be thrown away. Plan ahead to make sure you select the perfect gifts for your loved ones. Choose presents with durability so that they can be enjoyed again and again, not forgotten after five minutes. Also, don't forget to take your reusable shopping bags out with you!

Green Gift Ideas

- Go reusable - Reusable bottles, coffee cups and lunch boxes make excellent presents. They can be used all year long and can save your loved one money, as well as helping to save the environment!
- The gift of time – Create some memories together and give your loved one a ticket to a show, event, dinner or a getaway instead of an item they might not use.
- Get thrifty - Second hand stores can be gold-mines for finding the perfect present, and can be much cheaper too!
- Get crafty – Can anything beat a gift that has been lovingly hand-made?

That's a wrap

Over 8000 tonnes of wrapping paper is used in the UK each Christmas – that's enough to wrap around the equator nine times!

- Give presents in reusable gift boxes, bags or cloth instead of using gift-wrap (this helps save you from all those evenings of last minute gift-wrapping as well)!
- If you do buy gift-wrap and send cards, choose paper that is made of recycled materials and with no glitter so that it can be recycled afterwards.

- Each year, one billion festive cards go to landfill which could have been recycled!
- Send e-greetings instead through social media and email.
- Reuse decorations you already have, buy second-hand instead of new, or even make your own with friends and family – which will make Christmas extra special!

Festive Feasts

Don't end up with food leftovers after the festive period is over. Design a meal plan and then write a list of the ingredients so that you only buy what you need. For tips on planning perfect portions, correct storage or how to love your leftovers visit: www.lovefoodhatewaste.com

Tis the season to recycle...

- On the big day, be prepared, have a recycling bag at the ready when it is time to swap presents for any gift-wrap or recyclable packaging
- Make sure all of your guests know which one is the recycling bin and what can go in it! Show them our handy Festive Recycling Guide
- Recycle all food waste in your caddies, not your grey bin. This includes cooked or raw vegetables, bones and skins, plate scrapings, tea-bags, egg shells, etc. Top tip: You can line your kitchen caddy with any soft plastic bag, compostable liner or newspaper.

Festive Recycling Guide

In your blue-lidded bin you can recycle:

- Condiment jars (rinsed out)
- Sweet tins and biscuit tubs and trays
- Aluminium foil sweet wrappers, mince pie cases and trays (try and recycle aluminium foil in a tennis-ball sized lump if possible)
- Food, drink and aerosol cans (empty)
- Cartons (such as Tetra Pak)
- Plastic and glass bottles
- Wrapping paper and greetings cards (without glitter or 3D decorations)
- Cardboard packaging

Christmas Tree Recycling

Bring your real Christmas tree to one of our Christmas tree chipping points on Sunday 7 January 2018 so it can be turned into plant bedding:

Berkhamsted: Water Lane Car Park (behind Tesco Store), HP4 3AP between 9.30am – 4pm, or Hemel Hempstead: Cupid Green Depot, Redbourn Road, HP2 7BA between 9.30am – 4pm. Alternatively, visit Tring Garden Centre HP23 5HF between 10.30am – 4.30pm.

(This is a drop-off point. Chippings can be collected from here on Monday the 8th January between 9.30am – 12.30pm)

Chippings make great weed preventative, bring a bag if you want to keep yours!

Protect your money - Telephone Scams



Fraudsters often try to trick older people out of their money by telephoning them at home and pretending to be someone trustworthy. They use well-rehearsed stories, designed to gain their victim's trust, for example pretending to be police officers who have just arrested someone using a copy of your bank card and alerting you that your money is in danger, or pretending to be from your phone or computer service provider and claiming that there is a problem with your system that they need to fix.

Fraudsters often claim to be officials and can seem very genuine, but you should always bear in mind that callers may not be who they claim to be, even if they already seem to know details such as your name and address.

Genuine police or bank staff would never ask you to withdraw or transfer cash from your account, nor would they ever ask for your four digit bank PIN number. Never tell anyone this number, it is for you to use in cash machines and shops only.

Genuine computer firms will not call unexpectedly to help fix your computer. Fraudsters make these calls to try to gain access to your

online bank account or to trick you into paying for something you didn't need or to damage your computer with harmful software.



The most common type of fraud affecting Hertfordshire's older residents is "advance fee" fraud, where fraudsters persuade victims to make advance or upfront payments for goods or financial gains that do not then materialize.

Beware of anyone asking for money in advance. For example, fraudsters may claim that you are entitled to PPI compensation or that you are to inherit money from a relative, but you need to pay legal or administrative fees first. Genuine firms don't ask for this, it is likely to be a scam. If you've already been a fraud victim, beware that fraudsters may pretend to be lawyers or police claiming they can help recover your money. Be sceptical of callers, even those who claim to be officials. Don't be afraid to put the phone down with a brief 'No, thank you'. NEVER give personal information, such as your date of birth or bank details, to unexpected callers.

NEVER allow an unexpected caller to talk you through processes on your computer, like downloading new software or accessing your online bank account. Remember that the police or your bank would NEVER unexpectedly call you and ask you to withdraw cash or move your money to another account, as a result of fraud or any other reason. If callers suggest you call your local police or bank to check who they are, use another phone or ensure the line has been fully disconnected by phoning a friend or relative first, or by waiting at least 3 minutes, otherwise you may think you've phoned a number, but you're simply talking to the fraudsters again. This is a common fraudsters' tactic. If a caller asks you to type your bank PIN number into your telephone handset - do not do this, as fraudsters can use technology to identify the numbers. You can opt out of many cold calls by registering for free with the Telephone Preference Service on **0845 070 0707**.

Useful Numbers

Abandoned vehicles 01442 228000
Affinity (water) 0845 7823333
Age UK Dacorum 01442 259049
Benefit Enquiries 01442 228000
Boxmoor Trust 01442 253300
Citizens Advice Bureau 08448 731303
Community Action Dacorum 01442 253935
Council Tax 01442 867860
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Dog Warden 01442 228000
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Hemel Hempstead General Hospital 01442 213141
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Housing and Council Tax 01442 228000
Housing Repairs 01442 228000
Housing Services 01442 228000
Job Centre 0845 6043719
Minicom 01442 228656
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Pest Control 01442 228000
Pollution 01442 228000
Police Emergency 999
Police non-emergency 101
Potholes 0300 123 4047
Recruitment (DBC) 01442 228000
Shopmobility 01442 259259
Sportspace 01442 507100
The Centre in The Park 01442 262746
Waste Services 01442 228000

Nash Mills Parish Council



PARISH MAGAZINE

**Edition 118
WINTER 2017**