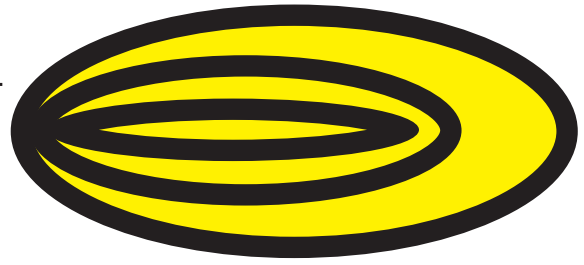


# Hamstead Hornet



Issue no. 96

Hamstead Marshall's quarterly newspaper  
since 1996

December 2020

## St Mary's: traditional services still on hold



Lockdown regulations required cancellation of the customary Remembrance Sunday service in St Mary's this year, but a handful of parishioners observed the traditional reading out of the names of Hamstead's war dead at the church. Also on Remembrance Sunday morning, a small number of local residents gathered spontaneously for an unofficial wreath-laying ceremony at the memorial stone in Hamstead Park.

Strict distancing was observed in both cases, and neither occasion was advertised, being entirely spontaneous and voluntary on the part of those concerned.

*The memorial stone in the park was unveiled in September 2003, commemorating US forces of the 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment, which camped in the park from January until D-Day in June 1944, after which they parachuted into Normandy, sustaining heavy losses.*



St Mary's is undergoing uncertain times, with the combination of a possible transition out of the benefice, a vacancy in the rectory (priest-in-charge Rev Mark Wilson left in September) and the Tier-2 ban on congregational gathering. The usual Christmas services cannot be held this year, but the parochial church council is maintaining the building and grounds with a view to resuming normal activity as soon as is legally possible.

Meanwhile, St Mary's is open from 10am till 4pm on Saturdays. For up-to-date information see St Mary's facebook page.

## Stay alert and informed

### Covid-19 latest official stats

Recent infection rate, hospital admissions and deaths: [West Berkshire detail here](#).

You may also find this presentation from the BBC helpful.

For latest national figures see [here](#).

## New parish clerk sought

Sarah Bosley has been Hamstead's parish clerk for about eight years, but is now moving into a more time-consuming role at the *Newbury Weekly News*. The parish council is advertising for a replacement.

*You can see more information about the parish council on its own website, or find councillor contact details on the village website here.*

**Hamstead Marshall Parish Council is seeking a  
PARISH CLERK**  
to organise bi-monthly evening parish council meetings,  
support the five parish councillors, maintain accounts  
and deal with correspondence

**Must have excellent administration, IT and  
communication skills**

**Knowledge of local government is desirable,  
but not essential**

**Home-based, part-time,  
working approx 15 hours per month**

**Salary: £15 per hour,  
and a working-from-home allowance**

**Please email CV and a covering letter to  
parish\_clerk@hotmail.co.uk  
Interviews will be held via Zoom**

## Christmas at the White Hart Inn



The White Hart is offering a festive pre-Christmas menu for diners, of three courses for £28 per person, or two for £22.50, both options including a festive eggnog to start, and coffee with a mince pie to finish. It's available lunchtime and dinner time, up to 24th December.

Thursday 17th December sees the return of the Mindbender Quiz at 7pm. Teams of up to six may enter, at £2 per person. Profits will go to West Berkshire Homeless.

The Christmas Day feast is £75 per person, and promises three courses, with all the trimmings.

All events must be booked and a deposit will be payable. All bookings must be covid-compliant, ie, single households or bubbles, of up to six.

See all the details here.



## Hall hiatus

The village hall hasn't seen much action since March, apart from the weekly pop-up shop, but Sue Watts reports that finances are healthy, thanks to a government grant for loss of business and a refund of business rates, which will help to tide the hall over at least until February 2021. Outgoings have been low, confined chiefly to a new sink in the ladies' loo, and maintenance of the car park and recreation field.

# Planning applications taken from <https://publicaccess.westberks.gov.uk> on 1st December 2020. To see more details visit this site and search on the application number.

## APPROVED

### Craven House RG20 0JG

20/02172/COND1 validated 23rd Sept 2020

Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3 (Method statement), 4 (Landscaping) and 5 (Materials) of application 19/02502/FULMAJ

HMPC no objection

Approved Wed 18th Nov 2020

Fishery Cottage RG20 0JD

20/00320/FUL validated 11th Feb 2020

Demolition of current dwelling to be replaced with larger dwelling. Shortening of the southern fish pool.

Demolition of the barn to be replaced with a new barn of the exact design and size.

HMPC objected

Approved 24th Sept 2020

### Rickety Gate Farm RG20 0JH

20/01520/FULD validated 9th Jul 2020

Section 73: Variation of condition 13 'removal of log cabin' of approved application 17/02099/FULD: Section

73A: Variation of Condition 15: Temporary log cabin permitted of approved application 13/01008/FULD:

Relocation of existing dog breeding establishment involving the erection of a single storey kennel building; siting of a temporary mobile home; isolation kennel building and change of use of existing barn to ancillary storage building; the use of land as canine exercise area, associated parking, turning and landscaping (allowed on appeal APP/W0340/A/13/2206830).

HMPC and 1 local resident objected

Approved 26th Nov 2020

## AWAITING DECISION

### 9 Salters RG20 0HH

20/02067/HOUSE validated 11th Sept 2020

Proposed two-storey side and rear extension to house. Demolish garage and summer house and erect new detached timber frame garage.

### Elm Farm RG20 0HR

20/02011/FUL & 20/02012/LBC2 validated 4th Sept 2020

Installation of window and filling-in of existing window

### Hamstead Lock

20/02586/LBC2 validated 6th Nov 2020

Erection of safety signage at Hamstead Lock (Grade II Listed) Lock 81

## WITHDRAWN

### The Barn House RG20 0JH

20/01664/FUL validated 6th Aug 2020

Replacement dwelling

HMPC objected

Withdrawn 6th Oct 2020

# Hornet Christmas Quiz

**How well do you know your village? Test your knowledge with the Hornet Christmas Quiz. No Zoom required, and no prizes offered. Answers can be found by following the links below.**



**1. What kind of grade-listing does St Mary's Church have?**

**2. Where is the only bridle path in Hamstead Marshall?**

**3. How many people sit on Hamstead's parish council?**



**4. The Organic Research Centre left Elm Farm in 2019. When did it first arrive?**

**5. The Kennet & Avon Cycle Route passes through Hamstead**

**Marshall. Where does it begin and end?**

**6. The no. 3 bus runs from Newbury through Hamstead Marshall to... where?**

**7. If you wanted to research your family history in Hamstead's parish registers, where might you find them?**

**8. In which months does the *Hamstead Hornet* come out?**



**9. What's the maximum number of people who may gather in the village hall?**

**10. Where is the Dogs Trust in Hamstead Marshall?**

**Answers can be found on these page links: [Qs 1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#) [9](#) [10](#)**

## Hamstead Hornet

The *Hamstead Hornet* is published quarterly online.

Readers who have supplied their email addresses to the editor receive notification with a link as soon as each issue is posted.

News stories are updated between issues on the village website noticeboard.

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