

# Hertsmere News



Hertsmere Borough Council's magazine

Winter 2022



Helping out  
this winter

# Warm spaces



# Young artists spread seasonal cheer in Hertsmere

Above: This year's proud winners

**Children from primary schools across the borough have been spreading plenty of cheer with their festive designs.**

More than 100 entries for our 2022 seasonal card competition were received from primary school pupils and five talented young artists were chosen to attend a prize-giving presentation with the **Mayor of Hertsmere, Councillor John Graham**.

Nine-year-old **Alfie Finn** from Aldenham Prep, and 10-year-old **Katie Brazil** from Ladbroke JMI School, have been named overall winners of this year's contest.

Alfie's bold and bright design featuring a variety of festive figures has been selected as our corporate e-card, while Katie's cheery 'Merry Christmas' wording surrounded by Christmas-themed objects has been named as the Mayor of Hertsmere's card.

Three runners-up were also announced. **Alice Cartwright**, aged six, from Cranborne

Primary School; **Aditi Sundar**, aged eight, from Aldenham Prep School and **Luca Reese**, aged seven from Haberdashers' Boys' Prep School.

They all received a certificate, gift voucher, and a pack of their own cards to give to friends and family.

All the entries will be available to view on the front window of our Civic Offices throughout December to spread Christmas cheer.

## Keep in touch



There are lots of ways that you can stay in touch with us, keep yourself posted on our news, raise questions and give us your views. Here's a rundown:

- Follow us on Twitter for tweets, photos and links to our press releases – **@HertsmereBC**
- Like us on Facebook for updates, links to our press releases and photos – **www.facebook.com/hertsmere**
- Follow us on Instagram, where we showcase the best Hertsmere has to offer **@hertsmerebc**
- Watch our short videos to find out about our services and events across the borough – **www.YouTube.com/HertsmereBC**
- Check our website regularly. The homepage is updated frequently and all our press releases can be found under 'Latest news' – **www.hertsmere.gov.uk**
- Connect with us on LinkedIn for business and professional updates – **Hertsmere Borough Council**
- Subscribe to our **FREE News for You** e-alerts for the latest news straight to your inbox. Subscribe by clicking the link on our **contact us** page.
- Watch our planning, executive and full council meetings and various committees online – **www.hertsmere.public-i.tv**
- Contact your local councillor – **www.hertsmere.gov.uk/findmycouncillor** or call **020 8207 7558**

# Welcome

Welcome to the winter edition of Hertsmere News in which we feature updates from across our key services.



This is a hugely challenging time as we grapple with the increasing cost of living. We've been working closely with a number of agencies and community groups to ensure that those who are most in need have access to support. On the front cover and page 4 we focus on the Warm Spaces initiative which has seen safe and welcoming hubs being set up across the borough so that people can gather and enjoy some company. We also signpost you to further information if you are experiencing financial insecurity and need support.

There's also been a lot of progress with projects that are kinder to our precious environment as we focus on sustainability and tackling climate change. On page 5 we tell you about the new Beryl bikes that have launched in Borehamwood, giving you hiring options for journeys about town. We also feature how you can access funding for energy-saving improvements in your home, supporting those most impacted by rising bills.

Employers and secondary school students came together in November for an exciting

Generation Hertsmere event, see page 9, to chat about future career options and to showcase some of our key industries and enterprises in the borough. Our own staff were on hand to talk about the wide range of career options here at the council and you can find out more about our current vacancies on page 7.

Finally, to finish on a festive theme, on page 12 we have lots of tips from the Community Safety Partnership about how to keep yourself and your property safe and secure at this time of year and, on the back page, a rundown of events across the borough. And yet again local schoolchildren across the borough have risen to the artistic challenge of designing festive cards in the Mayor of Hertsmere's annual competition and we tell you more about the winners on page 2.

I hope you find this edition an enjoyable and informative read and wish you a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and warm wishes for the new year which is fast approaching.

**Councillor Morris Bright MBE**  
Leader of Hertsmere  
Borough Council  
[leader@hertsmere.gov.uk](mailto:leader@hertsmere.gov.uk)

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## Contact us

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This magazine is produced by Hertsmere Borough Council three times a year.

Each edition costs around 29p per copy to design, print and deliver.

On the cover: Community Engagement Officer Antonia Mori (right) chats to families at a Warm Spaces venue.



## Opening Hours

Reception is open for pre-booked appointments between 9am to 5.15pm Monday to Thursday, and 9am to 5pm on Friday.

Call 020 8207 2277 to make an appointment

[www.hertsmere.gov.uk/contactus](http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/contactus)

If you would like this magazine in a different format please call  
**020 8207 7445**

# Supporting the cost of living

As the cost of living crisis bites, the communities of Hertsmere are working hard to support those most in need.

## Warm spaces

Everyone has the right to be warm. **Warm Spaces** are places where people can gather in a safe and welcoming place and enjoy some company and a hot drink where possible. We are offering a network of hubs across the borough. A list of Warm Spaces is below and keep an eye on our webpage [www.hertsmere.gov.uk/warmspaces](http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/warmspaces) for updates. For more information, please email [community.services@hertsmere.gov.uk](mailto:community.services@hertsmere.gov.uk).

## Summer meals

More than 6,000 free hot, vegetarian meals were offered to families and individuals from hubs across Hertsmere throughout the summer thanks to a community-driven initiative. Anyone who wanted a meal, whether or not currently claiming benefits or free school meals, was able to collect one from hubs based in Borehamwood, Potters Bar and Bushey. This initiative was made possible with funding from **GMSP Foundation** and **The Childhood Trust**, with support from the **Akshaya Patra Foundation** and was organised via the **Hertsmere Food Poverty Alliance** in partnership with *InspireAll*.



Above left: Summer meals at the BECC in Borehamwood

Above: The Mayor visits one of the venues being used as a 'warm space'

## Worried about money?

Sustained efforts have been continuing across a range of agencies to tackle the rising demand for foodbanks in Hertsmere, and alleviate the increased pressure on household budgets.

The **Hertsmere Food Poverty Alliance's 'Worrying about Money?'** leaflet is for residents experiencing financial insecurity, and anyone supporting them. The leaflet, which has been designed to help people identify and access local advice providers as well as existing entitlements, was sent to all households in March. The alliance is made up of a wide range of charitable and public sector organisations, including **Citizens Advice**, **Borehamwood Food Bank**, **Potters Bar Foodbank** and **The Red Trust Bushey Foodbank**.

➤ We have created a webpage featuring all financial support available to residents, which can be found at [www.hertsmere.gov.uk/financialsupport](http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/financialsupport)

## FIND A WARM SPACE NEAR YOU

### Warm Spaces in Borehamwood:

**St Michael and All Angels Church**  
Brook Road | **Chatter tables:** Mon 11.30am-3.30pm | **Welcome Café:** Tue & Thur 11.30am-3.30pm

**The BECC Family Centre**  
Shakespeare Drive | Mon, Weds, Thur & Fri 11am-1pm & 3.30pm-5.30pm

**Organ Hall Community Centre**  
Bairstow Close | Fri 10am-4pm

### Warm Spaces in Bushey:

**The Red Trust Bushey Foodbank**  
Lower Paddock Road, Watford | Fri 9am-midday

**The Phoenix Community Centre**  
Farrington Avenue, Bushey | **The Red Trust Bushey Café:** Sat 10am-2pm

### Warm Spaces in Potters Bar:

**Potters Bar Baptist Church**  
Barnet Road | **Craft and Chatter:** Mon & Fri 10.30am-midday | **Wednesday Club:** Weds 2pm-4pm | **Coffee Morning:** Fri 10.30am-midday

**St John's Methodist Church**  
Baker Street | Tue 10.30am-3.30pm

**St Giles Church**  
Blanche Lane, South Mimms | **Coffee, Cake and Chat:** Tue 2pm-5pm

**Christ Church**  
Little Heath, Great North Road | **Loaves and Fishes Café:** Weds 8.45am-midday

**King Charles the Martyr**  
Mutton Lane | **Community Café:** Thu 10.45am-1.45pm

### Warm Spaces in Radlett and Shenley:

**St Martin's Church**  
London Road, Shenley | Mon midday-6pm

**Phillimore Community Centre**  
Phillimore Place, Radlett | Tue midday-4pm

**Christ Church Vision Hall**  
Watling Street, Radlett | Weds midday-6pm

**Radlett Reform Synagogue**  
Watling Street, Radlett | Thur midday-6pm

**St Anthony's Catholic Church**  
The Crosspath, Radlett | Fri midday-6pm

➤ Our directory was still being developed as Hertsmere News went to press. For the full list of venues and opening times go to [www.hertsmere.gov.uk/warmspaces](http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/warmspaces)

# Get on your bike in Borehamwood!

Brand-new bikes and e-bikes are available to hire across Borehamwood.

In partnership with Beryl, we've launched 45 bikes at 16 convenient locations across the town, which will increase to 70 bikes at 24 'Beryl Bays' over the coming months.

Users can pay for their journeys in a variety of ways to suit individual needs and circumstances.

- **Pay As You Ride** is best for single journeys or occasional rides and will cost users £1 unlocking fee and 5p per minute on pedal bikes or £1.50 unlocking fee and 10p per minute on e-bikes
- **Minute Bundles** enable regular users to buy upfront and save money, starting at 100 minutes for £5

- **Day Passes** are suitable for people on long days out and offer people unlimited riding over a 24-hour-period for £12 for pedal bikes only or £16 to include e-bikes

The bikes and e-bikes are available to hire via the Beryl app, which is free to download on the App Store for iOS, and the Google Play Store for Android users.

The project is being funded by Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy, Section 106 contribution from Sky Studios and Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy from Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council.

➤ To find out more about the scheme or your nearest Beryl Bay, please visit: [beryl.cc/scheme/hertsmere](https://beryl.cc/scheme/hertsmere)



Above: Pictured are Sarika Jain, our Climate Change and Sustainability Officer, left, and Ross Whear, Head of Planning and Economic Development.



## Your Tree Our Future

More than 6,000 trees are being given away as part of the new 'Your Tree Our Future' campaign, a partnership project with Hertfordshire County Council.

Residents were able to choose one or more trees from eight different species - crab apple, field maple, hawthorn, hazel, hornbeam, rowan, silver birch, wild cherry - or a hedgerow pack, which contained 30 trees.

By giving residents the opportunity to plant trees, we

hope to meet some of our sustainability aims, improve air quality, help reduce carbon in our atmosphere and support biodiversity. The natural environment has also been shown to help improve physical and mental health.

➤ You can add your name to a waiting list and we'll let you know when more trees become available in 2023. Visit: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/yourtree](https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/yourtree)

## SUSTAINABLE WARMTH



Make your home cheaper to run, warmer and greener through funded energy-saving improvements.

You may be able to get funding for energy-saving improvements in your home, to help keep you warmer while saving you money on your energy bills and helping to reduce carbon emissions.

Sustainable Warmth is a government grant scheme designed to fund energy-efficiency upgrades and support those households most impacted by rising energy bills. As part of the first phase of funding in Hertsmere, 48 households have had energy-efficiency measures installed in their homes.

Families living in poorly insulated homes and with low household income (or on eligible benefits) can apply to receive a range of insulation measures and renewable heating technologies.

The scheme is open to homeowners, private tenants and people in social rented accommodation. The funding covers the entire cost of the improvements up to £10,000 for homeowners and up to £5,000 for landlords, who are required to provide match funding.



To find out if you're eligible for a Sustainable Warmth grant, please visit <https://surveys.est.org.uk/s/GreenHomesGrantSchemeLAD>, scan the QR code or call **0808 196 8255**.



Above: Dignitaries, partner agencies, council staff and residents gathered at King Charles III's proclamation ceremony at our Civic Offices.

Below: The Mayor of Hertsmere leads the ceremony.

## Flawless response

The Mayor of Hertsmere, Cllr John Graham has extended his gratitude to residents, our staff and elected members for their contribution to marking the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second.

Around 170 visitors signed a book of condolence which was made available in our Civic Offices reception, whilst dozens attended Hertsmere's Local Proclamation where the Mayor confirmed King Charles III's accession to the throne (pictured right).

The Mayor commented: "Councillors, officers and our communities across the borough were united in deep sadness

following the death of our longest-serving monarch and it was a tremendous privilege to attend a number of moving ceremonies locally.

"I was immensely grateful for the fantastic show of teamwork by our staff which ensured that we delivered ceremonial protocol flawlessly."



## New stages unveiled

Two new soundstage and ancillary workshops have been unveiled at the council-owned Elstree Studios.

The **Platinum Stages**, named in honour of Queen Elizabeth II's remarkable reign, have been designed to meet international space standards, use innovative sustainability technology and are expected to create more than 800 jobs locally.

They're the result of a multi-million pound investment by us and the government's Getting Building Fund via Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

As part of our investment in the project, we've committed to releasing £100,000 per year from the profits generated by the new stages for a Creative Fund.

Among the initiatives which the fund will be used to



support are the creation of a Hertsmere Creative Forum; support for local creative start-ups and support for further education creative skills development.



Find out more by emailing [economic.development@hertsmere.gov.uk](mailto:economic.development@hertsmere.gov.uk)



# Come and join us!

Here at Hertsmere, we employ people in many roles, such as planners, benefits officers, IT experts, community engagement staff and environmental services technicians.

We have a role for everyone - all working towards our shared vision 'being prepared for now, embracing change and setting our own future'. Our people are our strength and we need you to make that vision a reality.

As a colleague at Hertsmere you will have access to a range of benefits and discounts including a competitive salary, Local Government Pension Scheme, free use of leisure facilities, the cycle scheme and season ticket loan.

We are actively seeking people to fill the roles of Civil Enforcement Officers, waste and recycling crews, and HGV drivers, but we have other positions available across our services.



To see our current vacancies, for more information on the borough and our benefits visit [www.hertsmerecareers.co.uk](http://www.hertsmerecareers.co.uk)

## Borough council elections Are you ready?

With 'whole council' elections taking place in Hertsmere in May 2023, where all 39 council seats are up for grabs, it's vital residents are able to vote and have their say on who represents them.

If you're not registered to vote, you won't be able to have your say on who your local councillor is.

To register, the easiest way is online at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote) or contact our elections team for more information.

We are looking for people to work at our polling stations across the borough and during the count in May.

You can register your interest or find out more at

[www.hertsmere.gov.uk/workelections](http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/workelections) or by emailing [election.staff@hertsmere.gov.uk](mailto:election.staff@hertsmere.gov.uk)

## InspireAll are recruiting

Have you considered a career in leisure?

All three leisure centres in the borough have a great range of opportunities to work in the health and wellbeing industry. There are plenty of roles including leisure assistants, duty managers, fitness instructors, swimming teachers, catering assistants and many others. Why not join a team of people who love coming to work and making a difference to the quality of people's lives? Visit [www.inspireall.com/vacancies](http://www.inspireall.com/vacancies) for the latest opportunities available.

The Mayor of Hertsmere, Cllr John Graham helping InspireAll team members' recruitment campaign.



# Collection calendar 2023



January 2023							
	M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
W1							1
W2	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
W1	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
W2	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
W1	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
W2	30	31					

February 2023							
	M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
W2			1	2	3	4	5
W1	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
W2	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
W1	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
W2	27	28					

March 2023							
	M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
W2			1	2	3	4	5
W1	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
W2	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
W1	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
W2	27	28	29	30	31		

April 2023							
	M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
W2						1	2
W1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
W2	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
W1	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
W2	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May 2023							
	M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
W1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
W2	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
W1	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
W2	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
W1	29	30	31				

June 2023							
	M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
W1				1	2	3	4
W2	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
W1	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
W2	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
W1	26	27	28	29	30	30	

### Week 1 (W1)

**Black bin:** Anything that cannot be recycled.

### Week 2 (W2)

**Green bin:** Food and garden waste.

**Brown bin:** Glass, cartons, plastics, cans, cardboard and paper.



Just about everything can be recycled at home but other items, such as clothes, electrical items and batteries, can be recycled at local recycling banks or your local Recycling Centre.

For more information and details of opening times please visit [www.wasteaware.org.uk](http://www.wasteaware.org.uk)

**Public holidays** All collections in a week following a public holiday will take place a day later. For example, a Monday collection will take place on Tuesday and a Friday collection will take place on Saturday, unless you are notified otherwise. Collection calendars are also available on our website at [www.hertsmere.gov.uk/collectioncalendar](http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/collectioncalendar)



[www.hertsmere.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/recycling)

## Protect your wellbeing

### Healthy Hubs

Open for face-to-face, phone and online health and wellbeing advice and support. The hubs provide free lifestyle support covering mental health, physical activity, weight management, smoking cessation, health MOTs, nutritional advice and sexual health testing kits.

[www.hertsmere.gov.uk/healthyhubs](http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/healthyhubs)

### InspireAll

All three leisure centres in the borough will be open over the Christmas period and have a great range of activities available including gym, swimming, classes, indoor and outdoor sports and lots of children's activities. Make sure to visit the centre websites and social media channels.

### We Move, She Moves

Our award-winning activity programme for women and girls aged 16+ has classes including Jump Fit, Aerobics, Pilates, Zumba, Aqua Zumba, Stroller Strength, Golden Dance Fit and Yoga. [wemoveshemoves.me.uk](http://www.wemoveshemoves.me.uk)

### Back2Bowls

Our popular Bowls community event is continuing into winter at our all-weather green at Aberford Community Centre. Everyone is welcome to play and equipment is provided if needed. [www.communities1st.org.uk/aberfordbowls](http://www.communities1st.org.uk/aberfordbowls).

Below: Back2Bowls





# HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE FUTURE INSPIRED

Youngsters from across Hertsmere were able to get a steer on their careers from the very people in the know at an event bringing employers and secondary school students together last month.

Generation Hertsmere was organised by our Economic Development team, Hertsmere Works, in collaboration with Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership and the Careers and Enterprise Company. The event enabled youngsters from a range of schools, including Bushey Meads Academy, Hertswood Academy in Borehamwood, Mount Grace School in Potters Bar, Falconer School in Bushey, Queens' School in Bushey, Elstree Screen Academy in Borehamwood, Forest House Education Centre in Radlett and Yavneh College in Borehamwood to meet and chat to representatives from a wide range of organisations.

Among the companies on show were Sky Studios Elstree, Canada Life, Bio Products Laboratory, Tesco, Computacenter and DoubleTree by Hilton, and a host of entrepreneurs and start-ups. It's the first time an event of this kind has taken place in the borough and is in line with the aims of our new economic development strategy. Adrian Hawkins OBE, Chair of Hertfordshire LEP's Skills Advisory Panel, said: "These events play a crucial role in

providing opportunities for local people, enabling employers to strengthen their relationship with local schools and colleges to develop their future talent pipeline. "Supporting this is our careers portal, HOP ([www.hopinto.co.uk](http://www.hopinto.co.uk)), which connects employers to local talent and provides a vast bank of advice and resources. We urge everyone to visit HOP today."




## Economic growth, the right way

A vision of 'smart' economic growth which puts our communities and places first, whilst making the most of the unique opportunities in Hertsmere, has been published.

Our Economic Development Strategy, entitled Hertsmere Works, sets out our aspirations and ambitions for the economic wellbeing of our borough, and outlines how we want to support and champion the 7,600 businesses, large and small, established and burgeoning, which are registered in our borough.

Among the objectives we commit to undertaking by 2027 are using investment from the film, TV and media industry to support other creative businesses; collaborating with stakeholders to make the most of the economic and training opportunities new development can bring and working with schools, colleges, businesses and developers to develop a local workforce with the right skills.

To find out more go to [www.hertsmere.gov.uk/hertsmereworks](http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/hertsmereworks)





# Community Wellbeing Fair

This year has seen two community health and wellbeing fairs held in the borough, with stalls from local organisations offering practical advice and support to residents, as well as mini health checks and COVID-19 vaccinations.

Pictured, left to right, are: James Jeffrey, Policy Manager for Projects, Sajida Bijle, Managing Director of Hertsmere Borough Council and Abigail Stevens, Community Sports and Health Officer holding Warm in Winter gift bags supplied by charity Small Acts of Kindness.

## Get involved with Communities 1st

Want to get out whilst making a difference?

Communities 1st is looking for green-fingered volunteers to help someone struggling to create a space they enjoy, whilst getting some exercise and improving your own mood.

To volunteer as a gardener, email: [volunteer@communities1st.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@communities1st.org.uk)

Communities 1st runs a Community Transport service for those with mobility issues who struggle to get around using public transport. The Community Car scheme takes you where you need to go, safely and securely. The Shopper Bus scheme will pick you up from your door

and drop you at the supermarket. Friendly volunteers are on hand to help you board the bus and fetch items in the supermarket, should you need them. To sign up or find out more about either of these services, email: [travel@communities1st.org.uk](mailto:travel@communities1st.org.uk)

If you receive benefits you can use our Handyperson service for a reduced price. This service carries out simple DIY jobs for those who might struggle with these themselves. Our handyperson can help



with gardening, furniture assembly and fixes, single plumbing works, tiling – and much more! To find out more or sign up, email: [handy@communities1st.org.uk](mailto:handy@communities1st.org.uk)



## Need to boost funds for your cause?

Hertsmere Community Lottery is celebrating its first birthday - and good causes could win £250 if they sign up and go live by Sunday 18 December.

To date, the community lottery in Hertsmere has helped community groups, sports clubs, heritage groups, voluntary organisations and charities to raise more than £10,000 funds by selling lottery tickets to their supporters.

It is completely free to register and for every £1 ticket bought, organisations will receive 50p directly back to them, with a further 10p going to a Hertsmere general good causes fund.

It's free, quick, and easy to register to fundraise through our

local lottery. Once your charity has been approved:

- Your supporters will have the chance to win **£25,000** every week plus other bonus prizes.
- You've got the chance to easily raise over **£1,300** with just 50 weekly tickets throughout the year.
- Your charity or good cause can raise recurring, unrestricted funds paid directly into your account monthly.
- We'll help you with marketing support and your very own easy to set up webpage.

To find out more visit: [www.hertsmerecommunitylottery.co.uk](http://www.hertsmerecommunitylottery.co.uk) or [www.hertsmere.gov.uk/communitylottery](http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/communitylottery)

## HILARY SHADE

# Q&A

We spoke to Head of Partnerships, Community Engagement and Housing for our latest Question Time



Hilary receives a covid booster jab at a community wellbeing event her team co-ordinated recently.

**Q Your role sounds both broad and fascinating. Tell us more about it.**

**A** It's a very diverse role but the common denominator is to provide support to our local communities and to work with a whole host of different partner organisations and agencies to achieve this goal. No two days are ever the same and my role encompasses a wide range of themes. For example, my working day yesterday included a meeting about supporting Ukrainian and Afghan refugees and asylum seekers and a visit to the newly-refurbished *Venue* gym in Borehamwood hosted by *InspireAll* who run our leisure services contract which I oversee. I was also working with colleagues and partners on our proposals for 'warm spaces' as one of our responses to the cost of living crisis in the borough during the winter months.

**Q How did you reach this senior position?**

**A** I graduated and trained in landscape architecture and worked initially at Warrington New Town on setting out new housing areas and the green infrastructure to support it. When I joined Hertsmere in 1994, I worked on an improvement programme for our much-loved parks which led to us gaining our very first *Green Flag* award. My roles have taken many twists and turns since then and I'm grateful to the authority for the

opportunities to learn and develop that I've been afforded. I've been in my current post for more than 10 years which has enabled me to build up a vast network of colleagues and partners to work with to respond to issues of community safety; health and wellbeing; housing needs; communications and engagement, as well developing our corporate policies on a number of key themes.

**Q Tell us about a few of the key projects you are working on at the moment.**

**A** One of our main priorities is supporting our residents during the financial pressures that so many are experiencing because of the current cost of living challenges. This has included the setting up of the *Hertsmere Food Poverty Alliance*; supporting our Foodbanks; co-ordinating the distribution of more than 6,000 free hot meals during the summer holidays and ensuring residents know where they can get guidance and advice. We also continue to provide funding to *Citizens Advice* and other voluntary sector organisations who play a crucial role in providing help to those in need.

**Q What are the biggest challenges you face with this role?**

**A** There are significant pressures on our housing services due to the challenging local property market. We are

seeing an increasing number of people approaching us as homeless which means our housing officers are supporting people with a number of very complex circumstances, needs and issues.

Covid was a massive challenge over the past two years or so for everyone and we are continuing to help with co-ordinating vaccines as part of our community response. We have also been harnessing support for local businesses as the process of recovery from the impact of the pandemic continues. To find out more about our response to Covid, email [partnership.support@hertsmere.gov.uk](mailto:partnership.support@hertsmere.gov.uk)

**Q Tell us something about yourself that people might not know.**

**A** I was born in an oil refinery hospital in the Yemen. My father worked for BP in that country until our family returned to the UK when I was 15. It was a wonderful childhood living close to the beach and I feel privileged to have had that experience. It is very sad to see the humanitarian crisis that is currently affecting Yemen.



Hertsmere Community Safety Partnership (CSP) brings a range of organisations together to ensure a joined-up and strategic approach to tackling crime and disorder issues in the borough.

# Seasonal advice

With presents under the tree and Christmas shopping loaded in car boots, the festive period can be a prevalent time for thieves. Read our advice to avoid the Grinch!

**01** Check festive lights are safe and CE marked. Don't leave lit candles unattended and place tea lights in a holder.



**02** The risk of accidents, especially in the kitchen, increases when alcohol has been consumed. **Don't drink and cook!**



**03** Never leave your car unattended with the keys in the ignition, even when defrosting car windows. Opportunist thieves can strike at any time.



**04** Park in a well-lit area or an attended car park. The nights are longer, giving criminals an easier environment to commit crime.



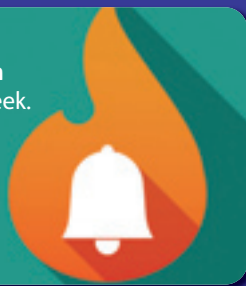
**05** Keep all doors locked when you're out or go to bed.



**06** Make it look like someone is at home when you go out for the evening. Leave timer lights on and close curtains. If you have a burglar alarm, set it.



**07** Test your fire alarm once a week.



**08** Never leave spare keys near your home, for example under a plant pot or mat – it's the first place a burglar will look!



**09** Never drink and drive. Ring a taxi or arrange a lift before your Christmas celebrations begin.



**10** Keep Christmas presents out of sight. Visible gifts under the tree are tempting to thieves.



**11** Avoid walking home alone at night. Ask somebody to accompany you or use a registered taxi.



**12** If you are in danger or an emergency situation call 999. For non-emergencies or to report a non-urgent crime please call 101.



## Learning about domestic abuse

More than 150 professionals and members of the voluntary sector attended a virtual Domestic Abuse Conference earlier this year.

The conference, which was hosted by Hertsmere, Welwyn Hatfield and St Albans Domestic Abuse Forums, included talks on the Domestic Abuse Act and implementing it in Hertfordshire, housing, reforming the Family Justice System and working with perpetrators.

The aim of the event is to explore the complexities associated with domestic abuse, how to support victims and tackle perpetrators.



## New CCTV cameras in Borehamwood

We have invested in CCTV cameras for Borehamwood as part of the Safer Street Initiative

New cameras have been installed at the rear of the shops on Leeming Road and the cameras along Shenley Road and Manor Way upgraded. The cameras are part of a series of measures we've undertaken to tackle crime and antisocial behaviour, investigate and detect crime and to help provide a safe and secure environment for residents.

Hertfordshire CCTV Partnership will control and monitor the cameras 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To find out more about the partnership or to request CCTV footage, please visit: [www.hertfordshirecctv.co.uk](http://www.hertfordshirecctv.co.uk)



To find out more about community safety in Hertsmere please visit: [www.hertsmere.gov.uk/communitysafety](http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/communitysafety)

## Community funding supports diversity and inclusion

We've allocated just over £30,000-worth of funding from our 2022/23 Community Grants scheme to groups and communities that celebrate the borough's heritage and identities, promote inclusion and cohesion and champion social justice.

Among the top recipients were:

- **Camp Unity**, a well-established week-long residential holiday camp run by local faith leaders, which was awarded £1,500;
- **Learning Through The Arts** which ran free children's and family workshops in Borehamwood during Black History Month;
- **Potters Bar Town FC** which was awarded £1,500 towards a new disabled ramp and hand-rails for its clubhouse;
- and **Strive Community Support Hub** in Bushey received £2,000 towards its weekly support sessions for parents of children who struggle to fit into mainstream schools.



Other grant recipients were **Herts Inclusive Theatre**, which received £2,000 towards weekly workshops for disabled and disadvantaged children in Borehamwood; **Borehamwood 2000 FC**, which received £1,500 towards expanding girls football; and **Christmas in Potters Bar**, which was awarded £2,000 towards festive lights in the town. The lights were switched on for Diwali last month and are intended to celebrate all faiths and religions.

For other future funding opportunities go to [www.hertsmere.gov.uk/communitygrants](http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/communitygrants)

**UPDATE**

**PLANNING FOR GROWTH**  
 **LOCAL PLAN**  
**HERTSMERE**



**Moving forward with the Local Plan process**

**We're seeking new information about potential housing, employment and green infrastructure sites in Hertsmere, as part of our commitment to continuing the Local Plan-making process.**

Earlier this year, it was decided that the current version of Hertsmere's new Local Plan would be set aside following an extensive public engagement, in which 18,000 responses were received - the highest response rate to any consultation we've conducted.

Work is now under way on a new version of the plan, which will guide development and influence how the borough changes in the future. This is important as Hertsmere, much like other parts of the country, will need to grow over the coming years and we want to ensure growth happens properly.

We're inviting developers, landowners, stakeholders and anyone who knows of any available sites with potential for

development. We're particularly interested in sites on land that have been previously used for commercial or industrial purposes, sometimes known as brownfield land, and sites that could accommodate 'blue-green' infrastructure, such as sustainable drainage systems, biodiversity or natural flood managements.

**>** If you know of an available site which could be submitted for consideration, even if you are not the landowner, please email our planning team at **local.plan@hertsmere.gov.uk** before 5pm on Thursday 22 December. For more go to **www.hertsmere.gov.uk/callforsites**



**Climate action focus of new guidance**

**We've published new guidance aimed at helping Hertsmere to lower its carbon emissions and achieve net zero by 2050.**

Our draft Supplementary Planning Documents provide details on how we intend to promote sustainable transport and parking; collect payments for carbon emissions and use the money for carbon reduction projects; and ensure developments over a certain size result in an increase in biodiversity.

Comments were invited on the documents until last month. The guidance is already being used by our planning officers to help assess development proposals.

**>** For more information visit **www.hertsmere.gov.uk/planningconsultations**

**DROP-IN WITH SAJIDA**

**MANAGING DIRECTOR**

Got a question or issue about our council?

Book in a time slot to meet Sajida at our Civic Offices in Borehamwood between 2pm and 4.30pm on Tuesday 10 January.

**BOOK NOW**

Email **managing.director@hertsmere.gov.uk**



# Meet your Councillors

You can contact your ward councillors at any reasonable time. Hertsmere has a Conservative majority, with 29 Conservative councillors, seven Labour and Co-operative councillors and three Liberal Democrat councillors. Your councillors are listed in alphabetical order by ward. If you don't know which ward you live in, please visit [www.hertsmere.gov.uk/findmycouncillor](http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/findmycouncillor) or call 020 8207 2277.

**Key**

(Con) = Conservative

(Lab & Co-op) = Labour and Co-operative

(Lib Dem) = Liberal Democrat

**Aldenham East**



John Graham (Con)  
cllr.john.graham@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07976 360961



Lucy Selby (Con)  
cllr.lucy.selby@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07973 710696

**Aldenham West**



Caroline Clapper (Con)  
cllr.caroline.clapper@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07818 427745



David Lambert (Con)  
cllr.david.lambert@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07802 412714

**Borehamwood Brookmeadow**



Glenn Briski (Con)  
cllr.glenn.briski@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07771 688675



Susan Brown (Con)  
cllr.susan.brown@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07534 984703



Rabbi Alan Plancey (Con)  
cllr.alan.plancey@hertsmere.gov.uk  
020 8207 3759

**Bentley Heath and The Royds**



Sarah Hodgson-Jones (Con)  
cllr.sarah.hodgson-jones@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07817 890541



Michael Reeve (Con)  
cllr.mike.reeve@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07960 056749

**Borehamwood Cowley Hill**



Richard Butler (Lab & Co-op)  
cllr.richard.butler@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07706 079439



Jeremy Newmark (Lab & Co-op) - Group Leader  
cllr.jeremy.newmark@hertsmere.gov.uk  
020 3637 9930



Michelle Vince (Lab & Co-op)  
cllr.michelle.vince@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07549 130736

**Borehamwood Hillside**



Victor Eni (Con)  
cllr.victor.eni@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07884 056187



Meenal Sachdev (Con)  
cllr.meenal.sachdev@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07973 401522



Farida Turner (Con)  
cllr.farida.turner@hertsmere.gov.uk  
020 8953 4347

**Borehamwood Kenilworth**



Rebecca Challice (Lab & Co-op)  
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07929 661391



Dan Ozarow (Lab & Co-op)  
cllr.dan.ozarow@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07944 052859



Brett Rosehill (Con)  
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07876 714422

**Bushey Heath**



Paul Morris OBE (Ind. Con)  
cllr.paul.morris@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07813 918881



Seamus Quilty (Con)  
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**Bushey North**



Jerry Evans (Lib Dem)  
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07774 714625



Alan Matthews (Lib Dem)  
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Paul Richards (Lib Dem) - Group Leader  
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07838 786057

**Bushey Park**



David Carter (Con)  
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Linda Silver (Con)  
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020 8950 1431



Anne Swerling (Con)  
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07814 241718

**Bushey St James**



Pervez Choudhury (Con)  
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Harry Mortimer (Con)  
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07939 145577



Pete Rutledge (Con)  
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01923 449950

**Elstree**



Morris Bright MBE (Con) - Leader of the Council  
leader@hertsmere.gov.uk  
020 8207 7570



Dr Harvey Cohen (Con)  
cllr.harvey.cohen@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07974 910215

**Potters Bar Furze Field**



Christian Gray (Lab & Co-op)  
cllr.christian.gray@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07535 925297



Christopher Myers (Lab & Co-op)  
cllr.chris.myers@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07734 699706

**Potters Bar Oakmere**



Jean Heywood (Con)  
cllr.jean.heywood@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07793 868645



Ruth Lyon (Con)  
cllr.ruth.lyon@hertsmere.gov.uk  
01707 644302

**Potters Bar Parkfield**



Paul Hodgson-Jones (Con)  
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07716 832365



Abhishek Sachdev (Con)  
cllr.abhishek.sachdev@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07712 837990

**Shenley**



Anthony Spencer (Con)  
cllr.anthony.spencer@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07973 349083



Natalie Susman (Con)  
cllr.natalie.susman@hertsmere.gov.uk  
07939 208447

# What's on

## The Radlett Centre

1 Aldenham Avenue, Radlett  
01923 859291  
[www.radlettcentre.co.uk](http://www.radlettcentre.co.uk)

### Saturday 14 January Dynamite

RMTC are back with a bang! This production is explosive, filled with high energy, laughter, exceptional dance numbers and songs from most loved modern day and traditional musical theatre, and the movies.  
Tickets £22, £18 concessions

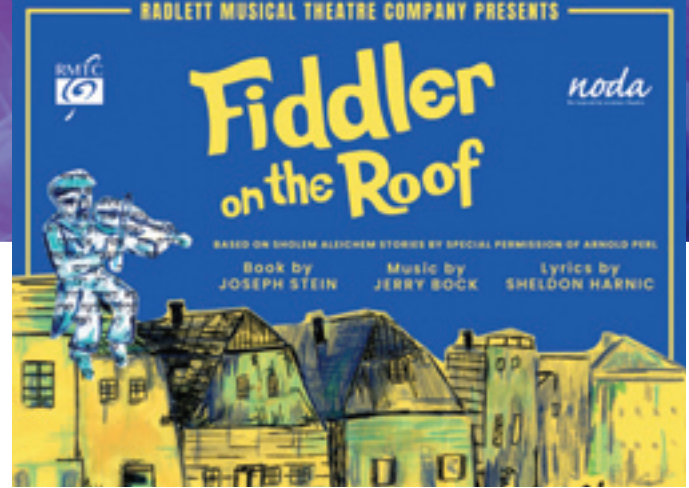
### 7 – 11 March Fiddler on the Roof

Follow the heart-warming story of Tevye and his family, as he

tries to navigate his five daughters growing up and finding their own individual hopes and dreams. This soaring show features popular songs like "Tradition", "Matchmaker", and "If I Were A Rich Man". A British Sign Language (BSL) interpreter will be present on Saturday 11 March at 2.30pm  
Tickets £22

## Wyllyotts Theatre

Wyllyotts Place, Darkes Lane,  
Potters Bar 01707 645005  
[www.inspireall.com/wyllyotts-theatre](http://www.inspireall.com/wyllyotts-theatre)



### 9 – 31 December Dick Whittington and his cat

Join Dick Whittington, his acrobatic cat and a cast of crazy characters on the adventure of a lifetime!  
Ticket prices from £19.50

## 96 Shenley Road

### 28 January NT Live Encore Screening: The Crucible

A witch hunt is beginning in Arthur Miller's captivating parable of power with Erin Doherty (The Crown) and Brendan Cowell (Yerma). Captured live from the Olivier stage at the National Theatre.  
Tickets £14

## Discover our museums

### Bushey Museum and Art Gallery

Colonising Cornwall –  
Bushey artists in the West  
Country

This latest exhibition highlights the work of Bushey artists who moved to art colonies in Cornwall once they had completed their studies. The quality of light, dramatic landscape and changing moods helped artists gain additional experience.

Open Thursday to Sunday,  
11am to 4pm

To find out more visit:  
[www.busheymuseum.org](http://www.busheymuseum.org)



### Potters Bar Museum

**The History of Gardening**  
This exhibition outlines the development of gardens and gardening since Roman times showing the evolution of plants, shrubs and trees as well as the changing styles and fashions. Visiting the museum's new website you can take a virtual tour, discover the town's history, puzzle on the jigsaw page or family history buffs can search over 800 listings of people buried in the old St John's Church.

Open Tuesdays and  
Wednesdays 2.30pm to 4.30pm  
and Saturdays 11am to 1pm..

To find out more visit:  
[www.pottersbar-museum.org.uk](http://www.pottersbar-museum.org.uk)

Left: Gardening in History  
Right: 'The Witch' by Michael Finlay

### Radlett and District Museum

**Latest Exhibition**  
'The history of religious buildings in the parish of Aldenham' traces the history, in words and photographs, of each building and other relevant facts.

Open Wednesdays and  
Saturdays 10am to midday.

To find out more,  
please visit:  
[www.radlettmuseum.com](http://www.radlettmuseum.com)

### Elstree and Borehamwood Museum

**Off The Rails – The Line  
That Never Was**

The most successful exhibition continues until January. Abstract paintings by local artist Michael Finlay are on display in the Café at 96 Shenley Road. Michael's work



Above: Scenes from Cornwall

takes inspiration from the many film and television programmes he worked on at Elstree Studios during his long career as a scenic painter in the British film industry.

Open Tuesday to Thursday  
between midday and 6pm, and  
on Saturdays from 10am to  
3pm.

To find out more visit:  
[www.elstree-museum.org.uk](http://www.elstree-museum.org.uk)

