

Spring daffodils remind us of the Great Hamptonian Tony Cavan

in this issue:

THE FUTURE OF HAMPTON SQUARE

Maura Waters reports on the proposals for rejuvenating the former Tangley Square. *More on page 2.*

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION SUCCESS

Maura Waters reports on how the closing of the roads encouraged more visitors to the event and united the village. *More on page 2.*

AGM AGENDA

This year's AGM will be held on 18 April and there will be a talk on the restoration of Garrick's Villa. *More details on page 3.*

SOCIETY NEWS AND UPDATES

Notes from our Chair, contact details and membership update. *More on page 3.*

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Photography by Sam and William Redfern, unless stated otherwise.

We recently lost a genuine Great Hamptonian, Tony Cavan. The well-known local baker had shops in Hampton, Hampton Hill and, more recently, Teddington. But his major local achievement must surely be his determination to achieve the right market price for the St Clare's garden centre site, now the large Sainsbury's supermarket in Uxbridge Road.

The original landowners were prepared to accept only £3 million, but in 1989, Tony, along with Richmond Council, the Hampton Hill Association and the Hampton Residents' Association (the Society's previous title), pressed successfully in the High Court for the more realistic £21.6 million.

Although Tony had retired from the family business set up by his father back in 1929, he remained very active with Companion Cycling in Bushy Park, volunteer driving for the Greenwood Centre in Hampton Hill, acting as a trustee for the latter charity and was very involved in the activities of St Mary's church. *Continued on back page...*



ABOUT THE SOCIETY

The Hampton Society is primarily concerned with the protection and development of the local environment, both built and natural, and to ensure that the provision of amenities enhances the quality of life for the residents of Hampton.

Contact us at **enquiries**
@thehamptonsociety.org.uk

CAN YOU HELP?

Have you got a talent that you think would benefit the Society and its members? Do you have a fascinating story you'd like to tell us about living in Hampton? We not only welcome contributions for the newsletter and website, but also seek speakers and performers for the events we hold for the people of Hampton.

SOMETHING TO SAY?

You can contact The Hampton Society by email at:
enquiries@thehamptonsociety.org.uk
We also have a website:
www.thehamptonsociety.org.uk
which is regularly updated with current events and issues.
We look forward to hearing from you.
Follow us on Twitter @HamptonSociety

Could Hampton Square look like this? Ideas, please



At last we've some idea of what Hampton Square in front of "little" Sainsbury's could look like. Until the original White House is demolished it will be hard to visualise what Richmond Council's proposed Uplift programme for the area will involve. Now with the artist's impression – suggested by our Society – reproduced here, local residents can examine it and suggest ideas of their own.

This scene was reproduced on posters in the precinct in early February. Taking a theme of oval shapes in designs of sloping green areas and planted beds edged in York stone, there will be raised places for seating along them. In addition, there will be timber benches for people to sit and enjoy the newly-landscaped outdoor space – an ideal place to rest for weary shoppers or parents of small children.

Two splendid play fountains, similar to the one in Kingston's Market Square, are planned for a site close to the entrance from the main car-park. Activated by scanner, once someone steps near them up comes a jet of water. The kids'll love it, and so will the Court Jester pub's customers from their ringside seats facing into the square!

The children's playground itself will be on a grassed area on the opposite side. Featuring a timber stile, timber tractor and even timber sheep, none of them are high enough to present fears of serious hazard to youngsters.

With 2,190 square metres of space, a permanent location for a Christmas tree, cycle racks and fresh lighting are all envisaged for the new square as well as a regular monthly market. Hampton's secondary schools have all shown interest in staging open-air entertainments there, too.

That's all the information available to us at the time of going to press. We know deciduous trees are planned, as shown in this picture, and all the businesses and organisations will remain as at present. Adam Mardell, Richmond Council's Uplift programme manager, says he's already received over 100 responses from residents, most of them favourable. But he'd like more, especially if they're constructive. After all, we're the ones who'll have to live with it. So email him at adam.mardell@richmond.gov.uk. MW



Another bumper Christmas parade

Recession or no recession, Hampton's Christmas parade and celebrations, organised by our local Village Traders Association last December, still raised £1,300 for local good causes. The progress of Santa's sleigh along Station and Ashley roads must have been seen by over a thousand people, making the most of the dark late afternoon for the lighting-up ceremony of Christmas trees above the shops.



On this occasion the Traders asked the police to close the sleigh route to traffic, enabling a free flow of pedestrians among the many stalls set up on the pavements. Judged to be a wise move, according to HVTA's Michael Badger. "Santa's route over the railway bridge meant Hampton felt more like one village, not one divided by railway tracks."

It also meant more safety for small children coming to see Santa in his sleigh (courtesy Teddington and Hampton Rotary Club), or else to stuff themselves with free popcorn and candyfloss!

Steve Parker of the Cheese and Wine Shop reckoned he'd poured out 74 litres of mulled wine to thirsty revellers during the three-hour event. "Having the roads closed really helped us", he said. "It was much safer for children, too".



Other beneficiaries included the Sweet Café in Wensleydale Road, who saw their customer footfall double in the week following the parade and Shaun's Quality Meats in Station Road. Shaun generously donated £400 to charity, most of it dropped into his donation boxes by customers satiated with his sausages on sticks and turkey-and-cranberry rolls topped with sausages.

What with all this meat, wine, sweets, chestnuts (at Chino's) and samosas (at Ruchi among others) I think next year's parade will see a crowd of hungry lunchers, too! MW

Notes from the Chair



Now that we're well into 2013, I wonder how many of you have managed to stick to your New Year's resolutions? I had just one, which was to embrace social media and learn how it could benefit me in my working and personal life.

So far, so good. I'm starting to get the hang of it and, as a result, the Hampton Society *Facebook* page and *Twitter* account are both now being actively used. This is already helping to increase awareness of the Society, as well as keeping the Society itself more up-to-date with local issues. If you already have a *Facebook* or *Twitter* account do please follow us by clicking the icons on our website. You might also enjoy taking a look at community *Facebook* page "Did you/do you live in Hampton?" where local people have been posting their stories, memories and photos of the area.

Those of you who have regularly attended our talks and events over the years will be sorry to learn that John and Sheila Farndon have stepped down from their long-standing role providing refreshments and tending the bar. After their 20 years' loyal service, I'd like to say how much John and Sheila's efforts have been appreciated by everyone and to thank them for their commitment and hard work.

We are currently looking for volunteers to take on (or indeed share) this important role and I'm sure John would be happy to discuss what's involved with any interested parties.

Finally, please see below the agenda for our Annual General Meeting on Thursday 18 April, which we hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend. Once the usual business is concluded, there will be a short talk on the restoration of Garrick's Villa, which promises to be very informative.

We're always looking for new committee members to help share the responsibility of representing the community

With over 105 new households joining last year alone, we are a thriving society. The committee should represent all ages and areas of Hampton. We always welcome 'new blood' to reflect our ever-expanding membership. Do you like organising events, have accounting skills, have experience of planning issues or researching items of local interest? If you would like to make a contribution to the direction of the Society you are cordially invited to contact me or any member of the present committee. Nominations are also welcomed in writing to the Secretary, **Rosemary Hill**, 7 Upper Lodge Mews, Bushy Park, Hampton Hill, TW12 1NE and need to be presented before 4 April.

Agenda for AGM, 18 April 2013

To be held at St Mary's parish hall, Church Street, Hampton at 8.00pm.

1. Minutes of AGM held on 5 April 2012
2. Matters arising from the minutes
3. Presentation and approval of accounts for 2012/13
4. Appointment of Independent Examiner and Banker for 2013/14
5. Chair's report
6. Elections of officers and committee in accordance with the rules
 - a) Vice-Chair
 - b) Secretary
 - c) Five committee members
7. Any other business



Sam Redfern Chair

The Hampton Society committee members

CHAIR

Sam Redfern 8286 7071

DEPUTY CHAIR

Alice Fordham 8979 3543

SECRETARY

Rosemary Hill 8973 3604

TREASURER

William Redfern 8286 7071

MEMBERSHIP

Trisha Shirt 8941 5162

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Maura Waters 8979 9654

OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patrick Hooton 8941 6720

Julie-nne Monahan 8979 8942

Christine Paganelli 8941 5927

Denmead's neighbours win latest round

The latest round of proposals to extend Denmead School in Gloucester Road has been narrowly won by the Denmead Neighbours Association. At a Richmond Council planning meeting in January five out of nine councillors rejected the school's current development plans for new buildings to accommodate 176 pupils compared with the existing 144.

Increased traffic is the big issue. According to the Association website www.denmead-neighbours.org more pupils will mean more traffic. Gloucester Road residents in particular already suffer heavy school traffic at both ends of the school day.

To help alleviate the current congestion, the school has been encouraging pupils to arrive via Carlisle Park's Wensleydale Road entrance. Boys arriving by Hampton School coach are dropped off at the park gate where they are met by a staff-member and walked across the park to school.

But clearly this hasn't been enough to convince the Council's planners. **MW**

PLEASE GET IN TOUCH!

Do you have a story to tell or anything you'd like featured in the members' newsletter? Contact us at enquiries@thehamptonsociety.org.uk

EMAIL ADDRESSES

We now have email addresses for over half of our membership. If you haven't done so already, or have changed your email address, please send them to enquiries@thehamptonsociety.org.uk Your information will not be passed on to anyone other than the membership secretary.

Great Hamptonian Tony Cavan *Continued from cover*

Tony Cavan will also be remembered for the planting of trees and 4,000 daffodil bulbs and crocus corms on the triangle at the junction of Wensleydale and Gloucester roads in 1989. He also remained very active with Companion Cycling in Bushy Park.



He also co-founded Hampton Hill Traders Association and had wider interests in the Association of Master Bakers, many of which have been recorded elsewhere. But he was a true son of the locality, going to school at Denmead, then Hampton Grammar School, as it was then. He later ran a scout group at Denmead, sat on the school's board and became chairman of governors there.

But perhaps what many local residents will remember that, in 1989, Tony planted trees and 4,000 daffodil bulbs and crocus corms on the triangle at the junction of Wensleydale and Gloucester roads. That was to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of the family business.

Tony was 77 when he died of leukaemia in January, leaving his wife Penny, sons David and Jonathan and his daughter Sarah, who now runs the business along with her husband Jeff.

MAURA WATERS

Quiz night 2!



Linden Hall, Hampton – **7.30pm Friday 15 March**

Not long to go until our Quiz Night at Linden Hall! Following the runaway success of last year's event that filled Linden Hall (by the level crossing), tables are booking very fast, so please get in touch with **Trisha Shirt** on **8941 5162** if you'd like to take part. Tickets are £5 per person, payable in advance. Doors open at 7.30pm for a prompt 8.00pm start.

Come with friends in a team of four to six or else come on your own and we'll help you make up a team.

Wine and other drinks will be available for a voluntary donation – and don't forget to bring your own picnic. There will also be a raffle. If you've not been to a Hampton Society event before *then this is the one for you!*

Tickets are £5 per person and available from **Trisha Shirt** on **8941 5162**

EVENTS PROGRAMME, SPRING/SUMMER 2013

Please bring your membership cards

Due to the popularity of our talks and events and the size of our venues, we may have to turn people away if we run out of room. Arrive early to avoid disappointment.

All the events listed below are open to the members of both the Hampton Society (HS) and the Hampton Hill Association (HHA).

WEDNESDAY 15 MAY, 10.00 AM

Guided tour of Ham House

Ham House is right on our doorstep but how long is it since any of us last paid a visit to this atmospheric Stuart mansion? Both the house and garden are regarded as an unusually complete survival of the 17th century and the house is reputed to be one of the most haunted houses in Britain!

We have arranged a guided tour for up to 50 members. There will be a charge of £6.50 for National Trust members and £15.00 for non-NT members. There is a rather nice Orangery café which members might like to repair to after the tour.

If you would like to come, please contact **Rosemary Hill** on **8973 3604**

SATURDAY 1 JUNE, 2.15 PM

Royal Paddocks walk

Nicholas Garbutt, who took us on a tree identification walk in 2011, has agreed to take us on another walk into the hidden world of the Royal Paddocks. This will be different from our previous walk and in an area which usually has no public access. It will be a good opportunity to see the conservation work that Historic Royal Palaces has been undertaking over the past year. There will be uneven ground and a set of steep steps but it won't be a difficult walk or exhausting.

It will start and finish at the Kingston Gate into Home Park. Numbers will be limited to 30.

If you are interested, please contact **Rosemary Hill** on **8973 3604**.

SATURDAY 22 JUNE, 7.30 PM

Hampton Society Summer Party

Following last year's successful party, the Hampton Sailing Club is once again offering us use of their clubhouse.

Make sure you get the date into your diary and come along to enjoy a summer evening in this idyllic location. The view of the river from the clubhouse is quite different compared with the one we are accustomed to and makes this a very interesting venue.

There will be a finger buffet, a welcoming drink and a bar where drinks can be purchased. Last year's event was over-subscribed so make sure you make a note of the date. Tickets can be purchased from **Bill Weisblatt** on **8979 3089** after 5 June.