

JUNE 2025



CATNEY NEWS

CONTACTS

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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





Residents Association News

Planning News

PL/2025/00547/MAJFDW Outline planning for the demolition of Mell Square site and full planning application for redevelopment of Phase 1.

Of interest may be the plans to redevelopment the site adjacent to Morrisons car park . In brief the development consists of 1 block 13 m high the other 3 a t 9-10m. The blocks contain 346 apartments of various sizes, with parking provision for only 60 cars, (1 disabled space) and 120 cycle racks. Although the official response date has passed you are still able to comment and we encourage you to do so Stakeholder responses to the application can be viewed using the following link Simple Search and entering 0547 in the Keyword box.

The pictures below show what the views will be from Warwick Road (Morrisons next door) and Drury Lane -- quite a change !!!

Phase 1 – from Warwick Road



Phase 1 – from Drury Gardens



Figure 3.1: Masterplan Parameter Plan 03 – Proposed Phasing & Block Plan (ref: 17500-HWS-ZZ-ZZ-D-A-05003 P01.4)

This will be the only opportunity you have to comment on Phase 1 of the redevelopment.

PL2024/00037/PPOL Land off Lugtrout Lane – Outline application for up to 50 homes – Approved 1st May

There has been a considerable amount of local interest in the building works associated with the site at 26 Henwood Lane and for the record the current situation is outlined below.

PL2025/0113/VAR Heath Farm

External alterations to previously approved Class Q prior approval consent

PL/2023/01507/PNCUDW.- Dwelling

This application was refused on the 24th April .We understand a further application has been lodged but as yet has not been validated so details are not yet available

PL/2024/01198/PPFL Heath Farm

Replacement 9 bedroom dwelling and associated landscaping.

This application was refused on 18th September 2024

PL/2025/00164/PPFL Heath Farm

Replacement of existing extended bungalow with a detached two storey dwelling.

This application is currently under review by Planning

Motorway Service Area (MSA): A Reserved Matters planning application still needs to be submitted to SMBC and is expected during the summer.

Airport News

Our airport representative attended the second meeting of the newly formed Airport Noise Group whose role is to discuss/ review the various issues relating to both day and night time noise levels evolving from the operations of the airport.

Currently under discussion is the possible reduction of the day time noise limit, the potential for a further reduction in night time noise levels, and how and when these may be achieved. The group is made up of representatives from other communities around the airport and Airport Sustainability personnel, and is a Sub Committee of the Airport Consultative Committee .

Village Hall

We will shortly be obtaining quotes for roof repairs which were identified in a recent survey which has been paid for by funds from the Parish Council Community Infrastructure Levy Fund. Work to renovate the exterior wall of the outbuilding nearest the kitchen where many of the bricks have blown which need sealing and repainting. Estimates are also being obtained for any necessary exterior/interior hall decoration.

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.

Residents Association Committee Meetings

Generally, Committee meetings are now held on the first Tuesday in the month, the next one is 3rd June. 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.

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 ringandride.org

Parish Council

Next Hampton in Arden Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting on Wednesday 16th July 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

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 in which we are so lucky to live, 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

Catney Christmas Craft Fair November 29th 2025,

11.00a.m. to 3.00p.m.

Catherine de Barnes Village Hall

The Catney Christmas Craft Fair is now an annual event and will always take place on the last Saturday in November, so put this date in your dairies. These events are hard work but are generally enjoyed as a village social event, which brings in quite a few visitors, and raises funds for the village hall. Many people come in for a browse, a chat and tea and homemade cakes.

Once again, we are looking for local people with talents of all sorts to rent tables to sell their wares. I am aware that there are people who are new to the village, and I am hoping that there may be some with crafting talents who would like to exhibit and sell their products. In the past we have had tables selling fused and stained glass, fabric and knitted items, cosmetics, cards, scented candles, recycled wood items, pottery, jewellery, art work, wreaths and a wide variety of items including Christmas decorations and homemade jams and preserves made by members of the Catney Craft Club.

As the space in the village hall is limited, please indicate your interest in renting a table before the end of August as tables will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Tables are £15 for a large one [6foot] or £10 for a small one [3foot] Those who wish to rent a table please contact Liz Boxall on 0121 705 7531, Text to 07939 073416 or email at liz@boxall.info





Views of previous fairs

CELEBRATORY ANNOUNCEMENTS

As you know I have made a few announcements in the Catney News recently of the sad passing of some of our Residents. It would be lovely to be able to also announce your happy occasions, e.g. births, special birthdays, marriage, special anniversaries, graduations etc. If anyone would like to make a special announcement of any kind in the CN please email me cuthbertlm@me.com or contact me by phone 07776 480813, alternatively you can contact our Editor Chris Cluley direct, her contact details are on the front page of every CN.

Lesley Cuthbert

Vicious Vegetables and Ferocious Fruit!

Meeting of Hampton Gardening Club 21st May 2025

Dr Alison Foster qualified as a chemist before retraining in horticulture., working at Birmingham Botanic Gardens and Oxford Botanic Gardens. She has also lectured in Botany at the University of Kent and now works as a free lance horticulturist combining her background as a chemist with her passion for plants.

Alison came to talk about the ways in which plants defend themselves against predators, remembering that humans are an apex predator. We distinguished the differences between, fruit, vegetable, nut and seed. Plants need to disperse their seed to reproduce and have developed strategies to protect this process. Plants can put up physical defences such as thorns or scratchy stems, but they also have developed specialised metabolites for this purpose, apart from those metabolites involved in their growth, development and reproduction. For example, onions produce a chemical which makes our eyes stream when the onions' cells are invaded; also, sap from the leaves of Giant Hogweed, parsnip leaves (usually late growth) and Angelica, can cause skin blisters. Euphorbias also produce blisters or a rash on skin when the sap is handled. The Brassicaceae family, which includes nasturtium, radish, rocket and brussels sprouts contain glucosinolates which give a very bitter taste.

Post 1990 vegetable breeders discovered how to reduce glucosinolates, so today's sprouts really do taste much nicer than they used to!! This also means that they are more vulnerable to predators on the vegetable patch and need netting.

There can also be good applications. Research is being carried out to find possible anti-cancer properties in the glucosinolates in wasabi and horse radish.

There have also been news reports of 'Toxic Squash' in the past. The family Cucurbitaceae (squash and courgettes) can produce stomach upsets if the plant is from a wild strain of seed. Breeders have worked to eradicate this possibility! The Solanaceae family of potatoes, peppers and aubergines, also henbane, mandrake, deadly nightshade... should also be treated with care. When potatoes go green, they produce chlorophyll, but the accompanying chemical glycoalkaloid causes harm to the stomach and green potatoes should not be eaten.

Capsaicin found in Chilli peppers can also harm human stomachs but the birds who disseminate the species are unaffected. Capsaicin also acts as an anti-fungal agent against bacteria thus helping the plant to maintain its health. Savage seeds include-Rosaceae (apricot, peach, plum, apple) They contain amygdalin and should not be chewed, although amounts in one apple pip are minimal.

More concerning is burning Cherry Laurel or Portuguese Laurel in a wood burner, which releases hydrogen cyanide, a poisonous gas, and the fumes are toxic. Also, some people can have allergies to certain plant families.

For instance, the Staghorn sumach and smoke bush family (Anacardiaceae) can produce skin rashes, which would also imply that mangos and cashews (from the same family) should not be eaten. And ever since the 1960's we have learnt to soak dry beans, lentils and chickpeas before cooking to remove the lectins.

It was a very informative talk illustrated with plant photos and chemical formulae, and we left with an enhanced respect for what grows in our gardens.

Members are reminded of three upcoming dates: The Club Summer Party, at the Vicarage, Wed. 18th June and the summer visit to Kelmarsh Hall, Northampton, Wed. July 2nd and Hampton Festival Saturday July 5th . We are hoping to run a successful plant stall at the festival and welcome contributions of plants, gardening books, tools, or anything garden related! Please label plants with name and care information.

Please bring contributions to the stall early on the Saturday, when the Festival opens, or deliver to 8 Meadow Drive B92 0BD (Maureen Francis) at some time after June 29 th (leave outside). Thank you for your help.

Rosemary Wisker

Catney History



Berry Hall is a name that has been used for two different buildings in Solihull. The name originally referred to the 15th-century half-timbered farm house on Ravenshaw Lane. However, this building was renamed Berry Hall Farm after the estate was bought by Birmingham steel pen-nib manufacturer, Joseph Gillott (junior), from Henry Ludlow on 21st January 1867.

Joseph Gillott transferred the Berry Hall name to a new mansion which was designed for him by architect Julius Alfred Chatwin. Work on the new house apparently began in 1870 and was completed in 1880.

The new Berry Hall included an artificial lake which was constructed by the Solihull firm of George Lines & Sons, artesian well and hydraulic engineers. Once the water was in the lake, Joseph Gillott apparently decided that he would like an island to be created. According to George Lines' obituary in the *Warwick County News* 8th April 1944, this order was carried out at a later date, albeit with some difficulty