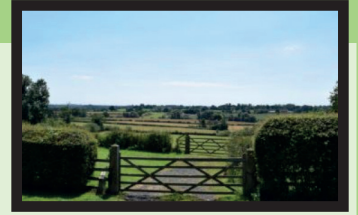


Parish News - AUGUST 2025

HELLO AGAIN

We hope you are all enjoying the summer months and had a ball at the fantastic Hampton Festival held at the start of July. For a little village we can certainly put on a big show!

As ever, our Newsletter looks to keep residents informed of key events taking place in the Parish over the coming months, provide updates from local clubs and societies and report on any key local issues – **READ ON!**



REMEMBRANCE DAY – SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2025

Hampton-in-Arden

An early reminder that this year's Remembrance Day service and procession in Hampton-in-Arden will be on Sunday 9th November. As with previous events Meriden Road/High Street/Solihull Road will be closed to vehicular traffic (regardless of the weather) between the train station and Eastcote Lane from 10.00am and 12.00 noon to allow the procession from the church to the War Memorial and then the service at the war memorial to proceed safely. Restricted vehicle access to Fenthams Hall car park (for the church) will be possible up to 10.30am.

In the case of bad weather, the service may be moved to the church at short notice but the road closures will remain in place to allow those who wish to attend the war memorial to do so. Residents will be able to access the Recreation Ground via Shadowbrook Lane.

Volunteer marshals will be deployed to control traffic. Logistically this is complex and we really need and appreciate the help we receive. If any residents would like to volunteer to be a marshal on the day, then please contact the Parish Clerk.

Catherine de Barnes

A Remembrance Sunday service will take place on 9th November. **Please assemble at Catney Village Hall from 10.40 am. To be followed by refreshments.**



FESTIVAL SUCCESS

Wow, wow, wow! What a SPECTACULAR turnout for the 2025 Hampton Festival! The weather was kind to us, the daytime saw more stalls, cars and visitors than ever before and our community came together to support all our local groups, organisations and businesses in a BIG way! Our evening concert was a HUGE success, with a wonderful variety of food, great music, an awesome crowd and ending with our incredible firework display! The festival is an opportunity for everyone to come together, once a year, and this event really does bring out the best in our village. Once we have finished totting up (and paid out) we will publish a more detailed breakdown of how much was raised etc, along with details of how funds will be spent/allocated, in a future issue of the Hampton Chronicle. **A HUGE thank you to everyone who came and supported and to everyone involved in organising.**

PARKING ON MARSH LANE

The Parish Council is working hard to address the concerns of residents with regard to the parking situation on Marsh Lane.

We are continuing discussions with officers from the Police Licensing and Anti-Social Behaviour Teams, as well as the Inspector from our Rural Policing Team. We have raised concerns about the ongoing issues on Marsh Lane, particularly around unreasonable and illegal parking. We've been assured that this area will now receive increased police attention, and vehicles found breaking the law will be ticketed accordingly.

A meeting with police officers is scheduled soon, and we are working to confirm a sit-down with the Inspector in the near future. We'll keep you informed as things progress. Thank you for your continued support and patience as we address these important local issues, as always, please do contact our Clerk:- clerk@hamptoninardenparish.gov.uk should you have any concerns or queries.

Hampton-in-Arden Parish Council

WEST MIDLANDS CYCLE HIRE SCHEME – FEEDBACK FROM THE PARISH

You may recall in our June Newsletter that the Parish Council explored the potential demand for the **West Midlands Cycle Hire Scheme** within our community. We asked residents to share their thoughts on the scheme and we had a number of responses to this request (thank you to those who replied). Overall feedback was that this was not a scheme that would work in our Parish due to a number of issues and as such, the Parish Council has taken the decision not to pursue this initiative any further at this time.

CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON EVENTS – SAVE THE DATES!

We are thrilled to announce that Hampton-in-Arden will once again be hosting its highly anticipated Christmas Light Switch on Event at the Village Green on Friday, December 5th.

Get ready for an evening filled with festive cheer as we gather to witness the magical moment when the Village of Hampton-in-Arden is illuminated with beautiful Christmas lights. But that's not all! The event will be graced with the presence of Santa Claus himself, along with other special guests who will add an extra sprinkle of joy to the festivities. Mark your calendars and bring your family and friends along to join us. We can't wait to see you there!

Catherine de Barnes

Since the new driveway was installed at Catney Village Hall there has been no room for a traditional Christmas tree. Instead, we have placed fairy lights in the cherry tree. As we are tight for space, but wanted the appearance of a tree a 6 m flagpole tree (similar to that shown in the picture) has been purchased. We are awaiting delivery but plan to make provision for it in the grounds in the front of the village hall.

The annual Christmas Light switch on – including Christmas songs and nibbles – will be held on Saturday 6th December. We are hoping to organize a Christmas film for the younger fold in the afternoon – watch this space!



GREENER HAMPTON AND CATNEY WORKING GROUP UPDATE

A small but dedicated group has come together with the Parish Council to explore practical ways we can all contribute to tackling climate change and promoting recycling in our community. Already, the group has made encouraging progress:

- *No Idling* signs are now in place outside George Fentham Endowed School and at the Recreational Ground car park to help cut air pollution;
- a visit to Sherbourne Recycling Centre in Coventry has been organised (contact the clerk for details); and,
- the Solihull Repair Café (held at the Happy Heart Café on the second Sunday of each month) offers friendly help with broken appliances.

The group has also arranged for surplus allotment produce from both of our Allotment Sites to be shared with to help those in need, and thanks to your efforts, two full bags of used medicine blister packs have already been recycled via Boots, please keep them coming!

If you want to know more about our Greener Hampton & Catney Working Group please do get in touch with us! clerk@hamptoninardenparish.gov.uk

NEWS FROM CATHERINE DE BARNES

- **Quiz night /raffle: Saturday 18th October** (starting at 7.30 pm). Licensed bar and fish and chip supper / veg equivalent. Ticket price £13. Please contact cuthbertlm@me.com with numbers and dietary requirements. Raffle prize donations would be appreciated.
- **Annual Catney Christmas Craft Fair:** Saturday 29th November 11am until 3pm in Catney Village Hall.

NEWS FROM THE HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN SOCIETY

The Hampton-in-Arden Society is planning to hold a Village 2025 Open Evening at the Fentham Hall on **24th September from 7pm to 9pm** and invites local clubs, societies businesses and groups to come along to showcase their activities by way of promotion and to interest new members and customers.

Clubs and societies can exhibit for free and we are asking for a small donation from businesses. Previous events of this nature have been hugely popular with both exhibitors and residents.

If you are interested in taking a stand at this event or would just like more information, please email: info@hamptoninardensociety.org

HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

The village history walk that took place on 18th May was well attended by a good number of interested residents. One piece of special relevance was the row of cottages on the Hight Street. The upper frontages are decorated with **pargetting**, a particularly attractive form of stucco. The deterioration that is evident is of increasing concern, and the Local History Group are leading an initiative to gather support for the repair of this important village feature. **We will keep you informed.**

NEWS FROM THE GEORGE FENTHAM TRUST

Our Elderly Support Worker, Eve Hickman retired on 16th July after 10 years. Her last day was marked by the Lunch Club Summer outing to Evesham Country Park. Eve's role will be split between Amy Billingsley (who will be running the lunch club) and Susan Lawrence (who will become the community support worker). Susan will be working on Tuesdays from the beginning of August. **The trustees would like to thank Eve for all her hard work and dedication. She will be sorely missed by all the volunteers and the residents that she supported.**

The Trust was established to support the residents of Hampton-in-Arden village. The Trust may be able to provide financial and/or practical support to any village resident who finds themselves in hardship. Applications for assistance must be made in writing and sent to the Clerk either by post to George Fentham Meeting Room, Marsh Lane, Hampton-in-Arden, Solihull B92 0AH or by email clerk@georgefenthamtrust.org.uk



PLANNING NEWS

In the last couple of weeks we have been made aware of a two new development proposals:

● **Solar farm with battery storage in Bickenhill/Catherine de Barnes:** A public event was held at the Solihull Moors recently giving the community an opportunity to view the plans and discuss any concerns with the representatives developers prior to a planning application being submitted to Solihull. This was purely an information gathering exercise by the developers with the view of dealing with any major concerns they received prior to the application being submitted. We understand that by the time you receive this edition the application will have been submitted and able to be viewed on the planning portal.

● **Residential development of up to 130 homes off Old Station Road:** Many of you will have received and/or seen the posts on Facebook and/or viewed the website of the developer Cityheart. **At this stage no planning application has been submitted to Solihull.** The leaflets, facebook posts etc are aimed at getting the communities response to the proposals eg. possible objections etc. in order that they can be addressed prior to an application being submitted. This site was put forward in the recent Call for Sites exercise held earlier in the year, but we are yet to learn whether or not it has been accepted for inclusion in the draft of the new Solihull Local Plan currently being drafted. At the time of writing the Parish Council is trying to arrange a meeting with the developers

Details of the status of parish planning applications are able to be viewed in the "Your Parish Council" section of the Parish Council (<https://hamptoninardenparish.gov.uk>)

RING AND RIDE – A REMINDER!

We would like to remind everyone that this service is available to all residents of the Parish (Hampton and Catney alike).

Further information is available by phoning 0330 053 8141 or from ringandride.org

1ST HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN SCOUTS

Scouting has a long tradition in Hampton-in-Arden and has been providing our young people with "Skills For Life" for generations. As times change and the mix of working and home life becomes ever more complex and demanding it has become increasing difficult to find adults able to commit to a regular day/time to assist in giving the youth of the village the great experiences that previous years benefited from.

To meet this demand Scouting is becoming more flexible enabling the planning and attendance to be shared by groups of adults without reducing any quality of activities or safety standards. This approach allows more adults to get involved and get the personal rewards that volunteering offers with the advantage of being able to be flexible around the demands of modern family life. Training is provided to all adults in safeguarding and the successful running of a session.

Next term, we are starting to take this approach across our scouting sections with parents joining a larger 'volunteer team'. These teams of volunteers will share the planning and create an attendance rota. Some adults will attend sessions, some may just help with planning and some may organise activities. The team will work together to use the various personal skills and preferences of the individual members.

We are looking to increase the size of these new teams to include many different adults with different skills. Scouting isn't all about the practical "fires and camping". We aim to give our young people a wide range of 'skills for life' and undertake many types of activities. These can include lots of different areas including science, arts, sports, music etc. So every adult can get involved.

If you think you have any time free but perhaps were reluctant to commit to a regular time previously we would love to hear from you. If you were a previous scout and would like to give back that would also be great! You no longer have to commit to a regular time and any help is greatly appreciated! Please email clokemg@gmail.com if you are interested!

PARKING CONSULTATION – AN UPDATE

The Parish Council has met with senior officers from Solihull MBC with regard to the outcome of the parking consultation held in Hampton-in-Arden earlier this year. Whilst the Parish Council are aware of the outcome of the consultation we are not legally entitled to release this information until we receive the go ahead from Solihull MBC.

We are pursuing this as a matter of urgency with Solihull MBC and will update residents on our website as soon as we are authorised to do so.

PARISH CLUBS - GET INVOLVED!

- **Hampton Sports Club** - Contact committee@hamptonsportsclub.org.uk. For more details on the individual sections, Pétanque, Cricket, Hockey, Tennis, Squash, and Pickleball, go to the website <https://hamptonsportsclub.org.uk>
- **Hampton Health & Fitness Club** - Contact Gareth Thomas gareth@thehampton.co.uk
- **Hampton Badminton Club** - Contact Mary Daymond - randmdaymond@hotmail.com
- **Hampton Bowls Club** - Contact peter.j.green@live.co.uk
- **Hampton Rainbows, Brownies, and Guides** - Contact Fiona Bubb fiona@bubb.net
- **Catherine de Barnes Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, and Rangers** - Contact Rachel Hughes rachel0512@aol.com or 07875 058177
- **Hampton Gardening Club** - Contact Alison Dimes alisonjdimes@outlook.com
- **Hampton Conservation Group** - Contact Alan Seal alanseal@hotmail.com
- **Hampton Beekeeping Group** - Contact Sarah Rickard sarahmrickard@icloud.com
- **Catney Craft Club** - Contact Lesley Cuthbert cuthbertlm@me.com
- **Hampton Singers** - Contact www.hamptonsingers.co.uk
- **Hampton Wine Society** - Contact Margaret Elsy at hamptonwinesoc@gmail.com
- **Solihull Scale Model Club** - Contact Alexander Clayson a-clayson@hotmail.com or visit their Facebook site.
- **Hampton Probus Club** - Contact peter.j.green@live.co.uk
- **Local History Group** - Contact info@hamptoninardenhistory.org
- **Hampton Walking** - Contact Evan Grant hampton.walking@gmail.com

HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN LIBRARY

- **Opening Hours:** Tuesday 2pm – 5pm, Thursday 2pm – 5pm, Friday 2pm – 5pm.
- **A Warm Welcome:** As part of offering a warm welcome to everybody who comes through our door, Hampton Library are providing both warm and cold drinks to library customers. There is no charge for this, but donations are welcome if you wish.
- **Stories & Painting for Under 5s:** Every Tuesday at 2:15pm, we read a fun story and do some painting or colouring to go with it! Suitable for under 5s. Warm water to wash hands is provided, but we recommend wearing clothes that can get messy. Continues during school holidays.
- **Drop-In Crafts for Halloween:** Come to the library during October Half Term to make some creepy creations for Halloween! There will be spooky crafts for all ages, with adult supervision required: 2:15pm to 4:45pm on Tuesday 28th, Thursday 30th and Friday 31st October
- **Summer Reading Challenge - Story Garden:** Every year, the Summer Reading Challenge helps children to keep up reading through the summer holiday. They just need to read 6 books of their choice to complete the challenge and there are rewards along the way to make it extra fun. This year's theme is Story Garden, exploring the connection between reading and the great outdoors, where nature and imagination come together. Children can join the Summer Reading Challenge, and if they're not already a library member, all you need is something official with an adult guarantor's name and address.
- **Story Garden Craft Table:** Drop in at the library for some fun crafts with an outdoor flavour to celebrate Story Garden, the Summer Reading Challenge 2025! We will have things for children of all ages to make, and you can join the Summer Reading Challenge while you're here. Adult supervision is required: 2:15pm – 4:45pm on Tuesday 29th and Thursday 31st July, and Friday 1st, Tuesday 19th, Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd August.

All information here is accurate at the time of writing. See www.solihull.gov.uk/libraries and www.facebook.com/hamptoninardenlibrary for the latest updates.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **16th August:** Hampton Wombles Litter Pick (meet at 11am in White Lion car park)
- **2nd September:** Catherine-de-Barnes Residents Association (RA) Committee Meeting
- **13th September:** Hampton Wombles Litter Pick (meet at 11am in White Lion car park)
- **17th September:** Parish Council Meeting (7.30pm at George Fentham Meeting Room)
- **20th September:** Catherine de Barnes Village Litter Pick (meet at Catney Village Hall, 10am until 12pm). Complimentary refreshments. Equipment provided. Please contact secretary@catney.co.uk if you can spare an hour or two to take part.
- **7th October:** Catherine-de-Barnes Residents Association (RA) Committee Meeting
- **11th October:** Hampton Wombles Litter Pick (meet at 11am in White Lion car park)
- **Residents Association Committee Meetings:** Any changes to the date will be notified on social media /and our website. Meetings take place at 7.30pm. Any resident wishing to raise an 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.

THANK YOU FOR READING AND WE WILL SPEAK TO YOU AGAIN IN NOVEMBER

Don't forget to check out our website(www.hamptoninarden.org.uk) and Facebook page (www.facebook.com/pg/HamptonInArdenParishCouncil) for up to date information between Newsletters.