

January 2021



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2021

# **Editorial Note**

Happy New Year to all our readers and welcome to our January 2021 edition of the Tewin Magazine. A brand new year after a very turbulent 2020. Although we are not yet at the end of the Covid-19 restrictions, there is hope of a return to 'normal' in the near future. Some of you will already have received your anti-Covid vaccinations with the added protection that we trust this will bring. Still undecided? See page 22 for reasons why vaccination is safe and important.

The Parish Council are seeking your views on a proposed new footpath on Hertford Road (p4/5).

Tewin Stores are extending their weekday opening hours to 2pm(p25), Tewin Writers Online have introduced audio readings of their works (p6) and Hertford Health Walks have restarted, albeit with a reduced number of walkers and an introduction of a booking system (p26).

**Trussells Butcher's Van** is outside the shop on Fridays from 2.30-3.30. Call 01438 812304 if you wish to order in advance.

Please continue to send contributions for future editions of the magazine to tewinmagazine@gmail.com. The deadline is the 15th of the month, but the earlier the better.

Jackie Murphy, Editor

Dear Editor

Mike and I were very surprised and touched to receive Christmas cards from Tewin Stores and the Rose and Crown, thanking us for our support. We felt rather, that we should be thanking them for their cheerful and considerate service since the start of lockdown. This has helped to uphold our morale during this time.

And, of course we have much enjoyed our Sunday roasts, essential supplies and Portuguese custard tarts!

I am sure we speak for many others in the village.

Yours sincerely

Anne Horsman

## Tewin Stores Awarded CPRE Chairman's Award

There was much excitement in and around Tewin Stores when Richard Bullen, chairman of CPRE Hertfordshire presented the Chairman's Award to Tewin Stores recently. Mr Bullen explained Tewin Stores had been given the award for the way the shop supported the community through the lockdown. Mr Bullen explained the award was also because Tewin Stores had established itself as a community shop over a number of years, and has demonstrated that it has a sustainable future because it has never depended on the efforts of just one or two individuals. The involvement of the community in supporting the shop - as customers, volunteers and by helping to fund the purchase of the premises - also impressed the judges.

The pictures below show Tewin Stores manager, Bev Barraclough receiving the award from Richard Bullen and committee members Eleanor Lohr, Linda Crawford & Graham Spring with the award.





CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) is a charity that supports and promotes the countryside. CPRE was established in 1926 and has a local group in every county; Hertfordshire's group is based in Welwyn.

## **Tewin Parish Council**



#### CHRISTMAS TREE

The Parish Council would like to thank Friends of Tewin who have made a very generous donation towards the replacement Christmas tree. The new tree has been planted with a substantial amount of new soil and is looking splendid. The Parish

Council is in the process of arranging for a permanent water supply on Lower Green to ensure that the tree has sufficient water.

#### **PRECEPT**

The Council reviewed Estimate to Year End for Financial Year Ending 31.3.2021 and the precept options for the Financial Year Ending 31.3.2022 and in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Council they unanimously agreed that the precept be increased by 1.61% from £31,000 to £31,500.

#### **SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE**

This has now been installed in its correct position in School Lane as you enter the village.

#### **LEAKING GULLEY ON ORCHARD ROAD**

Highways have advised that they will be investigating this gulley on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

#### **PAVILION**

The Parish Council would like to thank the Tewin Pavilion CIC for their generous donation towards three new Dyson hand dryers which have been installed in the Pavilion toilets.

#### PROPOSED NEW FOOTPATH ON HERTFORD ROAD

The Parish Council would like your views on a proposal to put a 1.2m wide tarmac footpath winding through the trees along the verge of Hertford Road from outside 46 Lower Green to opposite Tewin Stores as per the map below. This idea has arisen from various safety concerns having been raised over the years with so many people walking in the road to get to the shop coupled with the increasing speed of the traffic and the reduction of the width of the road due to parking.

The Parish Council has supported the Drivesafe Team's proposal for a 20 mph speed limit along Hertford Road but unfortunately the wheels of bureaucracy move very slowly, feasibility costs are very high and if we are successful the speed limit then has to be enforced.

A dropped kerb is proposed to enable easy access from the road at the Lower Green end.

No trees will need to be removed and the path will be raised near the trees to protect the roots.

If there is support for this proposal the Parish Council would have to obtain permission from Hertfordshire County Council as landowners.

Please email your views to the Clerk : tewinparishclerk@btinternet.com and they will be circulated to the Parish Council and reviewed at their next meeting in February 2021.

We look forward to hearing from you.



#### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Parish Council meeting will be at **7.45pm on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021** at Tewin Memorial Hall.

#### THACS - TEWIN HORTICULTURAL ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY

Happy New Year!

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December was the day we had planned to hold our annual Arts & Craft Fair in the Memorial Hall but it had to be cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. It's such a shame that we could not bring you that lovely opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts and to support our talented local artisans.

The pandemic has forced us to cancel many of the traditional events we had planned for 2020 but it has also given us the opportunity to explore and develop new ways of managing *THACS* events and activities by adapting them to run online.

Our creative writers have adapted very successfully and continue to be active. *THACS* and Tewin Writers Online will publish a new poem or prose each Sunday through the winter. We started out with *Little Blue Boat* and *Shopping in Kenton*. Most items will have an audio-track alongside for you to listen to the author reading if you wish. The previous Spring & Summer writing collection (still available in the *Lockdown Times & Tales* booklet) remains online – and it too will have an audio-track for each story / poem.

Meanwhile, the *THACS* committee is busy planning our programme of events for 2021. We will need to continue with online virtual events for the rest of this winter (and maybe into Spring) but we are hopeful of a return to a full programme of more traditional physical events later in the year. Information about all of our events will be published in future editions of the Tewin Magazine and on the *THACS* pages of the Tewin Village website.

Ray Keppler THACS Chairman

10th January 1946The inaugural session of the UN General Assem<br/>bly opened in London







## **BOWLS CLUB MESSAGE**

Although all Bowls Club matches and other activities have had to be cancelled this season, some members have been busy ensuring that the playing green has been kept in tip-top condition, as well as the surrounding gardens, so all the members are grateful for their diligent efforts.

Now everyone is hoping that conditions will allow a return to normal as soon as possible and are busy arranging fixtures for the coming season. In the meantime we wish you a happy, and more importantly, a healthy New Year and hope we will be in a position to host you and other visitors in 2021.

Meanwhile, if you would like more information about the Club, just contact Mike Howe on 01438 840063, or Todd Canton on 01438 717395.

Shire Park Bowls Club (Tewin)



The annual subscription for the Tewin Magazine is due
 in January 2021. The cost remains unchanged at £6 for 12 issues and includes delivery to your door. Please

have your money ready for collection by your volunteer distributor. Cheques can be made payable to St Peter's Church Tewin PCC.

A big thank you to all the distributors who have delivered the Magazine during this very difficult year.

Thank you for continuing to save Target Stamps from the Welwyn Hatfield Times for Danesbury/QVM Hospitals and any used postage stamps for Moorfield Eye Hospital.

Sue Whitbourn

#### **On The Farm**

As I write these notes on 6th December 2020 Martyn and I have put our farm to bed for the next couple of months. All fields have had a herbicide spray to control weeds and some fields are very, very wet due to the endless rain.

I normally talk about my arable land and crops. This month I will talk about another part of my farm....my 100 acres of river meadows and 1.5 miles of the River Mimram. My land and river starts near Digswell and runs through to Panshanger Park, although a few bits in between are not ours.

We are very lucky to have such a lovely chalk stream flowing through our farm. The river rises about 10 miles away, near Whitwell, and flows into the River Lea in Hertford.

Our land and river start at the waterfall near Digswell, then past Tewin Water House, through the meadows where we have sheep grazing. The river then flows past the Tewin Bury Nature Reserve, which is a haven for wildfowl that fly in from faraway places. This reserve is managed by the Herts and Middlesex Trust. There is a lovely watchtower where you can watch the wildfowl fly in. Next to it is our SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) which is another haven for wildlife and covers several acres.

The river has a gravel bottom which is spring fed and is quite shallow.

The Poplars Green area of the river is let to a small Fly Fishing Club, a like-minded group of individuals who enjoy looking after the river. They stock the river and its ponds with natural fish and like to fish along the quiet river banks.

All this area is part of my farm and has to be looked after. The meadows have to be topped or grazed and the area farmed and kept tidy. My main job is to look after the river, the wildlife and the environment of this lovely area of the country as the Mimram is one of the very special chalk streams of England.

Ivor Williams





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## **Post Office Times**

*Post Office Update: Until further notice and subject to change at short notice if circumstances dictate.* 

Burnham Green Village Hall Post Office Open:

 Tues
 12.30pm until
 15.00pm

 Fri
 9.30am until
 13.00pm

## Tewin Stores Post Office Open:

Wed 9.30am until 11.30am Fri 9.30am until 11.30am

#### Datchworth Village Hall Post Office Open:

Tues 9.30am until 12 noon

#### **Tewin Memorial Hall Draw**

November 2020 Below are the results for the November Supporters Club draw:

1 <sup>st</sup>	£54	Robert Horgan, New Road
2 <sup>nd</sup>	£33	Jenny Doxey, Bishops Road
3 <sup>rd</sup>	£11	Sue Angus, Upper Green Rd
3 <sup>rd</sup>	£11	Bill Boardman, Firs Walk

Want to see your name here?

Please join the Club and help us reach 300 members and monthly prizes totalling £150 every month.

Application forms and more information available from:

- Lisa Bove on <u>personal@lisabove.com</u>
- Tewin Memorial Hall
- Tewin Stores
- <u>www.tewinvillagehall.co.uk/supporters-club</u>

## **Church Tower Repairs & Churchyard**

Over the last few months we have been delighted to have received over 20 donations towards the cost of repairs to the Tower and other stonework around the church. Also, we have received some donations for the Churchyard where a lot of work has been needed recently on several Lime trees, to make them safe and better managed for the future. Most of the donations have been with the benefit of Gift Aid which will enhance their value by 25% once the tax has been recovered from the Inland Revenue.

The repair works are costing far more than donations so far; so if you have been thinking about making a donation, but not yet done so, it is not too late to do so. Cheques should be made payable to St Peter's Church, Tewin, PCC and given to Di Bradley, myself, or one of the Churchwardens.

Graham Spring (Contact details on the inside back cover)



Rob, the head Mason, at the top of the tower

# Team Vicar's Letter

Last New Year's Eve I sang enthusiastically with a group of friends as midnight struck and the first seconds of 2020 began. It felt joyful. Undoubtedly part of that emotional glow was the champagne... but also the joy came with seeing in a new year with its new hope of yet unfolded possibilities.

Yet pretty soon it was clear that 2020 was to be a year like no other in living memory. If we could take ourselves back to the brink of 2020 and either fast forward, rewind or even eject ourselves out of it, I suspect many of us would have done so.

But here we are leaving 2020 behind us. We know already some of the continuing challenges will follow us into this New Year. The danger of Covid is still with us at present, but the programme of vaccination does offer hope.

However before we plough forward with the cautious optimism of seeing life get back to a sense of 'normal' at some point this year, I wonder if there are things we might want to take with us from last year and not leave entirely behind? One thing I practiced last year during the lockdowns was writing down five things a day that I was thankful for and in doing so soon saw that the days were still full of small gifts – often in nature and in people. I'm sure there is a long list of the things you'd be glad to say goodbye to in 2020, but I wonder if you wrote a list of the things you may have been grateful for what those would be? For me it would include a slowing down and chance to pay greater attention to family and nature, the neighbourliness that arose to help others, the creativity of the human spirit in adapting to new ways of teaching and communicating and the sacrificial work of carers, teachers and those who work in healthcare. Your list may be different to mine. What would you include?

As we step into this New Year there is much that we rightly will be glad to leave behind, but I hope there are things we have learned that change us for the better and will sharpen our appreciation of what is truly important in our collective and individual lives.

Wishing you every blessing in this New Year and a knowledge of God's love in all that is to come, Susannah

	ST PETER'S CHURCH SERVICES						
DATE	DAY	SERVICE	TIME	MINISTER	1 <sup>ST</sup> READING	2 <sup>ND</sup> READING	GOSPEL
JAN 3rd	EPIPHANY	HOLY COMMUNION	9.30am	EDWARD CARDALE	ISAIAH 60: 1-6	EPHESIANS 3: 1-12	MATTHEW 2: 1-12
		NO EVENSONG					
10th	BAPTISM OF CHRIST 1st SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY	HOLY COMMUNION	9.30am	TBC	GENESIS 1: 1-5	ACTS 19: 1-7	MARK 1: 4-11
17th	2nd SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY	FAMILY SERVICE	11.15am	TBC	JOHN 1: 43—End		
		HOLY COMMUNION	6.30pm	TBC	1 SAMUEL 3: 1-10	REVELA- TION 5: 1-10	JOHN 1: 43—End
24th	3rd SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY	HOLY COMMUNION	9.30pm	TBC	GENESIS 14: 17-20	REVELA- TION 19:6-10	JOHN 2:1-11
31st	CANDLEMAS 4th SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY	HOLY COMMUNION	9.30am	TBC	MALACHI 3: 1-5	HEBREWS 2: 14—End	LUKE 2: 22-40

# Service of Said Evening Prayer is held every Monday at 5pm

St Peter's Church was floodlit on New Year's Eve, in memory of Kit and Bert Fernee, and absent members of the Haggar family.

	ROTAS					
SERVER	READER	SIDESMEN	COFFEE	FLOWERS	CLEANER	
JAN 3rd	TBC	CHURCH WARDENS AND VERGER	NO COFFEE	CHRISTMAS FLOWERS	LINDA CRAWFORD	
PAULINE						
10th	TBC	DITTO	DITTO	CHRISTMAS FLOWERS	AMANDA GLEW	
17th	TBC	DITTO	DITTO	CHRISTMAS FLOWERS	DI BRADLEY	
17th	TBC					
24th	TBC	DITTO	DITTO	CHRISTMAS FLOWERS	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	
31st	TBC	DITTO	DITTO	CHRISTMAS FLOWERS	PETE JOHNSON	

St Peter's Church was floodlit on Christmas Night in remembrance of the Fish Family.

Mum, Dad, Jim, Nan and Popeye. Remembering all our wonderful Christmases together. Love and miss you all so very much. Geraldine, Graham, Gemma and Susie.

# **St Peter's News**

A church at the heart of the village, with space for all

I am writing this so early in December that we have only just had Advent week so far. It has been joyful to see bright lights up around the village early this year, though sadly we will not have been singing carols round the new Christmas Tree on Lower Green.

Christmas promised to be different this time though as usual Ivor Williams has kindly provided us with a Christmas tree for the porch (thank you Ivor). Christingle and the Crib services have been streamed to households. We are grateful to Pauline Brown and her team who kindly made up 200 bags for people to join in with making their Christingles. Our Nativity has been on screen. Instead of strangely garbed folk wandering from Church to Muspatts Farm, several families in the village were inveigled into filming parts separately. Thank you to them and to Kev Brazier for splicing the films together. It has been good to see all those of you who have attended the ticketed services over Christmas. Special thanks to Sabine Stanley and her SAVoce choir who kindly sang for us at the Nativity Family Service and the Candlelit Carols.

We said goodbye this month to Pauline Cowie who is moving from Tewin to set up home in Cyprus, and to Ted Sharp. Ted has been a regular attender and supporter of St Peter's for over 50 years, and we are very sorry to see him go. We wish him much happiness in Dorset, living near his son Nick and family, and also our good wishes go with Pauline as she starts a new adventure outside the UK.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the collections for the Food Bank at such a crucial time. By the time you read this, we hope the church building works will be completed, the scaffolding removed, the church clock working again, and the bellringers back. Thank you to Marie St Pier for selling donated jewellery, and to Sue Whitbourn for being a super-charged one-woman bazaar, touting Crackers and Christmas paper round the village, and thank you to everyone who has kindly made donations to the church. As a result, we have raised over £15,000 towards our costs for these essential repairs to be done and for work in the Churchyard. Please see Graham Spring's appeal elsewhere in the magazine (p14) if you are still thinking of donating towards this good cause.

We continue to hold in our prayers all those affected by Covid-19, those who have been ill, those who have died or are bereaved, those whose livelihoods have been devastated during the epidemic, and those who have family members at school or university or have returned to work.

Our clergy are in contact with those self-isolating or unable to get out of the house, or with those who are bereaved.

Alternatively, please contact, by email or phone, The Rev'd Susannah Underwood team.vicar@welwyn.org.uk 01438 817183

"That was the year that was! It's over, let it go!" Those of you who are old enough to remember TW3 will recognise the sentiment. But for all of us it will be good to look forward to a better year in 2021.

Linda Gilley

## **Plough Monday**

The first Monday after Twelfth Night is known as Plough Monday and marks the end of the Christmas period for the agricultural communities. In medieval times it was common for ploughs to be blessed by the Church on Plough Sunday. In 2021 Plough Monday falls on 4th January.





## **Tewin Tennis Club**



I was chatting with an old school friend in Sydney earlier in December, where the temperatures were hovering around the mid-40s Celsius. The Australians are an outdoor nation, full of sport and vigour, which is hardly

surprising considering the sunshine and the beaches most have access to for much of the year.

Yet I was proud to tell him that Tewin Tennis Club is back in action this winter, with members rushing back to the courts as soon as lockdown finished on December 2. Even though you needed a particular type of hardiness to play in that first week.

On the Friday I drove past Upper Green around 9.30am to see both courts in action with men's doubles and a ladies' doubles taking place in a light, persistent drizzle. To my mind that's less than pleasant, but it had been dry when the games started and full marks to players for carrying on regardless.

The next day, Saturday, was glorious. Sunshine and a bit of warmth should have made the conditions perfect for tennis. You'll sense a 'however' coming on. Well, at this time of year, the sun never gets too high in the sky, which means by mid-morning the sun is simply blinding if you are playing from the car park end of the court. It made play very difficult indeed, especially if a high ball was lobbed at you.

Then on Monday I played in fog. Well, a decent mist, at least. There are times when you call matches off, but with four weeks being locked down, all of us want to keep playing if we possibly can, even if the conditions are dubious.

No doubt the courts will get used over the Christmas period too. Like you, I'd like to spend lots of time with the family, but the rules mean that even when we get to meet up, it won't be for very long. So there will be plenty more time for exercise too.

Wishing you all a happy New Year.

Best wishes Peter Burgess

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#### Why vaccination is safe and important

Vaccination is the most important thing we can do to protect ourselves and our children against ill health. They prevent up to 3 million deaths worldwide every year.

Since vaccines were introduced in the UK, diseases like smallpox, polio and tetanus that used to kill or disable millions of people are either gone or seen very rarely.

Other diseases like measles and diphtheria have been reduced by up to 99.9% since their vaccines were introduced.

However, if people stop having vaccines, it's possible for infectious diseases to quickly spread again as the number of unvaccinated people increases. Measles is increasing in groups where vaccination levels have fallen.

Vaccines:

- Protect you from many serious and potentially deadly diseases. •
- Protect other people in your community by helping to stop diseases spreading to people who cannot have vaccines.
- Get thoroughly safety tested before being introduced they're also monitored for any side effects.
- Sometimes cause mild side effects that will not last long.
- Reduce or even get rid of some diseases if enough people are vaccinated.

Vaccines:

- Do not cause autism studies have found no evidence of a link between the MMR vaccine and autism.
- Do not overload or weaken the immune system.
- Do not cause allergies or any other conditions all the current evidence tells us that vaccinating is safer than not vaccinating.
- Do not contain mercury (thiomersal).
- Do not contain any ingredients that cause harm in such small amounts - but speak to your doctor if you have any known allergies such as eggs or gelatine.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recently listed vaccine hesitancy as one of their top 10 biggest threats to global health. Information taken from - www.nhs.uk

If you would like further information about the Bridge Cottage Surgery Patient Participation Group please email ppgbridgecottage@gmail.com.





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# **Tewin Stores and Cafe**

On behalf of all at Tewin Stores, thank you for your support throughout last year; we send you all our very best wishes for 2021. I would also like to thank Bev and her team of volunteers for their commitment and hard work which enabled us to keep the shop open through two lockdowns and a myriad of supply and other issues.

We hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and, if you planned to, were able to spend some time with or see your family. Thank you to all who donated and supplied items for our Christmas Crafts event. These items proved very popular as did the Christmas raffle, the result of which is displayed in the Shop.

We are pleased to announce from Monday 4th January we will be extending our opening hours until 2pm Monday to Friday for a trial period. We are very grateful to returning and new volunteers for their support which has enabled us to extend our trading hours which we hope will prove popular with customers.

It's back to normal trading now; fresh bread, veg boxes and the lovely Mellyn cakes and savouries to name but a few of items we have available for you.

Thank you for your continued support.

The December 100 club winners are :

 $1^{st}$  Prize:Paul Lohr£41.00 $2^{nd}$  Prize:Adrian Hill£20.50 $3^{rd}$  Prize:Mary Gregg£12.30

Shop opening hours from Monday 4th January are:Monday – Friday:8.00am – 2.00pm,Saturdays:8.30am – 12 noon,Sundays:9.00am – 12 noonLinda Crawford

#### **Restart of Covid-19 Safe Health Walks**

We are delighted to announce that we have now gradually restarted Covid-19 Safe Hertfordshire Health Walks. Please take a look at your local <u>Winter Health Walks Programme</u>

(https://tinyurl.com/y6mq6zrf).

All walks will need to be pre-booked (please see How to Book Health Walks below).

If you are a new walker you will need to register here

(https://tinyurl.com/y57qkf96) before booking a place.

As we move into the New Year and towards the Spring we hope to increase the range of Health Walks available.

We wish you Season's Greeting from us all here at Hertfordshire Health Walks and our Health Walk Volunteers.

#### How to Pre-Book Health Walks

Due to the pandemic, you will need to pre-book your place on a Health Walk using our booking line **01992 555888** which is open between 10am and 2pm Monday to Friday.

Please read our Covid-19 Guidelines for Walkers

(https://tinyurl.com/yxwd8htl) before booking your place and see our <u>privacy notice</u> (https://tinyurl.com/y23ocapc) concerning NHS Test and Trace, we will ask you to confirm your contact details when you make a booking.

We cannot take bookings via email, but if you need to cancel your booking please call the booking line or email healthwalks.cms@hertfordshire.gov.uk

#### **On This Day 1st January**

- 1785 *The Daily Register* was founded. It was renamed *The Times* on January 1st 1788.
- **1801** The Acts of Union between Great Britain and Ireland came into force.
- **1901** The Commonwealth of Australia was established, allowing the country to govern itself.
- **1962** Decca Records chose not to sign the Beatles as 'guitar groups were on the way out'.
- **1973** Britain entered the Common Market, later renamed the European Union.
- **2021** Britain leaves the European Union.

# Friends of Tewin



Well..... 2021 is here, let's hope it's a much better year in Tewin for us all, along with the rest of the country, as we go forward with hope of much happier times ahead!

As you read this, we are planning the Father Christmas drive-through in Tewin and we hope it brought much

needed excitement and joy to the children (including grown up children!) and their families.

#### **SENIOR CITIZENS' LUNCH 2021**

Sad to say, our very popular event, the Senior Citizens Lunch in February will not be taking place because we can't have our lovely Tewin Seniors all gathered together. Covid-19 restrictions won't allow this.

We know this event will be sorely missed as it's a lovely time to get together with friends for a good chat and a laugh over lunch. As a committee we also look forward to putting on this event, seeing everyone enjoying their time together gladdens our hearts!

#### **TEWIN CLASIC CAR & CRAFT SHOW**

Unfortunately, our plans for the 2020 Tewin Classic Car show had to be shelved. We are hoping that this August we will be back, raring to go again, as it's a very popular event with villagers, exhibitors and visitors alike.

Once again, our homemade cakes and teas will be served thanks to the fantastic bakers in the village who generously donate their produce. Hopefully they will do the same again this year as the car show is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Likewise, if you would like to help out on the day, your efforts will be very much appreciated.

If we are lucky enough to raise lots of money, we can then look forward to donating it to the various groups and societies in Tewin.

I'm sure you will all agree that once again our lovely village with its

countryside, woodlands, numerous footpaths and fresh air has proved to be a great tonic to us all in these uncertain times.

May all the help and kindness shown in 2020 continue throughout our village in 2021 and beyond.

The Friends of Tewin Committee wish you and your families all the very best for the new year ahead.

Olly Morrisroe – Vice Chair Friends of Tewin





## Friends of Danesbury & Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital

By the time you read this we will be a couple of weeks into the New Year, 2021. Let's hope that 2021 will be a better year all round.

We were very fortunate to be able to open our charity shop in Welwyn High Street on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December and hoped to raise much needed funds for the charity in the lead up to Christmas. As we held a large quantity of Christmas stock, a Christmas sale was also held on the 5<sup>th</sup> December at the back of the shop. And what an amazing window display was created by our very talented Georgia Shaw, with a sleigh and reindeer! For those who have donated their time, supported our local charity shop or given a financial donation the Charity is truly grateful. Without your support we would be unable to help the Danesbury and QVM Hospitals.

We can take stock over the past year and look at all the ways in which we have supported the patients. In previous articles we have reported that the closure of the charity shop in the village for 6 months of 2020 has meant that our income during the year was drastically reduced.

However, the successful trading of the shop during previous years has meant that we had the financial reserves to enable the Charity to continue to provide the small things to both hospitals. For example – daily papers and weekly magazines, the very popular fish and chip suppers, winter and summer bedding plants for the gardens.

During both lock downs the Charity has supplied weekly cakes and fruit to help bring a little cheer to patients and staff.

Larger items which have been well received include ipads used by the patients, with the help of the nurses, to see and talk to family members when visitors were not allowed during the lock down.

Our previous articles have mentioned that the Charity is looking for new Trustees. If you are interested in becoming involved with the Charity please do email the Friends **danesburyqvm@btconnect.com**. Initially you would be invited to attend a few Trustees meetings, which are currently held using zoom once a month at 4pm, to enable you to see how we run the Charity.

## Helen Lucy Tross (1929 - 2020)

The funeral of Helen Lucy Tross was held at All Saints Church, Datchworth on 7th September 2020.

Lucy was the wife of the late Rev'd Julian Tross, who had been Rector at that Church between 1955 and 1979. The latter part of that time he was also Rector of Tewin where they made some good friends. Helen was born Helen Lucy Partis on 26th February 1929. She provided a wonderful childhood for Catherine and Robin. Helen was heavily involved in the Parish of Datchworth, and later with Tewin, but she didn't want to be a typical "Vicar's wife". She taught at various Primary schools in Dane End, Watton, Near Hoddesdon, and Welwyn Garden City before ending up at Bengeo Junior School where she remained for 16 years until her retirement in 1992. Grandchildren came after Julian's retirement, with Mark born in 1981, and Rachel in 1982. Helen, along with Julian looked after both of them at various points throughout childhood.

She enjoyed meeting her great grandchildren, Olivia, Isabella, Matthew and Charlotte. In her later years, when her health was failing, a visit from the great grandchildren could be guaranteed to visibly lift and restore her.

Special mention must be given to Sue, who helped care for Helen during this time. She was very much seen by Helen as a very good friend. When Sue arrived, Helen would laugh, smile, and light up. The family very much appreciate how much Sue did not just for Helen, but for the family too.

As a person, Helen was really loving, loyal, creative, wise, inspirational, welcoming, supportive, and faithful. She had a positive effect on pretty much anyone she met, and especially family and friends. She was a Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother, and friend, and she will be greatly missed.

To quote Irving Berlin, "The Song is ended, but the Melody lingers on".

Views expressed in the *'Tewin Magazine'* are not always those held by the Parish Council or by the Parochial Church Council

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Tewin Pavilion	01438 715020
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