

## Parish News - Autumn 2013

### HELLO AGAIN

**A**s late Autumn, with its short days, heralds the oncoming winter months this edition covers some important news on HS2 and our Neighbourhood Plan as well as an update on Birmingham Airport's activities; please do take particular note of Solihull Council's Winter Warmth Campaign ('Keep warm, keep well') as there may be some villagers who may

need to be made aware of this important service – the long-term forecast is that we may be in for some severe winter weather! Thank you and please read on...



### OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

**T**he views and opinions of everyone living in the Parish are vitally important and will be used in the preparation of our draft Neighbourhood Plan.

A **questionnaire**, which all households will shortly be asked to complete, is now with the printers and will soon be delivered to you with businesses being asked to complete a separate questionnaire.

A draft plan will then be prepared which will be subjected to a **major public consultation exercise** before being submitted to Solihull Borough Council for their consideration – the way in which our village, and its immediate environs, develops over the next 15 years or so will be greatly affected by this Plan – so please take it seriously and complete the questionnaire when it arrives on your doorstep – and **THANKYOU**.

### HIGH SPEED RAIL 2 – important information on property compensation

**The current Government position is:**

- HS2 Hybrid Bill to Parliament on 25 November 2013
- Lords submission in 2014

We shall know, shortly, if our requests for environmental/route mitigations has been successful.

**Property consultation re-run – 4th December 2013**

- please respond to the various **option details**
- these can be viewed on HS2/Dft website – [www.gov.uk/dft](http://www.gov.uk/dft) or

in the Parish Office (am only)

- options include:
  - the **possibility** of widening the compensation zone to 120 metres from the track
  - a Property Bond or Voluntary Purchase Scheme (not both) Your Parish Council will be pressing for **fair compensation** so that no individual/family suffer financial loss due to an inability to sell their home because of HS2.

### BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT – current activity

**Runway extension** - this is on target to be operational by Spring 2014 with the final resurfacing of the full length of the runway now taking place.

**Night Closures** - the runway will be closed to both arriving and departing aircraft between 5 November 2013 to 5 April 2014 but some plant and vehicles will be working at night during this period.

**long-term vision for UK aviation** - Birmingham Airport has submitted their vision as requested by the 'Davies Airport Commission'; this is a vision and not a plan and any outcome will depend on the Government's response to the interim report to be

published by Sir Howard Davies in December 2013 (this is on the future of ALL major UK airports)

**Airspace changes** - Birmingham Airport (BA) have submitted their preferred proposal (Option 5) to the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) who will also be reporting next month on their decision; BA have stated that "the new centerline avoids the village of Barston and flies mostly over open countryside avoiding the most populated areas including Hampton-in-Arden and Balsall Common"; your Parish Council (with the support of many aviation experts) favoured what became known as 'Option 6a' (these flight path changes would bypass all local villages!)

### SUPPORT YOUR VILLAGE SHOPS AND BUSINESSES

**T**he prolonged road works, enabling replacement of the village water main, has had an adverse affect on both our shops and businesses. Proprietors, who work continuously to establish good villager relationships, have found that 'customer footfall' has plummeted and has not yet returned to its previous levels.

If you are out of the habit of shopping in the village, whilst parking has been difficult, do please consider revisiting these outlets now that parking has eased somewhat. The Church are very willing for the Church Hall car park to be use.

*Hampton-in-Arden Parish Council*

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## THE SPINNEY

**Your Parish Council has owned the Spinney, which runs alongside the Recreation Ground, since 1963.**

In 1992 the **Conservation Group** was formed within Hampton-in-Arden Society, accepting responsibility to maintain it for use by the Village - its popularity has been greatly enhanced by:

- the development of young woodland
- a wild flower meadow, and
- an extensive arboretum

The Conservation Group will be meeting fortnightly during the forthcoming winter months on alternate Wednesdays on the Recreation Ground Car Park so why not come along and help as

we are always in need of willing volunteers – **you will be most welcome!**

All you will need is a pair of strong gloves – the forthcoming working party dates are:

- November 20th
- December 4th
- December 18th 2013

We very much look forward to seeing you (David Grimshaw will be looking out for you) and **THANKYOU.**



## SOLIHULL NEIGHBOURHOODS IN BLOOM

**The Parish Council entered this competition in July in their 'Village' category and, in September, both your Council Chair and your Editor (an ardent supporter of this new competition) received the news that we had been named as the 'Best Village in Solihull'**

- **What did we win?**

- a framed Certificate, and
- £100 worth of vouchers to be spent, on your behalf, on an item yet to be decided

A big thankyou to all of you who contribute in making this village such a wonderful

place in which to live (eg Hampton Society, Conservation Group, George Fentham Trust, the Church, School, Sports Club, Scouts/ Guides, the Surgery, the Organ Society, all shops amongst many others) a grand win.  
– **WELL DONE TO YOU ALL...**

## WINTER WARMTH CAMPAIGN – ('Keep Warm, Keep Well')

**Solihull Council has again set up a special helpline (within their Solihull Partnership scheme) for anyone who may need urgent help this winter – the number is 0121 704 8080 and advisors are available from Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm to provide information and advice to vulnerable residents who may need help in such areas as:**

- emergency heater help (in the event of a central heating system breakdown)
- finding a tradesman for emergency repairs
- debt advice and assistance to pay bills
- provision of an electric blanket
- warm clothing
- emergency food supplies

You may need to access this service yourself or know of a villager who may benefit from this welcome service.

## HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN SPORTS CLUB – (Recreation ground, Shadowbrook Lane)

**This long established Club (its roots go back to the 1890's) provides an extensive range of sporting and social activities for young and old alike; over recent years, within a redesigned complex, the club provides sports within:**

- modern tennis courts
- two boules pitches
- cricket pitch
- a dedicated coaching service
- an all weather hockey pitch

- social activities (via a clubhouse incorporating a bar, lounge, changing rooms/showers)
- squash courts

In future Newsletter editions we will provide detail of individual sports with contact detail of their secretaries – have a look around when you are using the **outdoor gym!**

## YOUNGER PEOPLE – (The 'Skylark' bus)

**This is open for business as follows:**

- Skylark youth club juniors (school years, 4,5,6) – Wednesday evenings. (6 - 7.45pm)
- Seniors (school years 7 and upwards) – Wednesday evenings. (7.45 – 9pm)

There is also a Saturday morning drop in for parents and children (for tea, coffee, hot chocolate and a chat) **more helpers are needed** (for more information please contact Mary Charlton on [mcharlton@doctors.org.uk](mailto:mcharlton@doctors.org.uk))

## REMEMBRANCE DAY – Sunday 10 Nov 2013

**For the seventh year in succession, village roads were closed to allow an appropriate Church Service to again take place in a calm and respectful manner.**

Our thanks go to all those involved in its organization and operation, including the Police and members of our Church.



## PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

**Following the resignation of one of our Councillors a vacancy exists on the Parish Council which we shall be filling by co-option.**

If you have the commitment and time to become involved in shaping our village for future generations why not consider applying? For detail of our work visit our website:

[www.hamptoninarden.org.uk](http://www.hamptoninarden.org.uk); if you are interested please make your submission, in writing (one side of A4 sheet), by **Friday 29 November 2013** including:

- a brief personal and job experience history
- reasons for your application including your commitment and time availability

## SPEAK TO YOU IN THE WINTER

Grateful thanks to all our contributors – with very best wishes for both Christmas and the New Year from all here at the Parish Council (Councillors and our Parish Clerk, Julie Richardson)