



Autumn 2024 - Issue No. 4



squire | estates

01442 233533 | squireestates.co.uk

Leverstock Green Cricket Club Junior Sponsors



Editor's Notes

Welcome to the fourth edition of the Village Voice. Inside the magazine this time we have an article on the Summer Fete, which was a great success. We raised over £3,000 so thank you to everyone who supported this annual event and to those of you who purchased raffle tickets. We also have some new sponsors of this publication, so as ever, if you could please see your way to support these businesses whenever possible, this would be beneficial as without them the Village Voice would cease to exist.

Our Sub Editor Bernadine has decided to bow out gracefully due to work commitments. I thank her for her help and commitment over the first three issues. I have an old friend of mine designing the Village Voice, so now please welcome Ray Clarke who lives up the road in Abbots Langley and has volunteered to put this magazine together for us all. He also took all the amazing drone pictures you will notice scattered throughout this magazine.

I have had a few people mention to me that they do not receive the magazine through their door. We should have the complete Village covered by our willing volunteers so if you or anyone you know does not receive a copy please let Lesley know at lgvaoffice@gmail.com or alternatively pop into the Village Hall and let her know. As I have said before, we can only improve if we receive the appropriate feedback. We have very thick skins and will not be offended... I promise!!

Please do not forget the Winter Fayre which will be in the Village Hall on Saturday 16th of November. **FATHER CHRISTMAS** will once again be there in his grotto - so book a slot with Lesley as we do not want to turn anyone away. We also have a new feature on page 48, a photographic competition!!

There will be stalls, teas and coffee, burger van and the Christmas lights in the Village will be turned on at 4.30 pm. These lights rely totally on sponsorship to fund them: most of the local shops and businesses contribute, but there is always a shortfall. We shall also have collection boxes at various shops and businesses in the Village. So, if you have any spare change when you are shopping or having your hair styled please feel free to donate.

Thank you.

Clive Hill



Drone pictures of Village Centre by Ray Clarke - ray@rcd.uk.com

Leverstock Green Village Association (LVGA)

Contact Us -

Our Administrator, Lesley, can be found in the Village Hall office, Monday to Friday, from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Leverstock Green Village Hall

Village Centre

Leverstock Green

Hemel Hempstead

Hertfordshire HP3 8QG

Telephone 01442 268723

Email lgvaoffice@gmail.com

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/229284140440>

Website—<https://lgva.org.uk>

We should like to take this opportunity to thank all those who volunteer for LGVA. Without volunteers we are unable to run our activities.

We are also always seeking more volunteers to help at events, deliver our magazine, letters, flyers etc. This can be on either a “regular” or an “ad-hoc” basis, for whatever time you are willing to spare.



In particular, we are looking to expand the digital marketing of our activities... events in the Village Hall, Summer Fete, Christmas Fayre, etc. Currently, we use Facebook, our website, this magazine, flyers, noticeboards, banners etc. So, we are now seeking volunteers to set up and administer an Instagram account and to develop our digital presence.

If you are interested then please let us know how you can help and join our Volunteer Database. You may even find new friends and discover new interests.

Please email Lesley, our Administrator, at lgvaoffice@gmail.com or pop in and see her during office opening hours 9.30-12.30 Mon-Fri.

500 Club

If you would like to support LGVA and at the same time have a chance of winning a prize, why not join our very own local lottery, the LGVA "500 Club"?

Membership only costs £12 per year and you have a chance of winning, each and every month, either the £100 first prize or £30 second prize.

The maximum membership is limited to 500 and we are not there yet but even better, as the membership increases, so will the prize money and the number of prizes!

Also, membership per household is not restricted, so more than one family member can join.

The draw takes place in the Village Centre on or shortly after the first of every month and results and winners are notified by email/post. Results are also exhibited at the Village Hall (unless no publicity is requested).

The Club runs from April 1st each year, when subscriptions are renewable, but you can join at any time by paying the number of months up to and including the following March. For an application form, see our website:—

www.lgva.org.uk/500-club.

Alternatively, you can pop into the Village Hall during opening hours and collect a form from the office. After completing, just return this with your payment details (cash, card, cheque or standing order).

(Registered with Dacorum Borough Council. Registration No. 76 under Lotteries & Amusement Act 1976)



500 Club Winners

February 2024 – 263 members

Sandra Wilson	029	£100
Debbie Olrog	054	£30

March 2024 – 263 members

Margaret Chester-Barnett	219	£100
Anjuna Farrell	106	£30

April 2024 – 228 members

Karen Cheesman	415	£100
George Houldcroft	159	£30

May 2024 – 230 members

Maxwell Sayers	011	£100
Samantha Hill	053	£30

June 2024 – 231 members

David Lee	453	£100
Gloria Odell	434	£30

July – 231 members

Sonia Payne	384	£100
Araceli O'Brien	041	£30

August – 231 members

Mary & Derek Perry	316	£100
Linda Goldstein	034	£30



Mandys is Northend's
Convenience Store selling all
your essential needs. Open
Monday-Saturday 7:30-8:30pm
and Sunday's 8-4pm.

Some facts about your LGVA and the Village Hall

Leverstock Green Village Association, LGVA is a registered charity, run by volunteers, which seeks to promote and protect the interests of you, the residents, and to provide social welfare facilities for recreation and leisure time.

The centre of this hub is the Village Hall which whilst owned by DBC, the maintenance and management thereof are the sole responsibility of LGVA, who have to cover all the expenses incurred in the day to day running, including staff and utility costs. We are kindly supported by the Parish Trust for some major expenses such as decorating costs which are reimbursed.

So, LGVA, to cover its budget, relies totally on income from the activities in the Hall and fundraising events, all of which require your support.

What We are Responsible for:	Fund-Raising Activities:
Managing your Village Hall	Summer Fete
Activities (see pages 34 and 35)	500 Club
Defibrillator	Christmas Fayre
Christmas Lights	Christmas Lights
Village Voice Magazine (self-funding from sponsorship)	Quiz Night
Reporting Local Environmental Issues	
LG Social & Business Facebook Groups	
LG Website	

If you would like to be kept informed of any forthcoming events please open a new email on your phone or device, type YES in the subject bar and send to lgvaoffice@gmail.com, this will enable us to develop a local database. Please be assured that any email addresses that we hold will be stored in accordance with GDPR, they will not be shared and will be used only for the purpose of notifying you of future events. You will of course be able to opt out at any time.



Church Cottages &
War Memorial
Circa 1950

Is It a MONSTER?



Have you ever sat in the pub one afternoon and sang to yourself “what’s that coming over the hill? Is it a monster?” Well no, it’s just Shane Barratt in his giant American lorry. Shane and fiancé imported this 1979 US Tank Transporter from Germany back in 2020. It is thought to be the only one in the country. They used to tow WW2 Tanks around the country to shows & events until they converted it into an oversized motorhome! He often gets asked to attend weddings and proms! Shane & his fiancé also collect classic motorcycles & other military vehicles, and spent 2 weeks in Normandy, France celebrating the 80th DDay celebrations on a 1944 BSA WM20 motorbike back in June.





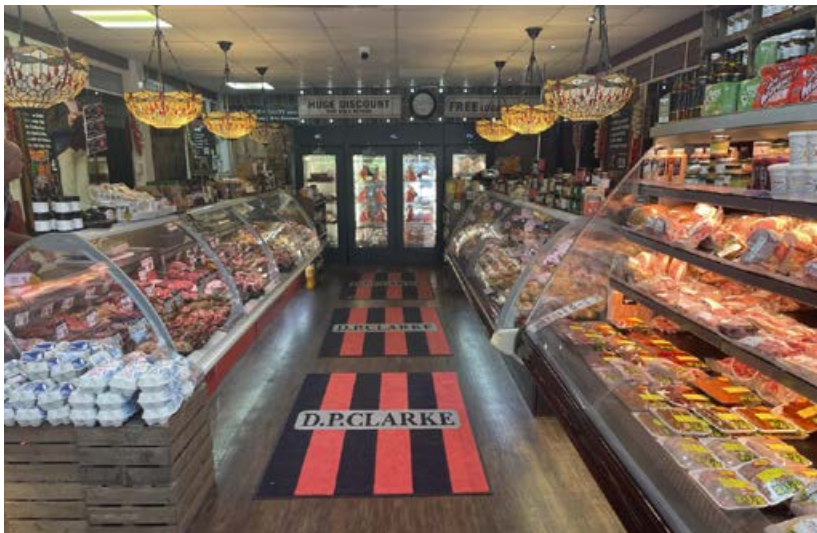
DP Clarke
FAMILY BUTCHERS

Our dry aging cabinets enhances the flavour and tenderness of the meat through the process of time.

4 Village Centre, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead HPS 8QG
Telephone: 01442 257544

It may seem early but we will have our usual range of high quality free range turkeys, boneless turkey crowns, 3 birds rolled into one, beautiful Scottish grass fed beef, Gressingham geese, free range ducks, free range pork, Scottish Highlands venison and many other game products. All available to order for Christmas. We offer a free delivery service. Except during the Christmas week.

We have also introduced meat cabinets, which mature the beef to ensure that the tenderness and flavour of the meat is at its best.



John Baldwin

John Baldwin, who passed away on 23rd May aged 86, was a long-standing trustee and committee member of the LGVA. After a career in the Police Service, John and Yvonne moved to Leverstock Green in September 2001. For over 22 years, he worked tirelessly for the good of the village, and his many achievements will be his lasting legacy.

John was responsible for maintaining and updating the LGVA website, and he also organised the installation of an illuminated information screen at the front of the Village Hall. He was involved in the production of the old village newsletter and in proof-reading the new 'Village Voice' magazine. He was also a regular winner of the best photograph competition!

In 2016, John arranged the replacement of the wooden village sign which after 16 years was showing its age. The new hand-painted sign is made of polyurethane which is better able to withstand the British climate. The old sign was repainted and mounted on the wall in the Village Hall.

John was responsible for the installation of the popular Christmas Lights in the Village Centre. He worked with the supplier to ensure the display was regularly updated and also secured the necessary funding. At the switch-on ceremony when Sir Mike Penning and the children pressed the 'magic' switch, John was out of sight up a ladder making the necessary connection.

Throughout his time with the LGVA, John was a member of the Environment and Planning Sub Committee preparing evidence to challenge Local Plans and objecting to planning applications which were not in the best interests of the village as a whole.

He campaigned successfully to have a 40mph speed limit imposed on the dangerous stretch of Bedmond Road between the Leverstock Green and Pimlico. He also worked with Councillors on a long-running campaign to extend the car park at the side of the Hall and to introduce a 2 hour time limit on parking in front of the shops.

During Covid many children painted individual stones which were laid to form a snake. After the pandemic 'Sid the Snake' was in danger of being lost, and John assisted local Councillors in establishing a permanent home for the art installation alongside the play park on Westwick Field.

John was a leading volunteer for both the Summer Fete and the Winter Fayre. He was one of the few who could erect a marquee with aplomb, and for many years was the Fete MC on the public address system.

He was actively involved with the 'Friends of Bunkers Park' and helped to organise the teams which carry out regular maintenance and coppicing. In recent years, he liaised with the Boxmoor Trust to host each summer a number of Belted Galloway cattle on the pastures of Bunkers Park. John also introduced and maintained the rota of volunteers who carry out a daily check on the well-being of the cows.

John has been described as 'a lovely man with a great sense of humour'. He was part of the fabric of Leverstock Green, and his presence will be sorely missed.

His funeral took place on 17th June at Hemel Hempstead Crematorium which he had monitored during construction on behalf of the LGVA!





The Barber's Workshop

Barbers Shop, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire.



The **Barber's Workshop** is the closest Barber shop to Leverstock Green - offering the complete range of men's grooming services, from the very latest trend to the traditional scissor cut & everything in-between!

You'll find us just to the side of *Tesco Express* on the industrial estate, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead. HP2 4 BE.

Walk-ins are always welcome but to secure an appointment, be sure to book ahead on our website at barbersworkshop.uk or call us on: **07956 499208**.



To celebrate your baby's very first haircut we will present you with a charming certificate featuring a lock of hair!



barbersworkshop.uk

Your Local Councillors



Councillor Catherine
McAreyvey

Mobile: 07929 569768

Email: Catherine.McAreyvey@dacorum.gov.uk



Councillor Jonathan Gale

Mobile: 07702 202 966

Email: Jonathan.gale@dacorum.gov.uk



Councillor Robin Bromham

Mobile: 07456 918101

Email: Robin.bromham@dacorum.gov.uk

Your New MP

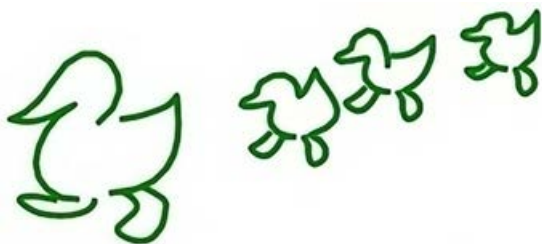
It has been the honour of my life to have been elected to represent the people of Hemel Hempstead and the surrounding villages. My family are from this town, with both sets of grandparents coming here after the war when the new town was built. I represented Hemel in the UK Youth Parliament before a career in international development, working for Oxfam and Fairtrade, as well as for former Prime Minister Gordon Brown. My priorities will be improving healthcare provision better, revitalising our town centre, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour and for better paying and more secure jobs. I have been recruiting my team and will be having regular surgeries soon.

Contact details:

david.taylor.mp@parliament.uk
[facebook.com/davidtaylor4heme](https://www.facebook.com/davidtaylor4heme)
[david4hemel.org](https://www.david4hemel.org)
[x.com/DavidTaylor85](https://www.x.com/DavidTaylor85)
01442 816885



Leverstock Green Playgroup



Leverstock Green
Playgroup

MEET *the* TEAM

 Tracey Manager	 Vicky Deputy	 Becky	 Sue
 Adele	 Esther	 Jen	 Claire

THE *Playroom* AND *Garden*

			<p>We look forward to meeting you</p>
--	--	--	---

We have had a busy academic year and have given our children in our care wonderful opportunities and experiences over this time.

We have had many visitors from the community, the local dentist, PCSO Paul, a fireman, a dad with a digger on a truck, local lollipop person and visits to our library next door to us.

We have been extremely lucky to have won the first prize of £1500 from Tesco, Hemel with the community collecting blue coins against two other worthy competitors. We will now update our sensory garden, purchase a new slide and equipment in the garden with the monies.

We are going to be celebrating 50 years in the Village along with LGVA at this year's fete on the Westwick field on 13th July. This is a fantastic achievement we have welcomed many children over these years to our setting.

We are always looking for new ways to enhance the children's learning and adapt our great practice. We had Jungle Juniors in with various mini beasts to show the children. The children held a snake & an African snail.

Interested in a term time pre school for your child then please contact:-
leverstockgreenplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk for more details.

We do accept 2 year, 3 year funding and 30 hour funding.

Leverstock Green CE Primary School

Leverstock Green School Vision

There has been a church school in Leverstock Green since 1840. Church schools were originally set up with a deed of trust to serve and educate the children of the parish within the context of the Christian ethos. As times have changed, so the obligations on church schools have changed. We welcome families of all faiths and no faith and believe we can give all our children a more enriching experience by celebrating our similarities and differences.

One of the things church schools are obliged to do is have a vision statement which sets out how we want our school to be. Every so often, we return to it with parents, pupils, staff and governors to make sure it is still right for our current context. Ours is based on a piece of scripture from the book of Galatians: 'For you are all the children of God, by faith in Christ Jesus.' At the end of June, the whole school spent the day thinking about what this means for us. We shared story books which represented a range of diverse characters, wore our tie-dyed T-shirts to show how we are all unique, spent time exploring prayer stations and enjoyed representing our vision in a range of arts and crafts. We ended the day with a sharing assembly, when each class showed what they had done. One child summed it up perfectly; 'We are all unique, but we are all loved and everyone is welcome here.' There's even a video available on our website:

<https://www.leverstockgreen.herts.sch.uk/our-vision/>



Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School

Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School ended the summer term with lots of celebrations including:

- An Olympic performance on the school field to celebrate the Paris 2024 Games. Over 1000 parents, pupils and staff were entertained with music and dance from countries from around the world performed by each year group in the school from nursery to year 6.
- Our pupils who made the most effort with their learning this year were treated to lunch at Prezzo with the school's senior leadership team. Twenty-two children enjoyed their three course celebration.
- Our pupils who made a special effort with their learning this year were treated to a visit to the bakery at Leverstock Green where they chose a cake to eat back at school to celebrate their achievement. One hundred and two children selected most of Simmons stock for that day and enjoyed a drink and cake together back at school.
- We said goodbye to two long serving members of staff, Kim North and Maureen Shelley and we wished our Year 6 children 'all the best' as they moved on to their secondary schools.

We start a new term with some new staff and new children in Reception and nursery. We still have a couple of spaces in our nursery so if you are looking for a place for your child you can find information on our website – www.hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk

Don't forget to join us for our community firework display on 5th November.





Leverstock Green Village Association CIO

Charity No. 1172784

THE VILLAGE HALL
LEVERSTOCK GREEN
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
HERTS HP3 8QG



WINTER FAYRE

Saturday 16th November 2024

1.00pm – 4.30pm

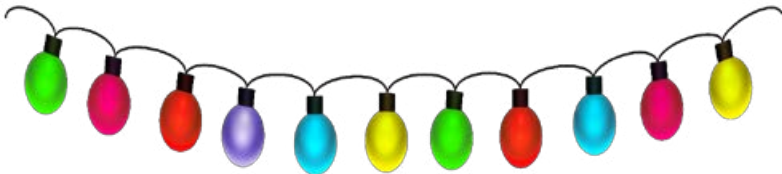
at the Village Hall, Leverstock Green

Admission £1 Children free



He's back!!! - Santa's Grotto £2.00 per
child please book via email

lgvaoffice@gmail.com or pop into the
village hall Monday-Friday 9.30am-
2.00pm



Followed by **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

SWITCH ON

at 4.30pm



The Hertfordshire
Garden Centre



**Come to the
Hertfordshire Garden Centre
and pick out your perfect
Christmas tree!**

**Available
from
November**

**Enjoy our apple
punch and
mulled wine for
the adults and
warm Ribena for
the kids!**

**Book now at The
Rose Garden Café
for festive treats,
Christmas themed
lunch and
Afternoon Tea**



The Hertfordshire Garden Centre, Redding Lane, Redbourn, AL3 7PS
Tel: 01582 792255



Quiz Night

We shall be holding our annual quiz again on **Friday 14th March 2025** with prizes for the winning team, and a ploughman's supper for all those that enter. Enter a team of up to 8 people and see who can come out top!

Thank you to all that turned out for the last Quiz Night.

The winners on the night were Ringo & The Starrs.. Who's willing to try again and topple them at the next quiz night?

Tickets are £10 including a ploughman's lunch.

Your quiz masters have already begun writing the quiz in anticipation!

You can register your interest with Lesley NOW!!!!

Bernadine Makins



*your local
window cleaner!*

☎ **07709977522**

✉ info@gibbs-group.co.uk

WE PROVIDE A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES INCLUDING;

**FEMALE WINDOW CLEANER
INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR WINDOW CLEANING
REACH AND WASH TECHNOLOGY
GUTTER DEBRIS CLEARANCE**

**GUTTER SOFFIT FASCIA CLADDING CLEANING
PATIO AND DRIVEWAY JETWASHING
ROOF MOSS REMOVAL
CONSERVATORY ROOF CLEANING**



**5 STAR REVIEWS!
TRUSTED AND RELIABLE.**

Leverstock Green Football Club



Up The Trees

LORDS Builders Merchants Stadium

Well, well well, where do I start, what a whirlwind season this has been, especially the second half of the season. Most of you would have read my Christmas report which gave a sum up of the first half of the season where we said goodbye to Dean, We welcomed a new Development side, The first team started their season strong remaining in the top of the table, We welcomed new managers to the club and work off the pitch continued as always. Fast forward, to the end of the season and how do I sum this one up.

On the Pitch

The weather after Christmas was enough to dampen anyone's mood and it caused so many games to be cancelled and a huge backlog of games towards the end of the season. Games were swapped, Christmas local derbies were called off and we were all left wondering when it would end. Even as I sit here in May, writing this... it's raining.

Some highlights in the second half of the season, MUST be beating Real Bedford at home, the ONLY team to beat them this season, what a win that would end up being. Another Draw with MK Irish and beating two Northampton sides to get into the Gladwish Final. We played Tring twice in 7 days and both games were extremely competitive and saw some really good football played.

April comes around and the end of the season draws in... we're sitting in a play-off position and the games are coming thick and fast. By the middle of April, our playoff position was guaranteed it was now in our hands as to where we would finish. Tring, the last game of the season and we need a win to Finish 3rd and have a home draw in the Semi Final vs Harpenden. They beat us 1-0 and we finished the Season in 4th by goal difference meaning an away Tie in the Semi Final.

On Wednesday 1st May we travelled to Harpenden with a crowd of 917, a good mix of Harps and Levy fans and went into the game with the mindset of what happens happens, we were proud of the achievement. I said it many times that night, if someone had told me we would be sitting here at the play offs I would have pinched myself. We went 1-0 up after 4 minutes and then quickly made it 2-0 before half time, each and every one of those lads putting 150% into their game. Harps came out strong in the second half and looked like they could get one back, but super-sub Beckwith had other ideas and a 3rd goal went in. Harps score a goal, and the last 10 minutes go by slow... whistle goes and the celebrations start, we had made it into the Play Off Final, this would end up being at home to FC Romania who beat MK Irish 3-0.

After an extremely hard 4 days of organizing, Monday 6th May arrived, and we welcomed 914 people into Pancake Lane on a very very wet day. What a game this would turn out to be. The rain made the pitch difficult to play on so long balls and not much fancy football was the key to this one. We took the lead and then another... and then another. We were 3-0 and it suddenly hit me what that meant.

The final whistle goes, and we had done it... Little Old Levy have been promoted to Step 4 Football. For the first time in Leverstock Green history, we were playing Step 4!! The celebrations continued well into the night and the boys truly deserved this as they have put so much into it this season.

But we weren't finished there, we travelled to Harpenden Town on 11th May to face London Lions in the Gladwish Final which saw us go 1-0 down early on before coming back and winning 4-1. We had done the double, but we also said goodbye to the Legend that is Paul Marks as he retires from playing.

Leverstock Green Football Club

And still we were not done, on Friday 17th May we travelled to Hemel FC to face Harpenden once again in the St Mary's Cup Final where we hoped to retain the trophy. We went 1-0 up after a penalty but it was a game of lots of missed chances for Leverstock and great goalkeeping by the Harpenden Keeper. A hatrick from Jake Anthony, took away the chance of a Treble for Levy and Harpenden were crowned Champions of the St Mary's Cup.

Take nothing away from Friday night, the boys have had the best season Leverstock have ever had and each and every one of them and everyone off the pitch deserves this. Next year Levy will play in the Southern League Central Div 1 playing against ex Spartan teams, Kings Langley, Berkhamsted, Stotfold, Leighton and Hadley amongst a few of the teams.

The Development Team stormed ahead with the new management team after a shaky start, they only lost 3 of their last 18 games pushing them up into finishing 8th in the league. This was an outstanding achievement for the management team and the players, showing their abilities and skills. They also had a backlog of games due to the weather and with some of the players stepping up from the under 18's this caused some of the players to be playing 4 times in 5 days! But they continued to fight and dug in deep to finish the season strongly.

I am very happy to say we are continuing with the team next season all be it they will now be Leverstock Green Reserves and we will continue to grow the under 18's into men's football and push them to the first team.

The under 18's continued to push against some very tough opposition this season and over the season took some losses that were worthy of wins. They faced some tough issues this year and were put through their paces with difficulties on and off the pitch. A huge highlight was welcoming Kings Langley to Levy and beating them 4-1 in a very tough contested game. The lads continued to push themselves in every game with at least 6 of them stepping up to the Development games on a regular basis.

Unfortunately, Aaron, Dan and Dan will be leaving us this year and taking a step away from management. I truly cannot thank these guys enough for all the time and effort they have given the club this year. Three great people who fitted into the club's ethos from the get-go. I wish you all the luck in the world.

Emma Smart Chairman



Apsley Football Club

We are thrilled to announce that Apsley Football Club kicked off to a great start at the beginning of the 2024-25 football season. With our Under 8 boys' and Under 16 boys' teams both training and playing out of The Lords Builders Merchants Stadium, Pancake Lane in association with Leverstock Green Football Club, we managed for both teams to join the local West Herts Youth League. May I add that Leverstock Green Football Club, your local club have recently been promoted to Step 4 and welcome all of you to come and watch their games, home and away.

Apsley FC now have just over 100 youth players, playing across all age groups between Under 8s to Under 16s and shall shortly roll out our new Under 6 and Under 7 development training locally. We are in talks with local schools and clubs to roll out Easter and Summer Camps from 2025 – for further information please visit www.apsleyfc.org or contact us at football@apsleyfc.org

We have a coaching team of approx. 20 whom are also made up of 6 Under 18s aspirant coaches whom are supervised and coached to become our coaches for the future working alongside our more experienced staff and youth teams.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our local businesses that have sponsored a handful of our teams to pay towards kits, training and aspirant coach training. Also, may I add a huge thank you to Clive and his team for sharing the news about Apsley FC with the local community, thank you!

We are constantly on the look out for players to join our teams – if interested please contact the club www.apsleyfc.org or contact us at football@apsleyfc.org

We look forward to welcoming you to Apsley Football Club.
Garry Harvey - Club Chairman

Together we are stronger!

Garry Harvey
Chairman
Apsley Football Club



Planning

St Albans City and District Council (SADC) carried out its Regulation 18 consultation on a new draft Local Plan 2041 in September 2023. This was followed in October, by a Regulation 18 consultation by Dacorum Borough Council (DBC) on its own draft Local Plan 2024-2040. The two Plans include the Hemel Garden Communities (HGC) project which will contribute to a major expansion of Hemel Hempstead. The aim of the HGC is to build 11,000 houses with associated new infrastructure and create 10,000 new jobs by 2050. Some 5,500 of these new homes will be constructed in the St Albans Council area on land owned by The Crown Estate. Around 3,100 of these houses will be in areas north of Maylands whereas 2,400 homes are proposed for an area to the south of Junction 8 of the M1 adjacent to Leverstock Green. The DBC Local Plan includes 80 houses on land south of Green Lane adjacent to Westwick Row.

The two draft Local Plans are proceeding to similar timescales. SADC intends to carry out a further consultation known as Regulation 19 between October and December 2024. This consultation, which will last 6 weeks, is the second stage of the formal process that allows the public to comment on the draft plan before it is submitted to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government for examination. The consultation includes details of the sites allocated for development and focuses on the Plan's soundness and legal compliance as outlined in the National Planning Policy Framework.

SADC aims to submit the updated draft Local Plan for examination by March 2025. An independent Planning Inspector will then be appointed by the Secretary of State to carry out a 'public examination' of the Plan and all the comments submitted during the consultation. SADC envisages this process will be completed by February 2026 with formal adoption of the new Local Plan following in March 2026.

DBC is planning to carry out its Regulation 19 consultation in late 2024 and plans to submit the updated draft Plan to the Secretary of State by mid-2025. Following the public examination, DBC envisages the Plan will be adopted in 2026.

It is not clear to what extent changes to the planning system by the new Government will affect the development of these Local Plans.

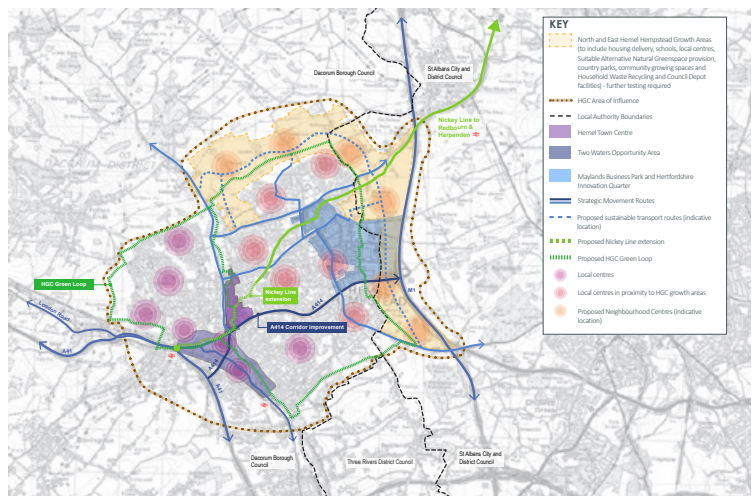
DBC and SADC are also actively involved in preparing a Joint Strategic Plan for SW Hertfordshire together with Hertsmere, Three Rivers and Watford councils.

The JSP will provide a long-term blueprint for the area to 2050. It will consider and address issues that cross council boundaries and set out a strategic vision for the area. It will also help to guide future plans

and strategies by setting out high level policies on topics such as climate change, infrastructure, environmental protection, employment and housing.

The five councils working alongside Hertfordshire County Council will together develop the JSP as well as being responsible for preparing their own Local Plans. The key aim of the Plan is to ensure infrastructure such as transport, schools, health provision and utilities is well coordinated and delivered together with new homes

and jobs.



This article and map can also be found on the LGVA website for easier viewing - www.lgva.org.uk



DO YOU NEED HELP LOWERING YOUR BUSINESS ENERGY COSTS?

We help businesses source cheaper,
cleaner gas & electricity supply contracts.



WHAT DO WE DO?



Reverse Auction

We automate the offer negotiation process to source the best prices.



Lowest Prices

Our variable pricing is 11% lower than standard energy prices.



Net Zero Support

We can also help your business reduce your carbon footprint.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO?

Email us a copy of a recent gas or electricity bill, and our reverse auction platform will automate a whole of market tender, benchmarking suppliers and delivering you the lowest energy prices.

ABOUT US

We are an ethical utility consultancy based in Hemel Hempstead that uses software automation to source the cleanest and cheapest energy supply contracts for businesses.

CONTACT US

 01442 504049



 connect@mindfulenergy.co.uk

 www.mindfulenergy.co.uk

We are proud members of



Did You Know?

Westwick Field behind the shops used to be allotments back in the 1930's.

The War Memorial was moved in 1997 from its original setting on the corner of Leverstock Green Road and Bedmond Road (roughly where the Leverstock Green centenary memorial now stands) to behind the cottages in front of the Church. (picture 1).

The Leather Bottle car park used to be the landlord's garden. (See page 59)



(picture 2)

On the Green opposite the Leather Bottle there used to be a pond.



(picture 4)

In the summer of 1952, Queen Elizabeth II visited Adyfield on her way to visit St. Albans. Her Majesty changed cars in Leverstock Green. (picture 3).

In the early part of the 1900's there were gravel pits in the area of Tile Kiln Lane, The Dells, Brickfield and Brickmakers Lane. This was to extract sand and gravel to make bricks and roof tiles - hence the names of the roads. (picture 4).



(picture 3)



(picture 1)



(picture 5)

Bartel Close has this name because one of the original developers had a son called Barry Telford. (picture 5).

(Photographs courtesy of Barbara Chapman book Leverstock Green and Bennetts End)

Leverstock Green Parish Trust

The Leverstock Green Parish Trust

Charity Commission number 302421

The Parish Trust was officially formed in 1992 following the sale of land in Pancake Lane where the original Village Hall stood. After the repair and maintenance of the Village Hall, any remaining income may be used for "charitable purposes which are of general benefit to the residents of Leverstock Green".

Some of the previous beneficiaries include the LGVA, local schools, tennis, football and cricket clubs, guide and scout organisations and the Holy Trinity Church.

Grants are not given to individuals.

Applications for grants supported by documentation should be addressed to The Secretary, LG Parish Trust and passed to Lesley at the Village Hall who will ensure they reach the LG Parish Trust. Applications via email together with supporting documentation can also be sent via the LGVA email, lgvaoffice@gmail.com and marked for the attention of The Secretary of LG Parish Trust which will be forwarded to LG Parish Trust.

The Trust meets quarterly. There are currently six members, with a vacancy for another three. If any local residents are interested in becoming a Trustee, please contact Lesley as above.

For more information on the Trust please visit Barbara Chapman's website at: <http://www.lgchronicle.net/ParishTrust.html> and visit the Charity Commissions website and search Leverstock Green Parish Trust.

Frances Bull



Salon 15
UNISEX HAIRDRESSERS
01442 213517

Appointments not always necessary
Experienced stylists
Cut & restyle | Shampoo & set
Blow dry | Colouring
Folios | Highlights
Perms | Children's cuts
OAP discount Tue & Wed

We are above the newsagent
Closed Sun & Mon
15 VILLAGE CENTRE, LEVERSTOCK GREEN HP3 8QG

 salon 15



Beyond Buffets

Tailor made buffets for all occasions including:

- Wakes
- Christenings, baby showers & gender reveals
- Birthdays
- Childrens parties
- Business lunches, conferences and events

Family gatherings and a whole lot more

Call Justine: 07931 764613

 beyondbuffets@gmail.com  @beyondbuffets

Table Tennis

Welcome to Leverstock Green Table Tennis Club. Established for over 20 years with a strong membership we welcome new members to the sport. We meet three times a week as follows:

Monday and Friday 10am to 12 noon

Tuesday 2pm to 4pm

With 3 tables there is the option of playing as much as you like on most sessions. Many of our members also play in the Hemel Hempstead League.

Interested? Then come along to one of our sessions, or contact Phil on 07747066025. Alternatively leave your details with Lesley, Hall Administrator, and we will contact you.





In The Frame Photography Ltd

Your local professional photographer

Whether you're looking to commemorate a birthday, anniversary or graduation, get the perfect Christmas Card photo, or just update the frames and albums, a shoot from In The Frame Photography will be great for you. Your options are virtually unlimited!

Give us a call on **07913 699 213** or visit our website:
www.intheframephotographyltd.co.uk



NORTHRIDGE WAY PHYSIOTHERAPY CLINIC
martin storrie
Qualified Chartered Physiotherapist

Professional Therapist

My particular interests and skills lie in the treatment of Musculo-skeletal issues such as vertebral problems including neck and back pain, joint pain as well as the treatment of sports and soft tissue injuries.

+44 (0)1442 254083

martinstorrie6@gmail.com

www.northridgephysiotherapy.co.uk

280 Northridge Way, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 2AU



LGVA Hall Hire

We have three rooms for hire, the Main Hall (maximum capacity 150), the Westwick Room (max 60) and the Buglass Room (max 30).

You can hire our hall for classes and meetings and most other events including birthday parties, baby showers, gender reveals, anniversaries, weddings and engagements etc (Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays). The hall and rooms can be hired in conjunction with one another.

The Village Hall also holds a Premises Licence.

Our fully stocked and professionally managed bar provides beers, lagers, various wines and spirits.

We currently have availability of space for both regular and occasional bookings.

Before submitting any booking forms, please contact our Administrator, Lesley, for any additional information, pricing and availability.

Buglass Room

The Buglass Room is 7.4m x 6.3m



Main Hall

The main hall is 15.9m x 9m
(not including the stage).



Westwick Room



The Westwick Room is 10.6m x 6.3m



Bar



Don't forget to book our new, fully stocked, bar for your next event.

SIMMONS

BAKING SINCE 1838



Simmons Bakers, your traditional local baker in Leverstock Green, has been family run since 1838.

We are very proud of our delicious range of artisan breads, especially the Chilli & Cheese Sourdough, and we really love our freshly baked Almond, Plain & Chocolate Croissants, which make a wonderfully flaky breakfast or lunchtime treat.

We have an amazing range of products at Leverstock, including Hot X Buns, Scones, Cinnamon Buns and our famous Jammy Doughnuts, all freshly baked, every day!

Our best-selling snacks are our wonderful Sausage Rolls..... and for the “extra” hungry, we recommend a deliciously filled “All Day Breakfast Bag”. Wow!!

All our sandwiches, baguettes and salads are quickly and freshly made in front of you, and there are samples available for you to try as you wait.

Please come and sample our amazing products and experience our fast, friendly service.

We're open all day, every day: Monday to Saturday 6.30 until 5.30 & Sunday's 7.30 until 4.

We look forward to seeing you soon at

The Village Centre, Leverstock Green Road, Hemel Hempstead. HP3 8QG



Holy Trinity Church

Holy Trinity Church Leverstock Green

Following the retirement of Rev Lizzie Hood, we are delighted that The Revd James McDonald, Team Vicar at All Saints Church Kings Langley, has been appointed Rector of the Benefice of Langeli in succession to Lizzie. Father James was inducted as Rector by the Bishop of Hertford in a special afternoon service at his home church in Kings Langley on Sunday 28th July.

Following Father James appointment, we are therefore seeking to appoint a new Team Vicar to the Langelei Team Ministry with prime responsibility for Holy Trinity, Leverstock Green. They will be based in the vicarage in Pancake Lane.

The recruitment process is now well under way. Under guidance from the Diocese and the Rector, the Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity have produced a "parish profile." This is a comprehensive document which could best be described as a cross between a job description and a travelogue. It sets out the responsibilities of the new incumbent, the qualifications, skills, and experience required in the post and for possible applicants who come from outside the area, a detailed description of the village, the community, and the local vicinity.

The post is being advertised in "The Church Times" at the beginning of September with a closing date for applications early in October. Suitable candidates will then be shortlisted, interviewed, and invited to visit the village to meet with members of the PCC. We would hope to be able to offer the position to the preferred candidate in November. Assuming they have to give notice from their present post, it is anticipated that they will be able to be inducted as the Team Vicar at Holy Trinity early in the New Year.

Meanwhile the church continues very much as normal. Thanks to tremendous help from Father James and our Associate Priest, Revd Jos Perris, helped out by occasional visiting guest vicars and members of the Diocese, we continue to hold Eucharist services every Sunday at 10.00am and most Wednesdays. The Churchwardens and other members of the PCC have also taken on additional responsibilities during the vacancy which has meant that church life has been able to continue much as usual.

The Church is now open every day for private prayer and reflection from 10.00am to 4.00pm and our Saturday morning coffee shop from 10.00am to 12noon continues every week as in the past. All church groups continue to function normally and the Church Social Committee continues to organise the usual range of social events. All village residents are very welcome to attend whether members of the church or not. During the vacancy all enquiries about weddings, baptisms, funerals and church life and activities generally should be addressed to one of the churchwardens:

Terry Perry 07748 555333 terjperry@aol.com

Beverley Burgess 07954 141188 beverleyburgess3@icloud.com

Or the Team Administrator who is based at All Saints Church Kings Langley
Sue Bassett. Office opens 8.30 - 12.30 Mon to Fri. 01923 266596 or 07503 950315
or info@beneficeoflangelei.org.uk



Revd. James McDonald



THE DOCTOR WILL SEE YOU NOW



**Hemel's Private
Hospital**

Private GP Services at a time that suits you

APPOINTMENT PRICE: £120

- Fast access to expert care
- 30-minute, face-to-face appointment
- Same-day referrals (if required)



**FOR MORE
INFORMATION
SCAN HERE**



NEED HELP TODAY?

Same-day urgent care available

APPOINTMENT PRICE: £150

CALL US ON 01442 331 036

Same-Day GP Service

- Ages 1 years+
- Diagnosis of common medical conditions

Urgent Care Centre

- Ages 18 years+
- Treatment of medical problems and minor injuries

Bridge Club

LEVERSTOCK GREEN BRIDGE CLUB

As you can see from the picture the Club took its usual stall at the Summer Fayre. We were as busy as usual with 'Play Your Cards Right' (hopefully people remember Bruce Forsyth's version from the television) and several people took the opportunity to look at our demonstration of the game of bridge.

The Club has a very successful teaching program for both total Beginners and also Improvers/Returners. We recently started a new round of classes on Friday mornings (Beginners and Improvers) and Tuesday evenings (Improvers) and hope to run another Tuesday evening Beginners class from January. If you are interested in joining any of these classes please contact Alan Woof (ajwo56@hotmail.com or 07714 430650).

Alongside the teaching program we hold regular club sessions on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday evenings with many of our student members progressing through to play in these friendly sessions. Amongst our club sessions calendar we have a number of trophy events and for several of them the winners go on to represent the Club in county finals. The Club was very successful during the 2023/4 playing season with members winning a number of county finals – Mixed Pairs, Charity Cup and both the 7 High and 10 High Pairs. On top of that several members represented Herts in the national inter league finals where two of the three Herts teams returned as winners.

If you would like any more information about the club and any of its activities please contact Alan as above.



Hemel Hempstead Brass Band



The brass band tradition is sometimes associated with northern collieries, but there is a thriving tradition here too. Hemel Hempstead Band was originally formed in the late 19th century in John Dickinson's Paper Mill at Apsley, where the band still rehearses every Monday evening, coached by our conductor Dan Shave, who, during the day, is a member of the King's Guard.

The band can be seen at local village fetes, and concerts, including Leverstock Green's Councillor Jonathan Gale on tuba. In May we did a concert at St Benedicts Church in Bennetts End, and a group of us represented Dacorum at our twin town's celebrations in Neu-Isenburg, Germany. Every year we take part in the national brass band contest and we moved up to the Third Section in 2022. In 2025 we plan to go to West Yorkshire to represent Hemel Hempstead in the Whit Parade.

Like many brass bands, we have a flourishing training band where anyone, young and old, can come and learn a brass instrument. (No need to work in Paper these days!)

http://www.hemel Hempsteadband.co.uk/about/training_band/

Up-coming performances include 8th September at Leighton Buzzard's Music in the Park, a concert at All Saints Church, Berkhamsted on 21st September, and our Autumn concert at Cassiobury School in Watford on 13th October.

Follow us on Facebook or <http://www.hemel Hempsteadband.co.uk>



A selection of the band in Germany with the Mayor of Neu Isenburg, flanked by Dacorum Councillors, behind (Alex Bhinder, Julie Banks, Mayors Brenda Link (Dacorum) and Dirk Gene Hagelstein (Neu-Isenberg), Jonathan Gale and Carrie Link).

What's On

Please bear in mind that the Hall does not open on Bank Holidays or New Years Eve

Art

Tuesday 10am-midday

Wednesday 10am-midday

Wednesday 1:45pm-4:15pm

Thursday 1pm-3pm

Badminton (term time only)

Monday 1:30pm-3:30pm (this class is full)

Bridge

Tuesdays 9:30am-12:30pm

Boxercise

Wednesdays 6:30pm-7:30pm

Calligraphy (U3A) - Decorative Handwriting or Handwritten Lettering

Mondays 1pm-3pm (alternate weeks)

Designer 3 Group - Flower Arranging Group

Saturdays 9:30am-3:30pm (four times a year)

Everyone Active - Exercise to Music (term time only)

Wednesdays 10:00am-11:00am

Fabric Friends - Craft Class

Fridays 11:30am-1:30pm (alternate weeks)

Fitsteps - Exercise Class (term time only)

Wednesdays 11:30am-12:30pm (term time only)

Heart to Herts - People with heart conditions meet to chat

Tuesdays 7:00pm-10:00pm (first Tuesday of the month)

Jazzercise

Sundays 9:45am-10:45am

Just A Cappella Choir

Mondays 7:45pm-10:15pm

Leverstock Green Bowls

Wednesdays 3:15pm-5:15pm

Leverstock Green Flower Arranging Group

Thursdays 1:30pm-4:00pm (every other month)

Leverstock Green Players - Amateur Dramatic group

Thursdays 8:00pm-10:00pm

Leverstock Green Playgroup (term time only)

Monday-Fridays 9:00pm-2:30pm

Leverstock Green Table Tennis

Mondays 10:00am-midday

What's On Continued...

Mondays 7:30pm-10:30pm

Tuesdays 2:00pm-4:00pm

Fridays 10:00am-midday

[LG Women's Institute - Activities each month including guest speakers](#)

Tuesdays 7:00pm-10:00pm (second Tuesday of the month)

[MAFVA - Military Model Making](#)

Tuesdays 7:30pm-10:30pm (fourth Tuesday of the month)

[Magic](#)

Fridays 2:00pm-4:00pm (alternate weeks)

[Pilates](#)

Mondays 9:30am-10:30am

Wednesdays 8:00pm-9:00pm

Fridays 9:30am-10:30am

[Tea Dance](#)

Thursday 2.30pm-4.30pm (third Thursday of the month)

[Tap Dancing](#)

Tuesdays 6:15pm-7:15pm

[Westwick Women's Institute - Activities each month inc. guest speakers](#)

Thursdays 7:15pm-10:15pm (second Thursday of the month)

[Yoga \(term time only\)](#)

Tuesdays 12:30pm-1:45pm and 2:00pm-3:15pm

[Zumba](#)

Mondays 6:00pm-7:00pm

Thursdays 6:00pm-7:00pm

Saturdays 10:00am-11:00am

Police Community Support Officer Surgeries

Come and have chat to your local PCSO Paul Humphreys about any local issues at Leverstock Green Village Hall - 12.30pm-1.30pm on:

- 30th October
- 20th November



Bunkers Park

Cow watch in Bunkers Park fields

The early morning mist rises, and the birds are singing as you walk over the damp grass to see Trevor and his ladies in one of three allocated fields in Bunkers Park. Or as evening draws in, you walk slowly through the fields as the light fades, with a slight warm zephyr blowing in your face, as you search for the Belted Galloways settling down for the night.

On a hot day black and white cows can easily hide in the bushes and watch you search for them!

Cow watch has been running for a few years now. The Boxmoor Trust winter their entire herd of Belted Galloway cows in their base by the A41, undercover in barns. But from late spring through to Autumn, weather dependent, groups of these black and white “Pandas” move out to pasture.

One of these small herds summer over in Bunkers Park and I, Roy Makins, liaise with The Trust and Bob Mansbridge running a rota so that at least once a day someone local walks over to check the herd. 6 beasts this year, 5 ladies and Trevor. I took over this pleasure earlier this year from John Baldwin, who had run this since conception until ill health and finally, sadly, his passing earlier this year.

The three fields the cows rotate in are left as nature once was, with wild meadow flowers and grass growing naturally. Trevor and his ladies just add the fertiliser only. The fences have been made good, but now each animal has a tag, a responder, that we can track their position on our phones, but more importantly the invisible fence and the responder keeps them safely inside.

https://grazingmap.nofence.no/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR3r9EJAZRCCaFAXqLwz9usXx9in-LjhJ0ciVBSRACHF8FMUEvXQHW4bYE4_aem_KFHG0TL082PczgGXmLqbiQ

It does look like only 5 were present but by zooming out the sixth is there – phew!



The volunteers, about 14 of us, visit on our rota day, at any time, but often we wander to see our herd on non-rotating days, as this is such a nice experience. We check that their water trough is full and look at the cows to see if they look happy. We aren't vets, but if something doesn't look right, we can call Bob at the Trust. Normally the herd is munching grass, just keeping a wary eye on passersby. Many years ago, wolves were their predators, but with no wolf sightings in Leverstock Green lately, all is safe.

Bunkers Park Continued...

Cows and dogs do not always mix, and a dog can chase the herd and cause distress to the beasts. So, if you wander across and say hello to our herd, be mindful if you have a dog and keep him or her on a lead, please.

Picture courtesy of cow watcher Claire who says “The cows are just so beautiful, am so enjoying looking after them”.

Roy Makins
Cow Watch Co-Ordinator



Drone pictures of Bunkers Park by Ray Clarke (ray@rcd.uk.com) our new Village Voice designer.



AGM

will be held on

MONDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2024

8.00pm in the Village Hall

This is part of an Open Evening - meet your local and county councillors.

Leverstock Green Village Association CIO – Charity no. 1172784 www.lgva.org.uk



OPEN EVENING

MONDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2024

Starting at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

We will be conducting the formal business of the AGM at 8.00pm and will also be presenting the Buglass Award.

Come along and meet the team who manage your village hall and run village events. Also meet your local and county councillors in an informal setting. This is a great opportunity to ask questions on local issues.

Our newly refurbished bar will be open - nibbles, tea and coffee will also be available.

Women's Institute

Leverstock Green W.I. enjoyed a variety of in house events at the community centre. We welcomed a super-fit stunt woman who amazed us by tales of her training regime, acrobatic super moves and seemingly highly dangerous film stunts. A retirement rebel enjoined us to embrace retirement by beginning a new life free from humdrum possessions and habits: she sold her house, invested in a motor home and hit the road for a life of adventure. and self fulfilment. She looked wonderful but somehow no- one felt able to follow such a dramatic life style! Glamour evenings of fashion and jewellery proved tempting. Our group activities, discussion, craft, books and a lunch club continue to flourish whilst our August garden party and Christmas lunch are greatly anticipated.

The W.I. is an ideal place to make new friends and become part of our community. You will always meet someone you know when out and about.

This year we have supported our local primary school and the women's refuge and will always be glad to hear from local charities who fulfil the W.I. criteria.

There are many interesting activities and courses at national level which are open to all members.

Come and join us!
Second Tuesday in the month. 7.30p.m.

We'd love to see you!



Cricket Club

Cricket and community-related activities have continued apace at Leverstock Green Cricket Club - despite the temperamental weather doing its best to try and have some kind of say.

The club's junior playing ranks have now blossomed to around the 125 mark, with both players and their parents enjoying the clubhouse and its west-facing patio for matchdays, training sessions and social gatherings.

The most notable of LGCC's annual social offerings - Cricket Week - took place recently in late July. Even a day's murky cloud and drizzle on the feature 'Caribbean Day' Thursday couldn't dampen spirits as young & young at heart came together to enjoy cricket matches at both junior & senior levels every day for six consecutive days.

Grounds manager Craig Ringsell helped mark the start of this prestigious club week by using a GPS-controlled device to paint the club's crest (two Under-13 teams pictured before play) into the outfield, impressing club members and other locals in equal measure - especially when viewed via images taken from a drone kindly supplied by villager Terry Jonas.

Recent months have also, sadly, seen the passing of popular darts player Roger White (highlighted, centre of photo) and there's now a local knockout competition about to be hosted in his name during September at The Green.

LGCC welcomes new members from across the village, with plenty of community activities available to all without having to join up. Please visit lgcc.hitscricket.com for more information.



Guides & Brownies



Would your daughter like to join in the fun and friendship that GirlGuiding can offer in a space that is just for girls?

They can join Rainbows at 5 – 7yrs, Brownies from 7 – 10yrs, then Guides and Rangers to 18.

Weekly meetings follow school term times for all sorts of crafts, music, cooking and outdoor challenges with occasional residential stays and camping.

Our aim is to realise their potential, inspiring girls to discover and become their best, encouraging confidence to grow and have fun.

There are Units that meet in the grounds of Leverstock Green C of E School in Green Lane, and several other venues around the local area, so do contact Heather on 07521 913872 to find out more.



Guides at the recent International Jamboree in Essex.



Brownies sewing club.



Girls proudly wearing their camp blankets at their 'Gold' ceremony. The highest award for Rainbows.

Dining at Centurion Club

A La Carte | Prix Fixe | Sunday Lunch
Private Dining | Afternoon Tea

An exceptional dining experience offering
a menu of the finest, fresh, seasonal
ingredients prepared to perfection by
Head Chef, Calvin Hill

Make a reservation

centurionclub.co.uk/dining

01442 510520



Hemel Hempstead Road | St Albans



- 👉 Painting & Decorating
- 👉 Plastering
- 👉 Woodwork
- 👉 Carpet Cleaning
- 👉 All DIY Work

07576 804 191

handyhero.handyman@gmail.com

SAUNDERS STROLLS

LICENCED DOGGY DAYCARE
AND BOARDING
FOR YOUR POOCH
FULLY INSURED

BOOK YOUR POOCHES PLACE ON:

07886 196013

OR EMAIL:

SAUNDERSSTROLLS@GMAIL.COM

Leverstock Green Tennis Club

It has been a brilliant summer at Leverstock Green Tennis Club. We held our Club Closed Finals day and Junior Championship in July which saw some fabulous tennis across all age groups. We have 3 regular social tennis sessions each week (Wednesday evenings, Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings) which are for all our members, as well as drop in sessions on a Monday and Friday at 9.30am which is 90 minutes of coached tennis fun for non-members too.

Our Men's Over 50s team reached the quarter-finals of the National Cup and our Men's Over 55s team are in the semi-finals. A superb achievement!

Our Junior Nights are running throughout the Autumn term for children age 8+ Check out our Facebook page for more details:- <https://www.facebook.com/LGLTC>



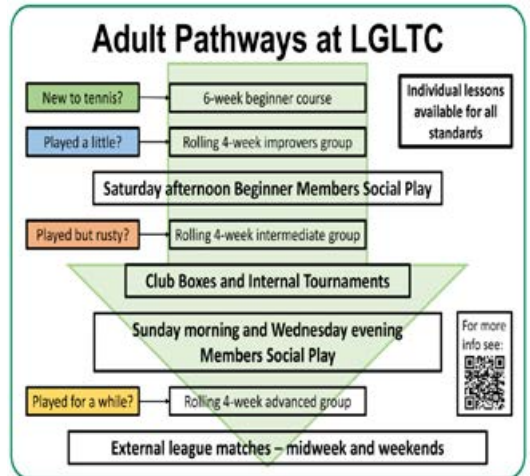
Men's Over 55 Team in the National Cup



Club Closed – Doubles Finalists



Club Closed – Singles Finalists



Tollgate Insurance Brokers Putting your business first



Tollgate Insurance Brokers are your local broker with access to leading insurers – so you know we're on hand to support your business.

Giving you the best solution for your needs, taking the pressure away from you.

Get in touch today and see how we can help you

01992 443786

enquiries@tollgateinsurance.com

136a High Street, Hoddesdon,
Hertfordshire, EN11 8HL

We protect you, so you can protect your business interests

We offer

- Commercial Combined Insurance
- Property Owners Insurance
- Motor Fleet Insurance
- Printers Insurance
- Pubs, Restaurants & Hotel Insurance
- Café and Take Away Insurance
- Shop & Office Insurance
- Tradesman & Liability Insurance
- Professional Indemnity
- Home Insurance

www.tollgateinsurance.com

Tollgate Insurance Brokers Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Firm Reference Number: 752636. Find us on the Financial Services Register: www.fca.org.uk



Find us on



PRINT & DESIGN

Hertfordshire's Premier Choice for Branded Workwear

GT Print And Design
37 Wood Lane End
Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire
HP2 4RA

www.gtprintanddesign.co.uk

01442 506510

Nature Notes

Nature Notes from My Garden

It's now August and I have completed the Big Butterfly Count three times this year as you can complete it more than once. Compared to my results of last year the species and numbers of each I have seen are down and I'm sure you have all heard the news about our butterflies, moths, bees and other insects disappearing. Habitat loss along with this year's unusually wet and windy spring, coupled with the colder than usual temperatures early summer are thought to be contributing to this. How about having a wild area with nectar loving plants that these insects love to help feed them when they are out on the wing?

It is easy to build an insect hotel to help insects overwinter. Use a milk carton as the basis for your mini bug hotel. 2. Fill in the gaps. Insert bamboo canes, drinking straws and rolled up cardboards into your milk carton. Fill in the remaining space with dry leaves, pebbles, loose bark and other materials. Here are some of the creatures you might find hiding in different parts of your hotel! Loose bark, rotting wood and dry leaves - Centipede, woodlouse and stag beetle. Tubes (hollow stems, bamboo canes and drinking straws) - Bee (Leaf cutter bee, mason bee, solitary bee), ground beetle and garden spider. Straw - Lacewing, devil's coach-horse. Stones and tiles - Smooth newt, frog. Dry leaves - Ladybird. Corrugated cardboard - Earwig, lacewing.

I was lucky to have the Ringlet butterflies back in my garden this year along with the Holly Blue who lays eggs on my holly every year. For the first time in the garden yesterday (3rd August) was a green veined white but I never managed to get a photo! Also spotted were peacocks, small tortoiseshells, red admirals, an orange tip, a gatekeeper and small whites. These butterflies love the hebes and verbenas.



Gatekeeper on hebe



Red Admiral on Verbena



White Tailed Bumble Bees



Peacock

Moving away from butterflies I don't put a lot of food out for the birds as I feel there is a lot of natural food for them, and my neighbours always have plenty of food out for them but this doesn't deter them visiting and nesting. This year I have been a grandmother to great tits, robins, wrens and dunnocks. The tits nested in a nestbox at the side of the summer house with the remainder nesting in the bushes around my very untidy garden and the overgrown clematis on my arch. I currently have two budgies on holiday with me and when they hear the green ring-necked parakeets at the bottom of the garden try calling back to them.

We have three ponds that provide homes for frogs, toads and newts as well as the husband's fish but also dragonflies and damselflies which also haven't been very abundant this year. On a damp night or during the cooling of the day apart from the slugs there are plenty of frogs and toads of all sizes hopping around. With the grass not being cut for 5 years now it provides the baby frogs and toads with shelter and food for the rabbits and guinea pigs I also have on holiday.



Bernadine Makins (LGVA Secretary)

G.L. PARBERY

— THE DRIVEWAY COMPANY —

Telephone **01442 879190**

Mobile **07521308933**

Driveway cleaning is one of our specialties, using high-quality driveway pressure cleaning techniques to remove dirt, grime, and stains from your concrete or paved surfaces.



@G.L.PARBERY



SCAN ME



G L Parbery
The Driveway Company



— THE DRIVEWAY COMPANY —

Telephone **01442 879190**

Mobile **07521308933**

Photographic Competition

Why not enter our Photographic competition - It is free to enter.

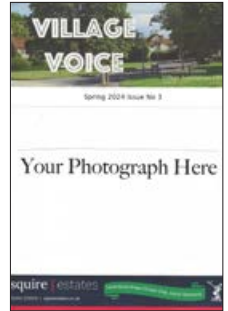
The winner's photograph will appear on the front cover of the Village Voice in the spring edition.

It is not essential but a Leverstock Green related photograph would be in keeping with the magazine.

Just email your picture to Lesley:- lgvaoffice@gmail.com with your name and the road you live in, although not essential.

Our panel of judges will pick the lucky winner.

GOOD LUCK.



Scouts



1st Leverstock Green Scout Group has been providing exciting activities and opportunities to learn new skills to young people in the local area for more than a century. Currently, through a Beaver Colony, two Cub Packs and a Scout Troop, we have around 140 young people in the Scout Group, with ages from 6 to 14.

Our large team of volunteers makes the Scout Group a success, but we are always looking to add new people to the team.

Volunteering through Scouting is very rewarding and we have a range of options open to anyone who wishes to help, from working directly with the young people, to helping with the upkeep and maintenance of our premises and equipment or being part of the Trustee Board of our charity.

In my time with 1st Leverstock Green Scouts, I have had a few different roles. First, I stepped forward to be a parent volunteer on the committee that oversees the running of the group. Two years later, I took over running one of the Cub Packs and I did that for nine years before moving to become part of the Scout Group leadership team.

Through all of it, it has been the interactions I've had with the young people and watching them develop self-confidence and leadership skills that have been the most rewarding.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering with us and for details on how to contact us, please visit www.leverstockgreenscouts.org.uk.

Dave Jermy - Group Scout Leader - 1st Leverstock Green Scouts



BUYING *Or* SELLING *A Home?*

We'd love to help you...

Buying or selling a home can be stressful without the right estate agent. With 20 years of experience, you can rely on us to secure the best possible outcome for you.

squire | estates

T: 01442 233 533 | E: homes@squireestates.co.uk
W: www.squireestates.co.uk

67 Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead Herts HP1 1LE

Flower Club

Our flower club meets every other month on a Thursday afternoon in the hall at Leverstock Green Village Centre. We are a friendly, relaxed little group who just enjoy arranging flowers, and having a chat over a cup of tea. We would love to have more members and would be very happy to see you. No experience in flower arranging is necessary, we have several members who are only too happy to offer help if needed. We have a different theme or colour scheme each session and members are notified ahead of time as to what flowers, etc to bring. Oasis and other accessories are available to buy from the club.

Your first visit would be free of charge, so what have you got to lose? Come along, make new friends and maybe learn a new skill and passion.

If you are interested please contact Lesley in the hall office for details or email me at:-
ericadurrant1951@gmail.com



Cultivating with Clive

In the last issue I wrote about peat free compost and said I would do some trials. Graham at The Hertfordshire Garden Centre gave me various bags of peat free compost. He asked me to do some trials for him which I have now completed and, as they say on Strictly, the results are in!

I am not endorsing any of these products just sharing with you my results. What you must also bear in mind is each year's weather and conditions are very different. This year we had a cold start and Summer was very late arriving. So I will not publish my trials on tomatoes as I personally think they are inconclusive. Mainly because of the weather conditions this year.

I can however share with you my Strawberry trial as Strawberries are native to this country and are not affected that much by the unpredictable British climate.

I used J.Arthur Bower's Multi-Purpose which is a blend of peat, *West+, lime and fertiliser. 30% peat mix so is 70% peat free.

Westlands Jack's Magic is a blend of peat, *West+, composted organic matter, lime and fertiliser. 50% peat so is 50% peat free.

Sylva Grow Multi-Purpose The bulk components are fine bark, coir and wood fibre/sawdust it also contains non-organic base fertilisers so is 100% peat free.

*West+, listed above, is a spruce tree wood, which is chopped up and exploded in a compression chamber to make it fibrous. It is then mixed with carbon before being added into the compost mixes.

In the trial there was not an awful lot of difference however the J. Arthur Bower's and Jack's Magic grew slightly larger plants than the Sylva peat free.

For me, caring for the planet is far more important than the slight improvement on the non-peat free compost.

What I intend to do next season is to do the same trial but adding 50% of my own home made compost to the shop bought compost.



Library

Tucked away by the Community Centre in Leverstock Green a team of friendly volunteers run the Library. Now open on Saturday mornings as well as every weekday afternoon except Thursday. With a fantastic range of fiction and non-fiction books for children and adults, magazines and audiobooks, there is something for everyone.

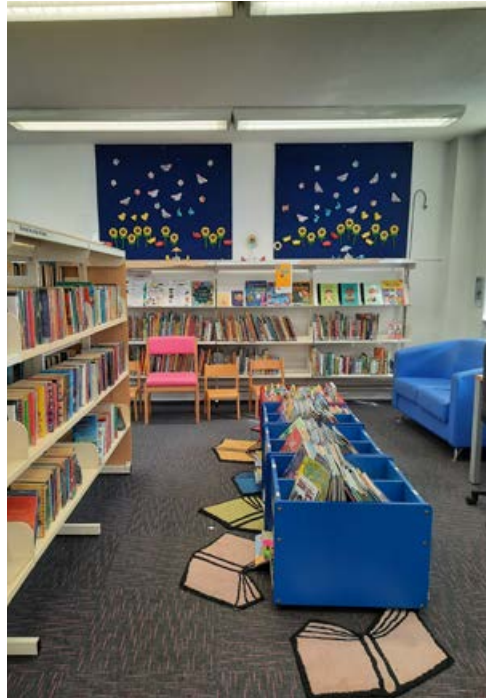
It's free to join and free to borrow 30 ("How many?? 30?!?") - yes 30 books at a time for up to 3 weeks - and it's free to renew your books unless someone else has reserved them. (It costs less than £1 to reserve a book or to order it from any other library across Hertfordshire.) If you prefer e-books or e-audiobooks, or reading magazines or newspapers online, then library membership also gives you free access to a huge catalogue using the Borrowbox, Libby and PressReader apps.

Printing, using wifi or our library computers, and photocopying is also available in the library for a small fee. During July and August children can enjoy taking part in our Summer Reading Challenge.

New volunteers are always welcome! If you can give a couple of hours a week why not pop into the library or email us at:-

leverstocklibraryvolunteers@outlook.com
to find out more?

We look forward to seeing you soon.





We are Private Medical Health, a Health Insurance agency, the client is at the heart of everything we do and ensure they will receive the best value for their health insurance and the policy is suitable within requirements and affordability.

We are independent brokers and cover the whole of market, we operate a free service with regulated and experienced advice. We cover all aspects including individuals, companies and corporates.

We pride ourselves on building relationships with diligence, understanding, personal service and communication at the heart of our ethos.



David Levy - Director
Private Medical Insurance Adviser



020 4548 3755



david.levy@pmhealth.co.uk



David Levy

Private Medical Health Ltd is an Appointed Representative of The Right Mortgage Ltd, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Registered in England and Wales no. 09838343. Registered Address: 1 Aston House, Cornwall Avenue, London N3

1LF

Summer Fete

The Summer Fête, organised by LGVA, is one of the annual highlights of village life.

Hundreds of local residents – and visitors – take advantage of the opportunity to mingle and have fun outdoors in the wonderful setting provided by the Westwick Field. And this year was no different. There was something for everyone.



The kids enjoyed smashing plates with the Scouts, hooking a duck to win a cuddly toy, bouncing on the bouncy castle, riding on the roundabout and even having their photo taken with the local fire crew, to name but a few.

Grown-ups ambled around a variety of stalls, listened to live music performed by ukelele band BURp and watched a Zumba demonstration by one of the exercise classes who practice weekly in our Hall.



Stalls are always the mainstay of this event and this year there were many of them, too numerous to mention, but they never fail to provide a dazzling and fascinating array of goods and services. Each year stallholders compete for the 'Best Dressed Stall' prize and this year it was won by Recycled Plastic (who knew you could do so much with an old cola bottle!?). Sir Mike Penning, a staunch supporter and long-time friend of LGVA events, presented the award.

Sir Mike, accompanied by his wife Angie, also ably conducted the auction for the much-coveted round of golf at the Centurion Club.

As ever, the dog show, sponsored and

judged by Westwick K9 Academy, drew a large crowd of competitors and spectators alike. There was food galore – from hot dogs and burgers to tea and cake – as well as a bar for a reviving drink after all that activity.



Summer Fete



Even the weather played its part (this being the Great British Summer!). Although skies were overcast, the rain held off and cloudy conditions meant that it wasn't too hot either.

Needless to say, none of this wonderful afternoon out would have been possible without the help of so very many people – our administrator Lesley Hicks and lots of able and willing volunteers: those who make and install the roadside advance-advertising signs, mark out the field, move tables and chairs and pick up rubbish, those who sell raffle tickets and put up decorations, those who 'man' LGVA's own stalls and those who provide, set up and operate the sound system. Special thanks, also, to GT Print & Design who provided and donated the shiny new announcement banners.

The biggest thanks, though, must go to those who come to support it and who help to create that lovely, welcoming village atmosphere we all enjoy. This year we raised an incredible £3,163 which will go towards helping LGVA continue its valuable work – thank you!

New Mayor

From The Dacorum Mayor; Cllr Brenda Link

Firstly, I should like to pass on my thanks to the previous Mayor of Dacorum; Cllr William Allen. William had an amazing year as Mayor from May 2023 to May 2024.

I should like to welcome Cllr Catherine McAreyvee as the newly appointed Deputy Mayor of Dacorum for May 2024 to May 2025. Catherine and I have already attended many events together and she is a breath of fresh air.

I have served as a Borough Councillor in the Highfield Ward for over 19 Years. I am very involved in my local community and have raised my children in Highfield. I really enjoy attending local community events and have done so for many years. I am a WI member and I love being on the committee of Gadebridge Gals. This WI group was set up as a new wave group by my youngest daughters friends. I became a committee member of Gadebridge Girls WI, as I really enjoy these sessions and love helping to plan them for the ladies. My favourite craft activity has to be knitting. I really did enjoy making clothing for my children and now their children are benefitting from my hand made knits. I was delighted to have been presented by former Mayor of Dacorum, a knitted jumper by the local knitting and yarn bombing members. It sits proudly on display in my living room.

Since being elected in May, I have attended some wonderful events. I really enjoyed being invited to meet the DENS hostel residents, for an awards ceremony. It was great to recognise the hard work that staff and volunteers put in to keep the hostel running smoothly.

I was so happy that I could attend a wonderful production of Little Shop of Horrors at Boxmoor Playhouse with my Consort, who is also my youngest daughter. Cllr Carrie Link was elected for the first time in May 2023, representing the Apsley & Corner Hall Ward

I have many engagements coming up that I am very much looking forward to attending. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Mayor's Secretary, Jennie Webb. She works tirelessly to coordinate everything from logistics to dress code and new requests for my attendance at events. Also my driver: Richard Kiff, who makes the Role of Madam Mayor a more enjoyable experience.



Buglass Award

The Fred Buglass Award was instigated in 2002 using funds from the Fred Buglass Legacy. Fred lived in Leverstock Green for 45 years until his death in 1998 at the age of 93. He was responsible for the formation of LGVA in 1962 and served as Chairman and Life President of the Association. He was instrumental in the building of the Village Hall and was awarded the British Empire Medal in 1986 for services to the community. His final act, following his death, was a generous legacy to the Village Association. Fred was largely responsible for establishing the strong village identity and pleasant environment which we enjoy today. He was deservedly known as 'Mr Leverstock Green'.



Last years winner's trophy

Individuals who are eligible for the award must either live or work in Leverstock Green. They can be nominated for making a major contribution to the life of the village community, for promoting the identity of Leverstock Green or making a major contribution towards conserving or improving the environment of the village. The award was initially presented annually although there are some years with no presentation due to a lack of nominations.

At the AGM in November 2023 the award was presented to Lesley Hicks, the Village Hall administrator. Whilst Lesley is a paid employee she devotes a huge amount of additional time to ensure the smooth running of the hall, assisting at fund raising events such as the annual summer fete and even standing in for the caretaker when he is not available. Her contribution to the village goes far beyond her terms of employment and she is a very deserving recipient. Lesley was presented with the award by Clive Hill, editor of the Village Voice.

We will be presenting the award at the AGM in November so please come along and congratulate our 2024/25 winner. *See posters on pages 38 & 39.*

Leather Bottle

You may have noticed that the oldest pub in Leverstock Green has recently had a makeover. The pub dates back to approximately 1725. The only history I can find is from the local historian Barbara Chapman's web site. This states that the pub was run by a Mr Arthur Seabrook back in 1883. On his death his widow took over the licence and continued until her retirement. The licence was then transferred to the son in law of Mrs Seabrook Mr Cecil Parkins who was already a resident at the pub because he lived there with his wife Olive who grew up in the pub. Mrs Parkins was also a founder member of the WI.

It is stated on Barbara's website that in the first World War the pub was frequented by many of the Queens Westminster Rifles Regiment who were stationed in Leverstock Green for training purposes for the war.

It also states that the local Cricket and Football club used to hold their meetings there. They also held their annual dinners in the pub. Also some famous names used to frequent the pub the famous 60s singer Petula Clark and Sir Stanley Rouse who was chairman of the FA.



Leather Bottle - Circa 1930's ?



Leather Bottle - Circa 1950's

Photographs by kind permission of Barbara Chapman and Paul Tilbury

It's been a very busy first half of the year here at The Leather Bottle.

We have had the external refurbishment, new windows, a paint freshen up, new signage and hanging baskets to complete the look.

Work will continue through the next few months, with internal decoration throughout, new fencing and the carpark will be re-surfaced. Please bear with us whilst work is being carried out.

The Euros was a huge success and we move forward now with the new football season on SKY and TNT sports.

Our huge garden space out the back is available for hire for most occasions during the warmer months and with the new crematorium within a short distance away, we cater for wakes.

Please call the pub 01442 239911 with any questions or enquiries.

Bingo is the last Thursday of every month and has become very popular with jackpot prizes of up to £100. We will be organising a quiz night in the run up to Christmas. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and notice boards for dates.

Thank you all for your continued support and custom.

Best wishes

Nicki and the staff at The Leather Bottle



CLOISTERS

— DESIGN —
INTERIORS



Cloisters Design is a 4th generation family run business offering custom made kitchens and furniture for every room in your home. Affordable and transparently priced with complete kitchens - including furniture, worktops and appliances - from just £15,000.

- ◇ www.cloistersdesign.co.uk
- ◇ 01442 231466
- ◇ studio@cloistersdesign.co.uk
- ◇ 271 St. Albans Road, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, HP2 4RP