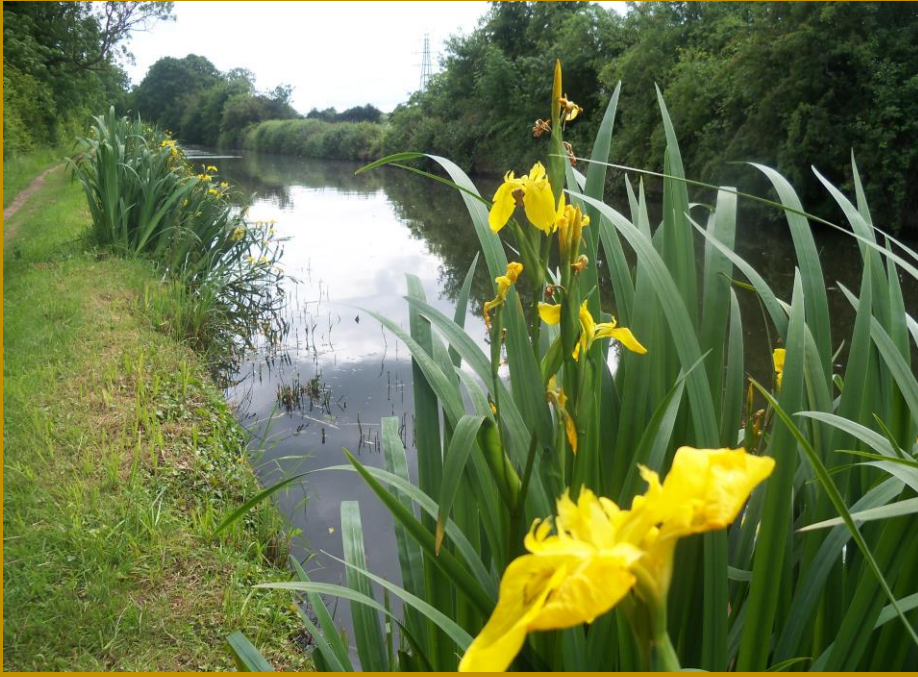


APRIL 2025



CATNEY NEWS

CONTACTS

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secretary@catney.co.uk 0776 8502039.

Residents Association X account:

@CatneyResAssoc and the Website of the Residents Association www.catney.co.uk

Catney News: Please send all articles to Christine Cluley, Editor, by the 20th of the month.

chris.cluley1@gmail.com.

Village Hall Bookings: Steve Dodsworth on 07443 505388 or bookings@catneyvillagehall.co.uk



Catney Residents Association





Residents Association News

Firstly we wish all our members a very Happy Easter- let's hope we get a little sunshine

Planning News

PL2024/00037/PPOL Land north of Lugtrout Lane

We understand this application is due go before the Planning Committee on Wednesday 2nd April. There is some confusion over the number of homes on the site - the wording states 50 but the plans show 46 so that has to be resolved before the 2nd. With the introduction of Grey belt within Green belt and the fact that the site had been allocated in the now defunct Draft Local Plan, we believe the application will be approved. The land is not highly performing in terms of meeting the 4 main purposes of green belt and hence will have a low rating in terms of green belt performance.

.PL2024/02987/PPRM all matters except access relating to building 85 dwellings on Oak Farm

This scheme is still awaiting a decision, at the time of writing the urban design team within SMBC had requested further information on a number of matters concerned with the overall layout of the site.

2025/00113/Var Heath Farm 26 Henwood Lane retrospective application for variations in design to those previously approved under ref PL 2023/01507/PNCUDW.

The current design is totally different from that approved - as is the unconventional internal floor layout

Airport News

No news this month

Village Hall Update

No news this month

Pot holes /Drainage issues/ Faulty Street Lighting/ Fly tipping

If you see issues with any of these - please send details to the PC clerk at clerk@hamptoninarden.org.uk - we find things get attended to quicker that way. If you can send a picture so much the better but please provide details of its location.

Village Traffic Calming

At the time of writing the scheme seems to be almost complete- still awaiting a few signs and removal of some cones. Residents of Lugtrout Lane, who attended the recent AGM, indicated that they thought the level of traffic using the lane had decreased which if it continues would be a positive result.

Residents Association AGM held in the Village Hall on the 11th March

Unfortunately, the attendance was well down on previous years but those who attended contributed to a lively meeting followed by drinks and nibbles. The minutes of the meeting will be available for viewing on the website www.catney.co.uk. No new nominations were received for the Committee, so the current Committee stands for a further year.

Residents Association Committee Meetings

Generally, Committee meetings are now held on the first Tuesday in the month, the next one is 1st April. Any resident wishing to raise any issue with the Committee, can do so, at least 48 hours before the meeting, by contacting secretary@catney.co.uk. Any items of importance discussed at the meetings or decisions made, are communicated to members via Catney News, which is distributed to members only. Non-members are able to view it on our website the following month.

Quiz Night held on 22nd February in the Village Hall

This event was very well attended with over 60 people enjoying 10 rounds of questions, fish and chip supper, raffle and a licensed bar. The evening raised over £200 for RA funds and there is talk of maybe another quiz later on in the year. Thanks to all those who attended; helped organize it and donated raffle prizes.

Ring and Ride

We'd like to remind members that this service is available to residents of CdeB- further information is available by phoning 0330 053 8141 or from ringandrider.org

Parish Council

Hampton Parish Annual Meeting- Fentham Hall, Marsh Lane

Drinks from 7.pm with the meeting starting at 7.30pm. This is very similar to an AGM but without any voting for Councillor positions. It will largely be a Q&A session based on events etc., that occurred during the past 12 months. Reports will be posted on the website and emailed to residents prior to the meeting.

All residents are welcome and encouraged to attend

Next Hampton in Arden Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting on Wednesday 14th May in the Meeting Room in Marsh Lane, adjacent to the Soho Tavern, starting at 7.30pm. If you have any issues you wish to raise, please make the Clerk, Julie Barnes, aware that you would like to speak, with a brief description of the issue, at least 2 working days prior to the meeting. Julie can be contacted at clerk@hamptoninardenparish.gov.uk or phone 01675 442017

Residents are welcome and encouraged to attend

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 1st April - Residents Association Committee Meeting

Tuesday 29th April Hampton Parish Annual Meeting

Wednesday 14th May Hampton Parish Council Meeting



WELCOME PACK FOR NEW RESIDENTS

If anyone has a new neighbour; knows of a new resident to the village or is in the process of moving, I would very much appreciate it if you could let me know the address of the new resident so that I can deliver a Welcome Pack to them. The Welcome Pack contains information of the village amenities, useful telephone numbers and of course information about the Residents Association and the many things we do. Please email me at cuthbertlm@me.com or text/telephone me on 07776 480813 with the address of the new resident. Thank you.

Lesley Cuthbert

Catherine de Barnes Past and Present

If anyone would like to learn more about the area we are so lucky to live in, for £5 you can purchase a book which was co-authored by our Residents Association founder and first Chairman Pete Peters entitled Catherine de Barnes Past and Present. Money from the purchase of these books goes to the Village Hall fund. If anyone would like a copy, please contact me, Lesley Cuthbert on 07776 480813 or cuthbertlm@me.com

Kim Rawson is still collecting supplies for Ukraine (ongoing, indefinitely). If you have anything to donate (including cash - which is specifically for the buying of cars to transport supplies plus fuel for the cars to travel across Europe), contact him on kim.rawson@btinternet.com or 07527540529.

Kim is the organist at Hampton church and at Balsall Common church

Thank you.

List of Supplies Useful for Ukraine

Adult Nappies / (Old) Android Tablets / Battery Operated Tools

Candles (new or used) / Crutches / Gloves (Men's) (not mittens)

CASH / Hand Sanitiser / Medication (in or out of date) ...

Cold/Flu relief sachets/capsules / Heat Gel / Cough med.

Paracetamol / Ibuprofen / Hand/feet warming pads

Men's Socks, T-shirts / Multi-Tool Pocket Knives / Powerbanks Shoe insoles /

Sleeping Bags / Thermal Underwear Toiletries: Razors / Shaving foam/gel /

Toothbrushes / Toothpaste/Torches (Recyclable) / Vests (Men's) / Walkers /

Washing Capsules

Wet Wipes (not baby) / Wheelchairs / Yoga Mats

**"There is no glory in star or blossom till looked upon by a loving eye; There is no fragrance in April breezes till breathed with joy as they wander by."
- William Cullen Bryant**

Try Canoeing with Solihull Canoe Club!

Looking for a fun way to get active and enjoy the water? **Solihull Canoe Club**, based in Catherine-de-Barnes, is running **Beginners' Taster Sessions on the first Saturday of each month throughout spring and summer.**

Whether you're completely new to canoeing or just want to give it a go, our friendly club members will help you get started in a safe and welcoming environment. Sessions cost **£10 per person**, and all equipment is provided.

To book a place or find out more, **please contact Geoff Barber** at **Solihullccinfo@gmail.com**

Come and paddle with us—we'd love to see you on the water!



A series of Tuesday evening Supper Concerts on your doorstep at

ROGER'S – THE MUSIC CLUB WITH A DIFFERENCE

The Arden Room, Fentham Hall, Hampton in Arden. 7.30 pm – 10 pm

Dear Music Lovers

I am grateful for your continuing support and have a full programme set out for 2025 featuring much of the same variety of music as we have heard over the last 12 months. All concerts are on the third Tuesday of the month.

Tickets are usually £20 to include a light supper and tea and coffee. A full bar is normally available. Limited tickets so reservations essential. Contact Roger on 07599 002275 or email rogernwaring@aol.com for full details and to book your table. Singles are welcome.

April 15th – Richard Leach's Street Band – Good solid traditional jazz from a very popular six piece Midland band.

May 20th – Pianist Martin Litton presents a tribute to the great Fats Waller. Full supporting orchestra. A special treat.

Best wishes

Roger

A gush of bird-song, a patter of dew. A cloud, and a rainbow's warning. Suddenly sunshine and perfect blue. An April day in the morning.

Catney Bluebell Wood

Some of you may not be aware that Catney has its own bluebell wood. To find it, go to the Common and go into the wood through the gate at the end of path, follow the path through the wood and just before the next gate, the bluebell wood is on the right. For those newcomers to the village who have not yet found our Common, take the left turn into Bickenhill Lane after going over the canal bridge and the common is after the houses on the left. Early in the year the wood is covered in brown leaf litter, but during this month the bluebell leaves are coming through turning the earth into a lush green. The bluebells will be coming out from mid-April and will last well into May. Please remember, although beautiful, bluebells are poisonous.



Views of the wood in April and May last year

Some of you may have heard that our native species might be outgrown by 'Spanish Bluebell', I can be reassuring that all of ours are native English bluebells. If you want to check, look out for the following features:

- 1 Colour – the Spanish one is only ever a pale blue, the English variety come in all shades of blue as well as white, purple and pink.
- 2 English leaves are narrow
- 3 English petals always curl up
- 4 English ones are supposed to have a scent, but that can be difficult to check!
- 5 The easiest way to tell the difference without even getting close is that the English ones 'nod'. As the flowers grow up one side of the stem, the weight of the flowers makes the tip of the stem 'tip over'. The Spanish ones have flowers all around the stem and the stems stand upright.

Those in the photograph below show all the features of English bluebells.



I hope many of you will get outside and enjoy our local environment and appreciate how lucky we are to live in the country.

Liz Boxall





Hampton – in -Arden Gardening Club meets monthly in the Church Hall, High Street, Hampton.

We are welcoming new members!

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 16th of April, 7.20 p.m. in the Church Hall. It's promising to be an interesting talk on "The English and Gardening." Danny Wells will talk about our obsession with gardens, going back through the "20 th century to Victorian times.

Expect Vintage and nostalgia!

For more information about the club and events this year, do follow us on Instagram. [hamptoninarden_gardeningclub](https://www.instagram.com/hamptoninarden_gardeningclub)

Message us via Instagram or emailhiagcmembers@gmail.com



New members are always welcome, paying £5 for a visit, deductible from the annual membership fee on joining. Happy Growing!

We have included the minutes from the talk given at our March meeting below.



Hampton Gardening Club Meeting, Wednesday 19th March, in Hampton Church Hall

Lucy Hartley, Garden Designer and Wildlife enthusiast came to talk on 'Not just my garden but nurturing a shared ecosystem' (see photo)

'Nurturing a garden is one of the most important things we can do as a person' Darryl Moore.

Lucy illustrated the difference that individuals can make, using photos of her own garden and of gardens she has worked on. By caring for a patch of garden, the individual, as a Keystone species can drive diversity which encourages sustainability throughout the shared ecosystem.

For example, leaving lavender seedheads will feed finches, different lengths of grass will support a rich variety of insects to feed butterflies and moths. Insects in Spring are attracted to pale pink, white and yellow flowers (native species colours) and an apple tree will support 93 different species. Even lichens and mosses are valuable for their photosynthesis. We are familiar with the role of plants in feeding insects, which feed birds etc. through the food chain, but rotting vegetation also contributes to micro-organisms which enrich the soil. Nature needs diversity to thrive and find a balance and that balance is dynamic, always moving.

Aphids are food for blue tits and other species and if left, rather than chemically sprayed, will ultimately be eaten by some creature. Using a chemical spray is not selective and can remove helpful insects which predate others. There has been positive research which demonstrates the method of establishing a natural balance brings better results, but it can take time (and sometimes mean a tolerance of mess)

Caterpillars need specific food plants which is why it is important to allow a diversity of weeds/wildflowers somewhere in the garden. Brownfield Gardening is a movement which encourages mixed and self-seeded planting on vacant sites where plants such as Vipers Bugloss, Ox-eye daisies, Garlic mustard, Self-heal flourish. This can also work in parts of the garden. We looked at the soil web and how nitrogen fixing bacteria and mycorrhizal fungi support soil, which is rich in organisms and takes a very long time to develop. Moving quickly over Slime mould and Tardigrades (!) we looked at 3 types of worms and their importance in bringing leaves etc down into soil. So, leave your leaves and keep clippings and material produced by the garden, in the garden, as it is all a resource. Piles of dead wood and dead hedges are brilliant, as are gabion habitats for all insect life; 1700 species rely on dead wood.

There was interesting advice on cutting the tops off weeds with fibrous roots, rather than digging them out, so the roots benefit the soil (We liked that idea) The same applies to water; keep a natural balance in ponds to maintain microorganisms in water.

Lucy showed us a new viewpoint on our gardens; a complete ecosystem of creatures to cherish and encourage and recommended books and websites e.g : The Garden Jungle: Dave Goulson, The Secret Network of Nature: Peter Wohlleben, Plantlife.org.uk, Butterfly Conservation The Warwickshire Approach: M Slater and K. Warmington, The Living Garden: Geoff Hamilton.

It was an excellent talk which gave us much to think about. She also recommended 'Open Gardens for Wildlife in Wellesbourne, 31 May and 1st June'. As usual, there was an attractive table of plants for members to take and a Spring display (Thank you Audrey)

The Gardening club is seeking new members and welcomes visitors for £5 per night. Please contact April Worthington (01675 442393) for more information. Or follow us on Instagram: hamptoninarden_gardeningclub or email: hiagcmembers@gmail.com



**Sparrow Hawk photo
courtesy of Lucy**

Catherine de Barnes Residents' Association Membership 2025

Our sincere thanks to everyone who has already renewed their membership, or joined for the first time, and for your many very generous contributions. 165 households have joined at the time of writing, which is encouraging, but we would love to reach our goal of 200 this year. With this level of support, we can both reach and represent about half of the households in the village.

Remember that only members will receive the Catney News or be on our lists for other local information by email. And also, all who join by the first of May will be entered in to our prize draw!

To join, simply put your details (name, address and e mail) on the form below or even a slip of paper and hand it in at 9 Oakfield's Way or 97 Hampton Lane, with your subs. (£3 for individuals, £5 for couples)

Or you can pay online:

Bank Sort code: 30-97-78

Account No: 01989267 Catherine-de-Barnes Residents Association

Please put your house number and road name with the payment.

Everyone who has joined should have received a membership card as a receipt so please get in touch if you haven't had one.

Thank you for your support!

Frances Cook (secretary@catney.co.uk) (07768 502039)

How to Pay:

If you can pay by bank transfer, the numbers you need are:

Catherine de Barnes Residents' Association

Sort code: 30-97-78 (Lloyd's Bank) Account No: 01989267

Please put your house number and road name with the payment.

Name(s).....

Address

Telephone No:.....

E mail

Amount enclosed: £

We like to have as many e mail addresses as possible on our data-base so we can keep you informed on items of local interest and ask for your opinions when appropriate. These details will be used for Association business only and will not be passed on to any third parties. We will also send you the colourful digital version of the Catney News (unless you request a paper copy) as this saves on paper, printing costs and delivery time.