

The Hampton Society

The residents' association of Hampton, est.1956 Winter Newsletter 2022



▲ Sam Clark of Birdie Bikes on Wensleydale Road demonstrates the electric cargo bike outside the shop.

Next time you have heavy pots to move from the garden centre, or even a particularly heavy food shop for yourself and others, consider Hampton's Community Cargo Bike Scheme.

Ours is one of only three localities in the London Borough of Richmond selected and funded by the Council. The scheme is based on electric bikes and 'greening' the borough. **Birdie Bikes** in Wensleydale Road is our local source. Adam Phipps runs it and claims users so far thoroughly enjoy the experience. "It's free to hire and electric, so it's easy to use," he says.

Launched in the summer, so far 172 members have registered for the scheme and 420 km have been ridden. All rides of up to two hours are free and £3 an hour thereafter. It has a carrying capacity of 100Kg and has a range of 45Km. There are seatbelts for child passengers.

Why was Hampton selected for the scheme? Becky Howarth, the Council's transport strategy co-ordinator explained "Birdie Bikes is exactly the right sort of business we want, keen on greening the borough!" So get along to Birdie Bikes and check out the wonder bike, presently shown outside the premises.

Watch the following video here youtu.be/Z9nbCdFAwac MW THS



How it works

- Register with **OurBike** by completing the form on their website and you will have access to the bike after 48 hours
- All new members must read the Instructions page before they use the bikes
- If you feel you require some additional support you can book a cargo bike training session with one of our qualified instructors

Visit ourbike.co.uk to register.

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Contact us at

enquiries@thehamptonsociety.org.uk



HER MAJESTY
THE QUEEN 1926-2022



Notes from the Chair

Although the primary concern of the Society is the built and natural environment of Hampton, we take pride in also being able to provide our members with local information and news updates in the form of these newsletters and regular email correspondence, as well as entertainment through our popular talks and events.

Our autumn season has, so far, been a resounding success so thank you for coming! The results of our recent survey indicate that we are doing the right things for you and the recent unprecedented audience figures for **Graham Dillamore**, **Stephan Roman** and **Tracy Borman's** talks are certainly backing that up. However, if you have a subject for a talk or an activity you think might be of interest to members, please drop me a line.

There's a lot going on in our area

Hampton has become somewhat of a centre of entertainment! Aptly named 'Hampton Hub' on Ashley Road (formerly the Metropolitan Water Board Club) hosts evenings of music and comedy. Acts that have played at the Hub Club include **Shakatak**, **China Crisis** and a variety of tribute acts; plus comedians including **Andy Parsons** and **Milton Jones**. You can find out what's on next at the hamptonhub.co.uk website.

The West End gets beamed directly into the village at the Hammond Theatre on Hanworth Road (on Hampton School grounds). As well as live events, it also shows live screenings including the **Royal Ballet** and opera from the **Royal Opera House**, Covent Garden and drama from the **National Theatre**. Not only are ticket prices a lot more affordable than these famous venues, it also cuts out the hassle of a commute into and out of town, late at night. See their website www.thehammondtheatre.co.uk for more information about upcoming events.

Tribute of Friendship

We lost a huge champion for Hampton last year. **Caroline Badgery**, along with her husband Michael, was a local estate agent and was instrumental in running the Hampton Village Traders' Association and its events. Fellow HVTA committee member **Jane Witham** of the Jolly Coopers organised a 'friendship bench' in her memory. It was a pleasure to attend its unveiling in the garden of Linden Hall along with Jane, Michael, friends and family at the beginning of September.

Real Beauties!

I was surprised to see that one of the 'Windsor Beauties', the subjects of a talk by **Laurence Shafe** we held over Zoom during lockdown, had sprung to life in front of my eyes on a recent visit to Hampton Court. Laurence will be enlightening us again in a talk on **JMW Turner** in March next year – this time also IRL (in real life) at St Mary's! The corridor and the adjacent Cumberland Art Gallery that holds part of the Royal Collection including 13 **Canelettos** are not to be missed if you are planning a visit.

God Save The King

It was an honour to represent the Society again at this year's Remembrance Sunday service at the War Memorial Cottages on Oldfield Road, the centenary of when they were built in 1922. It was the largest contingent of youth groups I have experienced at this event including representatives of many Scouting packs. Along with our MP, Munira Wilson, the leader of the council Gareth Roberts, local councillors, churches, organisations, I laid our wreath on behalf of the residents. It was the first time I have had the opportunity to sing the National Anthem to our new king, Charles III. Although our late Queen only visited Hampton on an official engagement once (as featured in the facing article), she regularly came over this way to see her horses in the Royal Paddocks in Bushy Park. The Society was lucky enough to be given a guided tour of the Paddocks in 2014 where we were told that the Queen personally named every horse.

William Redfern, Chair enquiries@thehamptonsociety.org.uk



▲ Another full house! Stephan Roman presenting his talk on the relationship of the Russian Royal Family and the Isle of Wight



▲ Hampton Hub offers many activities by day at theinspiredhub.co.uk plus The Hub Club has live music and comedy nights



▲ Friends and family of Caroline Badgery at the unveiling of the friendship bench in her memory "For friendship, for time together - Hampton thanks you"



▲ One of the 'Windsor Beauties' comes to life at Hampton Court. The many representatives of our youth groups at Remembrance Sunday ▼





▲ Queen Elizabeth II is presented with more flowers by three-year-old Melanie Sutton in 1981

Remember this Royal Date?

It was 15 February 1981, a royal day to remember – at least if you were living in Hampton then. Still no clue?

It was the occasion of our late Queen's sole official visit to Hampton, the only one of her 70 years on the throne. This was the era of the Nurserylands building bonanza when the then National House Builders Registration Council had just built their two millionth home in Morland Close. The chosen home, No. 58, is actually a first-floor flat. The plaque commemorating the occasion hangs rightfully on the outside corner of the building at first floor level, recording its two-millionth place and the date.

Press photos of the visit show our late Queen standing in front of the plaque. Standing on the left are the new young occupiers of No.58, a couple named Day that we have been unable to contact. Does anyone remember them? The Queen herself stands smiling on the right, holding a bouquet and wearing a close-fitting brimless hat.

Memories gleaned so far are very hazy. After all, it was forty years ago. But it's a pity that no-one seems to recollect the six guardsmen who apparently attended Her Majesty, sporting their bearskin headwear.

Some people remember being given the day off school and a flag to wave on the Queen's route. Those a little older may recollect more. Whatever it is, if it's relevant, let me know.

More of these recollections might make a story for our next issue. Call me on **020 8979 9654** or email me at **n.waters360@gmail.com**.

I look forward to hearing from you. **MW THS**



▲ Queen Elizabeth II and the new residents



The plaque today in Morland Close ▲
Hundreds came out to see the the Queen ▼



About your committee

The committee is the governing body of The Hampton Society. It consists of elected officers and up to six committee members. We meet four times a year to discuss current issues that affect the community to see where we can make a contribution. We also organise talks, visits and events for our members.

Any member of the Society is eligible to join the committee and can stand for election at our Annual General Meeting in April or be co-opted during the year. If you are interested in joining the committee and playing a part in the Society and Hampton's development, please contact the secretary below.

Committee members

Chair

William Redfern 020 8286 7071

Deputy chair

Iacopo Sassi 07761 670911

Secretary

Lesley Cesenek 07540 342813

Treasurer

Brian Brignall 020 8979 9499

Membership

Linda Brignall 020 8979 9499

Newsletter editor

Maura Waters 020 8979 9654

Event organisers

Alice Fordham 020 8979 3543

Rosemary Hill 020 8973 3604

Christmas Cards



Our Christmas cards this year are a real bargain, **£5 for a pack of ten**. They have four different images of Hampton in the snow on each card with explanations on the reverse.

What's more, this year's cards are larger than before but **still within standard postage rates**.

They are available from all committee members (above) and from **Synergy, Hampton Cellar and Curves**.

Newsletter production: Edited by Maura Waters. Designed and produced by William Redfern www.williamredfern.co.uk

News

Tree Canopy for Hampton North

Some roads in Hampton North ward are to have trees planted to "increase their canopy cover".

This is a requirement for which our Borough Council received a £170,000 grant towards planting 295 trees over two seasons. Last year 115 were planted and 75 roads are in the present scheme.

Details of designated roads plus the number of newly planted trees are as follows: Bramble Lane [3], Buckingham Close [1], Buckingham Rd [14], Dean Road [3], Dukes Close [2], Fearnley Crescent [6] Hanworth Road [10], Longford Close [5], Loxley Road [1], Oak Avenue [1], Rectory Grove [8], Ringwood Way [2], Uxbridge Road [3], The Avenue [2], Winifred Road [1], Wordsworth Road [13].

We are indebted to Hampton North Councillor Geoffrey Samuel for this information. **MW** **THS**

Events calendar

Our talks are free to members but please bring your membership cards to meetings

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.

No email address?

If you want to be informed of the latest event information but don't have access to a computer, please contact **William Redfern** on **020 8286 7071** and he will try to call you directly.

Talks 2022 & 2023

Do we have your current email address?

If you are not receiving regular notices by email on breaking information and events that we manage to organise between printed newsletters, it may be because you have not notified us of your email address or that it might have changed from what we have on record. If you think this is the case, please send your details to enquiries@thehamptonsociety.org.uk, or contact **Linda Brignall** on **020 8979 9499**.

You can also find a link to our latest email newsletters at the bottom of the home page of our website, www.thehamptonsociety.org.uk. Thank you.

Please note that the date of the **lunch** in January and the **Quiz Night** in February will be confirmed by email.

December

A Tudor Christmas

Thursday, 1 December, at St Mary's community hall, 7.30pm for 8.00pm

Siobhan Clarke's talk will tell us that Christmas in the Tudor period was a time of feasting, revelry and merrymaking, a twelve-day-long festival, over which the Lord of Misrule held sway, and convention was thrown to the winds.



March

Turner And Turnips

Thursday, 23 March, at St Mary's community hall, 7.30pm for 8.00pm

A talk by Laurence Shafe about Britain's greatest painter, JMW Turner and the common vegetable.

A Tudor Christmas illustration by Bill Sanderson ▲



Santa's Return to Hampton

After a runaway successful return last year after Covid lockdowns in 2020, Santa and his train are back on 4 December. Catch them in Station Road at Hampton's 2022 Christmas Celebrations from 4.00pm.



For the following three hours, Station Road will be closed to traffic. The church bells of St Mary's nearby will ring at 4.00pm signalling the start of the festivities.

From then on, the road will be a mass of brightly lit stalls, offering all manner of takeaway food and drink, along with charities and local organisations showing off their wares. Look out for The Hampton Society stall in the marquee on the green along with other organisations and crafters.

In the middle of the Christmas trees and fairy lights will be Santa's Grotto at the Scout Hut halfway along Station Road.

This is the eleventh year Hampton Village Traders' Association have organised our main Christmas festivities.

Santa's train will run along Station Road and over the railway bridge to The Inspired Hub in Ashley Road and back again. **MW** **THS**