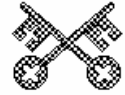




# Parish News



May 2009

The Diocese of St Albans, Welwyn Team Ministry

Parish of St Peter, Tewin

Price 50p

Team Vicar	Rev. Coralie McCluskey, The Rectory, Brookbridge Lane, Datchworth, Knebworth, SG3 6SU tel: 01438 817183 e-mail: team.vicar@welwyn.org.uk
Team Rector	Rev. Dr Alan Winton tel 01438 714150 e-mail <rector@welwyn.org.uk>
Reader	Mick Simmons tel 01707 334805 e-mail Michael.simmons53@ntlworld.com
Clergy Surgery	Saturdays at St Mary's 10.00—11.30 am
Churchwardens:	Mrs Pete Johnson , 11 Jonathan House, Little Harding's, Panshanger, AL7 2EL ( 01707 332579) Mr M Kersey, 7 Pennyfathers Lane, Welwyn, Herts, AL6 0EN ( 01438 716817)
Parochial Church Council:	
Hon Secretary:	Mrs D.Applegate, 11 Orchard Road, Tewin, Welwyn, AL6 0HE (01438 798235)
Hon Treasurer:	Mr G.G.Spring, Warden's Lodge, 25 Digswell Park Road, WGC, AL8 7NW (01707 375499)
Organist:	Rosemary Knight, 1 Nunnery Stables, Cotton mill Lane, St Albans, AL1 2AS (01727 766871)
Ringers:	Mr David Hall ( 01707 884274)

During my childhood and adolescence in rural Wales every season and festival of the agricultural year was celebrated in the Parish Church. Plough Sunday, Rogationtide, Lammastide and Harvest Thanksgiving were all marked. My role as Agricultural Chaplain for Hertfordshire has afforded me the opportunity to revisit these festivals that were part of the natural cycle of worship in earlier Christian communities.

Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup> is **Rogation Sunday**. Originally the Christian observance of Rogation was taken from the Graeco-Roman religion, where an annual procession invoked divine favour to protect crops from mildew. Rogation Sunday precedes the 3 weekdays or Rogation Days, before Ascension Day. Traditionally parishioners processed around the Parish boundary stopping at intervals for prayer and blessing of the land. The procession would conclude with a Mass. During the Reformation the procession was suppressed but it was restored in 1559.

The poet George Herbert gave the following good reasons for the procession:

*a blessing of God for the fruits of the field;*

*justice in the preservation of the bounds;*

*Charitie, in living, walking and neighbourly accompanying one another, with reconciling of differences at that time, if they be any;*

*Mercie, in relieving the poor by a liberal distribution of largess which at that time is or ought be made.*

Good reasons not just for Rogationtide but for daily living.

A Prayer for Rogationtide

*Almighty God, whose will it is that the earth should bear its fruits in their seasons: direct the labours of those who work on the land, that they may employ the resources of nature to your glory, for our own well-being and for the relief of those in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Coralie**

Views in the Parish News are not always those held by the Team Ministry or by the Parochial Council

Parish News Editor: Helen Pinkney, 14 The Walled Garden, Tewin Water, AL6 0BZ Tel: 01438 718568  
Email: helen\_pinkney@hotmail.com. Items for publishing to the Editor or Mary Gregg, 20a Hertford Road Tewin by **15th of the month**. Distribution: Sue Whitbourn, 107 Burnham Green Road, Welwyn, 01438 798221

**For further information about the Church or the Village go to <[www.tewinvillage.co.uk](http://www.tewinvillage.co.uk)>**

## Churchwardens' Notes

Our Easter celebrations were off to a good start with the School Easter Assembly at St Peter's on 3 April. With about 140 in church, it was a lively service with some lovely singing and an impressive choir. It is always a pleasure to have the children at St Peter's and we look forward to their next visit.

This was followed by an Activity Morning on Good Friday when we had 28 children (and a good number of helpers) icing cakes, making table flower arrangements, visiting the lambs in the adjacent field (many thanks to our hosts!) hunting Easter eggs, and creating a most beautiful Easter Garden for the altar in the south aisle. Well done to Clare, Coralie and all the helpers!

By the time of our Easter Sunday service, our flower arrangers had been very busy and the whole church looked wonderful! Many thanks to Sally and all her expert flower arrangers. At 9.30am we had over 80 in church and we had the pleasure of our 'occasional' choir to contribute to a very joyful service. We much appreciate the time and effort put in by our 'music makers'!

As a follow up to the address last year by Christine Brown of the Marie Curie charity, we had the opportunity of showing our support again this year through an additional collection one Sunday in March. This was generously supported, raising over £270.

Plans are progressing well for our Harvest Festival weekend on 19/20 September. Please make a note in your diary; and see elsewhere in this news for further details from Pauline Brown, to whom we are most grateful for leading the organisation of this event.

You may have heard that Freda Owen, a long time resident of Tewin, died on 1 March. There will be a Memorial Service at St Peter's at 2.30pm on Sunday 31 May. All are welcome to attend.

We welcome Cian James Timothy Abbott & Charles Peter Hughes who were baptised at St Peters on 19th April into the family of the church.

*Mike & Pete*

**It has not been possible to include the Prayer Diary this month due to time and printing constraints. It will be back in next month's issue. Sorry .**

*Helen*

### **WELWYN TEAM MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Every few months a breakfast meeting is held at NEW CHURCH HOUSE, St Mary's, Welwyn. This is organised for the benefit and enjoyment of the men in the churches making up the Welwyn Team and their guests. An excellent cooked breakfast is provided and an invited guest speaker gives a talk on a subject likely to be of interest.

The next Breakfast will be at **8.00 for 8.15 am, on Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009.**

The speaker is Alan Franey, former chief executive of Broadmoor Hospital, who will speak about "**Living in Broadmoor Hospital**".

There is ample parking behind The Wellington in the High Street by kind permission of the proprietor.

Admission is by ticket only, £5.00 in advance from Graham Spring (01707 375499)



## Tewin Parish Council

### **NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

The next meeting is the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at 7.45pm at Tewin Memorial Hall in the Parish Room. Other meeting dates are: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009, Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

### **AGENDA**

Please notify the Clerk at least one week before the meeting if you wish to suggest items for discussion at the meeting. The agenda is published on the Notice Board outside Tewin Stores 3 working days before the meeting.

**ALL PARISHIONERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND AND ARE INVITED TO MAKE COMMENTS AT THE START OF THE MEETING**

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS AND NEWSLETTERS ARE PUBLISHED ON THE TEWIN WEBSITE WHICH CAN BE ACCESSED AT [www.tewinvillage.co.uk](http://www.tewinvillage.co.uk). (They do not appear on the website until approved and signed at the subsequent meeting)**

Minutes are also displayed on the notice board by Tewin Stores, the Memorial Hall and at the bus shelter opposite Desborough Drive.

If you have any queries or comments concerning the above, please contact:

Chairman, Kristina Lawson

Tel: 01438-717256

Clerk, Caroline McFarlane

Tel: 01438-798969 E-mail - [caroline.mcfarlane@virgin.net](mailto:caroline.mcfarlane@virgin.net)

### **East Herts District Councillor**

North Ward: Cllr Michael McMullen Tel: 01920-463430

South Ward: Cllr Linda Haysey Tel 01992-582151

### **Herts County Councillor**

Cllr Bryan Hammond

Tel: 01438-798298

### **Other Useful Numbers/Websites**

**Operation Arable** – 01992-533000 – For reporting motorcycles

**Police Community Team** – 01707-354192 – For non-emergency purposes

**Police Control Room** – 0845-3300222

**Highways Fault Line:** - 01438-737321 - For reporting potholes and any other damage to the roads

**East Herts District Council: 01279-655261 or [www.eastherts.gov.uk](http://www.eastherts.gov.uk)** - For reporting Fly tipping, Abandoned Vehicles, Environmental Health, Pest Control, Waste Services, Planning, Tree Preservation Orders, Parking Warden for parking offences.

**Herts County Council: 01992-555555 or [www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org)**

### **Animal Warden**

Please report stray dogs and dog fouling offences on 01279-655261

### **Tewin Parish Council**

Playground - please report any damage, accidents or other problems to the Parish Clerk on 01438-798969.

## Chairman's Report to the Annual Parish Meeting, 6 April 2009

Seven of the eight Councillors elected in May 2007 have continued to represent Tewin's North and South Wards. Cllr Mike Howe having resigned at the beginning of 2008, and no election being called, the vacancy was filled by co-option and Cllr John Sheridan took his seat in May 2008. Cllr Kristina Lawson and Cllr Keith St Pier were re-elected as Chairman and Vice Chairman for a further year.

As usual, the Council's activities have been reported in the Parish News and on the Tewin Village Website.

Two newsletters have been distributed during the year: one for the Chairman's report to the Annual Parish Meeting in June and another on Affordable Housing, the Housing Capacity Assessment and other planning issues in September. A letter from the Chairman accompanied the distribution of the Parish Plan, also in September.

During the year the Parish Council has received and commented on 34 planning applications compared with an unusually high number of 46 the previous year. EHC granted 17 of these and refused six; another six were withdrawn and decisions on a further four and the result of one appeal are awaited. The main reason for refusal was the cumulative effect of the development.

The Parish Council also takes note of the progress of developments which are subject to planning permission and liaises with EHC on enforcement issues. Particular attention has been given to several new infill developments within the village boundary. Aspects of the Seven Acres Development are still under discussion, including a Section 106 Agreement. The Parish Council also provided comments on an application for 'Affordable Housing' on a 'Rural Exception Site' outside the designated village boundary, which was part of Site 8 (known as 'the chicken field') north of Godfries Close. As the village boundary was redrawn in 2007, the Parish Council objected to these plans for affordable housing outside the boundary, which almost certainly would be a precursor to further development on the site. We also informed EHC that any changes to the boundary would be unacceptable.

Comments on the EHC Housing Capacity Assessment and Edge of Settlement Survey were made in April. The resulting response from EHC was subsequently published in a newsletter. Although Tewin Wood is no longer a designated Environmental Zone, it is outside the village boundary and EHC has applied other policies in several recent planning decisions on applications which have been considered unsuitable in the Metropolitan Green Belt. Comments on the Welwyn Hatfield Core Strategy Consultation have been invited recently.

The Council continued to monitor developments on the proposed water abstraction borehole in Hertford Road and Benington Wind Farm and communicated with the local MP, Oliver Heald, on both issues. A representative from Three Valleys Water attended the meeting to give a presentation on the borehole proposal in October.

The Council has continued maintenance of the public footpaths and bridle paths within the Parish, together with grass cutting, tree pruning and repairs to Council property such as the Pavilion. Two wooden benches were installed on Lower Green, in time for the summer, to replace the old seats which had become expensive to repair.

The Parish Council has budgeted for a precept of £16,900 for the financial year 2009-10, compared with £16,700 the previous year – a rise of just 1.2%. A small increase has been possible because several large projects were completed in the previous financial year.

.At the beginning of 2009, the Council adopted the model publication scheme under the Freedom of Information Act and agreed to publish the scheme and guide to information.

A financial risk assessment procedure was implemented for the 2008-09 financial year and quarterly internal audits by Councillors have taken place, most recently in February. The Clerks' revised contract was signed in May 2008 and the Council also clarified its procedure on co-option of councillors in the event of a vacancy.

Monitoring highways maintenance work and liaising with the County Council, is an ongoing process and a table of works in progress is appended to the Minutes of each Council Meeting. In March this year, unscheduled patching was carried out in Upper Green Road and Orchard Road, as a result of liaison with Hertfordshire Highways.

The efforts to find a permanent solution to the flooding at the junction of Churchfield Road and Margery Lane, involving the creation of a ditch in the adjacent field, appear to have been successful. All owners of land should be aware of their responsibility for clearing ditches and ensuring that water from their land does not flood onto the road.

In the interests of road safety, and in anticipation of the new housing development at Seven Acres, the Parish Council continued to explore the possibility of extending the footway from Godfries Close up to Tewin Garage and the possible installation of a flashing speed sign on Upper Green Road. Signs for the Village Hall and Scout Hut have been requested, but not yet installed.

The Parish Council is responsible for the repair and protection of most of the grassed areas within the Parish, including Village Greens, Common Land and roadside verges, which define Tewin's rural character. Too often, these are damaged by vehicles. Another issue of concern is inconsiderate parking, on pavements and along narrow roads, which causes a hazard to pedestrians or other road users. The Parish Council has decided against a request to introduce dog waste bins, but reiterated EHC's dog litter policy, reminding dog owners that it is an offence to allow dogs to foul these grassed areas, public footpaths and pavements: the waste can be placed in litter bins or taken home.

The telephone box opposite the Rose and Crown is on BT's list for removal. After some consideration the Parish Council agreed to adopt it, subject to certain conditions, so that it can be retained as a feature within the Conservation Area. Village groups have agreed to donate funds for the electricity disconnection, and we have just received notification that this process will go ahead.

The Parish Plan and associated Action Plan were adopted by the Parish Council in May and in July the Parish Council agreed to a timetable to take the Parish Plan forward. Copies of the full document were distributed to all households in the Parish in September. The Action Plan made provision for Working Groups to be set up to take forward a number of issues raised by the Parish Plan and where feasible to involve Parishioners who had expressed interest in those issues.

Terms of Reference for a Further Analysis Group to look in more detail at issues including parking, and for a Transport Group were agreed in December. The Further Analysis Group met early in 2009 and work started on identifying locations in which parking is perceived to be a problem. The Transport Group met for the first time in March and covered issues such as awareness of the current bus service and access to essential services. It was decided that further discussion was needed before setting up a third proposed working group, to consider the development of a Village Design Statement.

Passenger numbers on the 388 bus appear to be holding up well. Return fares to the local stations remain very competitive with daily parking rates, for individual travellers. Over 60s are reminded that a Hertfordshire bus pass entitles them to travel free on most bus services throughout England, with reductions on some local train services.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to thank the Tewin Stores Association and everyone who has contributed towards the successful running of Tewin Stores, which opened as a community shop more than a year ago, and the reopening of the Post Office in September.

Along with other funding organizations, the Parish Council has contributed a grant towards the development of the café area, in particular to provide access into the garden for prams, pushchairs and wheelchairs.

The Parish Council's nominated representatives on Tewin Charities continue to be Cllr David Howson, for a further four years and Roger Temple whose current term ends in 2009. In addition, in May 2008 the Parish Council confirmed its informal representatives for the Memorial Hall, Parish Paths Partnership, for Transport issues, Tewin Society, Tewin website committee, the Parish Plan, Locality Policing and Tewin Stores Association. Cllr Howson has since become responsible for liaison with the Sports Clubs.

Regular contact has continued to be maintained with the local police. Karen Broad became the new Police Community Support Officer for the area. She attended the Parish Council Meeting in March and walks round the village as often as possible. The Mobile Police van continues to come to Lower Green on the first Wednesday of each month and Neighbourhood watch remains active. Cllr Lloyd continues to liaise on local policing issues and Cllr Evans attended a Locality Police Meeting in May.

Occasional thefts from property have been reported, together with some fly-tipping and abandoned vehicles. Parishioners are advised to be vigilant and report anything suspicious. It should be remembered that crime is still very low in this area.

East Herts Rural Parish Conference on 29 May was attended by Cllrs Doreen Lloyd and Steve Stott.

During the year the Parish Council has taken legal responsibility for the organization of events on the Village Greens, including the Classic Car event and the Christmas tree and Carols on the Green. Members of Friends of Tewin continue to run these events on behalf of the Parish Council. Discussions were held with Church regarding War Memorial Restoration, but after cleaning it was decided to take no further action yet. The Parish Council agreed to provide a loan to assist in the production of the book: A History of Tewin by the People of Tewin.

Brown bins were introduced by EHC for the collection of garden waste in April last year. New blue boxes for plastic bottles, and some other changes to collections are expected to be in force in autumn this year. Householders are reminded to find a discreet place to store their bins and boxes and remove them from the roadside as soon as possible after the collection.

The Parish Council rents land adjacent to the Tewin Cowper School for use as allotments and the land is leased to the Allotment Association. The Parish Council recently received an application for additional land, which has now been approved by the landowner.

The Parish Council has continued to support sport and recreation in Tewin. The playground continues to be well used. Weekly risk inspections and the annual inspection have taken place successfully. Several small repairs have been undertaken by the installation company. Datchworth Veterans football team continued to use the pitch on Upper Green for a second season, for a small charge. A youth team has also been using the pitch this season and the football posts continue to be available for use by local young people outside the main season.

In July, as earlier proposals had halted, the Parish Council agreed that it should set in progress a project to plan the refurbishment or eventual replacement of the Pavilion. Funds had already been allocated for refurbishment and the Clerk has spent additional time, together with Cllr B. Evans, investigating the possible options, liaising with the sports clubs and developing a proposal for the way forward. New funding is more likely to be forthcoming if junior and girls teams are being supported.

Once again, I would like to thank not only the Clerk and Councillors but everyone who has contributed to this year's activities, for their hard work, help, and support.

Kristina Lawson

St. Peter's, TEWIN  
Harvest Festival Weekend

19th-20th September 2009

Harvest Weekend- Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>  
September 2009

Arrangements for this event are well in hand - please make a note in your diaries.

The Harvest Weekend will take place over two days in September this year , with a range of interesting events and activities . On the Saturday - between 9.30 and 1.30 the Church will be open for visitors to view the Harvest Display and for Church/Churchyard tours. Teas and Coffee will be available. A concert will be held in the Church in the evening of 19<sup>th</sup> September - further details nearer the time.

On the Sunday, following the Harvest Service, the programme will commence around 12 noon with a Harvest Lunch and Barbecue and a range of stalls and special events to be held in and around the Church with something for everyone - young and old.

Recipe Reminder

As part of this celebration, we will be publishing a book of recipes -'A TASTE of TEWIN'. Thanks to all of you who have sent in recipes so far - we do need more and know that some have already been prepared and not handed in. Please submit your recipes as soon as you can - there is a lot of preparation to be done on the book. Forms, if you don't already have one, are available in the shop in Tewin, in Tebbutts (and in the Church) - and can be left there after completion. Entries are especially welcome from children as we are planning a special children's' section in the book.

Help Many of you have already committed to help with this Harvest Weekend - thank you. We will be in touch over the coming weeks to firm up roles responsibilities! If you haven't yet been approached and would like to help ..... please contact me (at the telephone number/email below ) or one of the Churchwardens. Pauline Brown - 01438 717580

[terry\\_brown@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:terry_brown@tiscali.co.uk)

FRIENDS OF TEWIN

We hope you came to the recent Book Sale and bought all your holiday reading. All profit goes into the refurbishment of the Memorial Hall which is always on-going,

It is some years since we have seen the Maypole erected on the Lower Green for the Maypole Dance but on Friday 1st of May at 10am, Tewin school children will be doing just that. Please support them and watch what we hope will be a annual event. The village shop will be open for teas and coffees.

We are now taking names for the Southend trip on Tuesday 7th July. Please call me and reserve your seats.  
717538

Linda Crawford Chairman Friends of Tewin

ALAN LAWSON

In memory of Alan  
on his birthday, from  
Joy, Kristina and all  
the family

**TEWIN MEMORIAL HALL**

**SUPPORTERS CLUB ~ Results for the March 2009 draw**

1<sup>st</sup> £64 Caroline Philpot, Stotfold

2<sup>nd</sup> £38 Pat Badger, Margery Lane

3<sup>rd</sup> £13 Ann Kevis, Upper Green Road

3<sup>rd</sup> £13 Jerry Collins, Lower Green

Membership forms from Peter Burleigh ( 23 Harwood Close, Tel 715260 )

or any member of the Hall committee

## ngs gardens open for charity

### Hertfordshire Gardeners' bumper crop for good causes!

In 2008 fifty-six gardens across Hertfordshire raised a record £51,000 by opening for charity. This year a similar number will be opening for the National Gardens Scheme and a leaflet giving the details is now out. It will be available **FREE** from libraries, Tourist Information

Centres, nurseries and Garden Centres across the county.

The money raised goes to caring and nursing charities including Macmillan Cancer Support; Marie Curie Cancer Care; Help the Hospices; Crossroads – Caring for Carers and The Queens Nursing Institute as well as some local charities nominated by the garden owners. Last year Macmillan Cancer Support and Marie Curie Cancer Care received £500,000 each from the national NGS income of over £2m.

Hertfordshire NGS County Organiser Edwina Robarts said: "£51,000 is unbelievable. It is a 38.8% increase on 2007 when we raised £37,000. I would like to thank everyone, especially the garden owners, for all their hard work. I would also like to thank everyone who visited the gardens for their generosity. I hope 2009 will be another bumper year."

Garden Openings at 106 Orchard Road, Tewin, Welwyn, Herts, AL6 0LZ

My garden will be open for the NGS Yellow Gardens Book again this year on

Sunday 28th June 2.00 - 6.00pm for Teas

Admission £3.50. Children free. Dogs on leads please. Wheel- chair friendly garden.

All refreshments and plants will be in aid of the Alan Adams Tribute Fund and the South Herts Branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

All offers of cakes, or help on the open days, will be gratefully received.

With many thanks Linda Adams 01438 798147 [alannio@btinternet.com](mailto:alannio@btinternet.com)

### FRIENDS OF DANESBURY AND QUEEN VICTORIA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Following the confirmation last year that Danesbury would continue to provide respite care it has been very encouraging to see Danesbury developing in the way originally envisaged when the new premises in School Lane were built.

Danesbury is now designated as a Neurological Centre. It continues to offer an ongoing home for a small number of people and to offer respite care for people with a neurological problem and complex health care needs.

It is also now able to offer neurological rehabilitation aimed at helping patients get back to achieving their most important goals, either by improving their physical abilities or by finding new ways of doing things. Patients coming into Danesbury may have conditions such as Stroke, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, Motor Neurone Disease, Acquired Brain Injury, neurosurgery following brain tumours and many more conditions.

Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech and Language Therapists, Dieticians, Psychologists, Specialist Parkinson's disease nurses and Specialist MS nurses have all joined the nursing team at Danesbury to enable this wider service to be offered.

The Primary Care Trust (PCT) are hoping in the future to be able to offer more out-patient and home based treatments across North and East Hertfordshire as well as further developing the teams in West Hertfordshire.

Before the developments many of the patients who now come to Welwyn would have had to go to London for the intensive rehabilitation now provided locally.

The Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital also offers rehabilitation to adults aged 18+. The ultimate aim is for patients to return home, sometimes with a package of care, adaptations and/or equipment.

The unit is running at full capacity and has benefited recently from refurbishment. It is a bright and pleasant place to be for patients and staff. Both patients and staff are looking forward to using the sheltered gardens as spring progresses.

Friends of Danesbury and Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital 01438 840514

Sally Chandler, Voluntary Services Co-ordinator 01707 365270



## HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY LAUNCH NEW INITIATIVE TO TARGET DISTRACTION BURGLARS

Hertfordshire Constabulary are calling on neighbours to look out for suspicious behaviour in a bid to reduce distraction burglaries. The call comes as part of a new initiative which detectives hope will help tackle the problem. Residents are asking people to display new 'burglar beware' window stickers in their homes and cars.

Detective Chief Inspector Paul Williamson, from the Serious and Organised Crime Unit, said: "Distraction burglary means quite literally that a criminal will attempt to distract a person in their home while they or a colleague carry out a burglary. They tend to target the elderly and more vulnerable people in our communities and can be very convincing.

"We're asking people to display the stickers in their homes to act as a warning to offenders that the residents of the county are keeping a watchful eye on them. But we hope they will have a dual message for residents to report any behaviour which they believe is suspicious, or simply out of the ordinary."

In a recent example in West Watford, a man dialled 999 to report two men who were acting suspiciously near some sheltered accommodation in his street. Minutes after his call, police officers had arrested the men. They were later found guilty of carrying out a distraction burglary in the home of an elderly man, and are now serving a combined prison sentence of over nine years for the offence.

Detective Chief Inspector Paul Williamson, from the Serious and Organised Crime Unit, said: "We rely on immediate information from residents to be able to apprehend these criminals and this is the main focus for the new initiative. We're asking everyone to look out for their older and more vulnerable neighbours and report suspicious behaviour to the police immediately with as much information as possible, such as descriptions or car details." DCI Williamson continued: "I can understand that some people feel like they may be wasting police time by reporting suspicious behaviour, but we'd rather people report it in the first place and it turns out to be innocent, than not report it at all." If you would like a sticker, please contact your local safer neighbourhood team. Contact details can be found on [www.herts.police.uk](http://www.herts.police.uk).

Distraction burglaries account for a small proportion of burglaries in the county, however Hertfordshire Constabulary gives the following advice to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of distraction burglary, or bogus callers:

Rule One:

**If a stranger calls - Not sure? Don't open the door!** If you are not expecting anyone and you don't recognise them, don't let them into your home. Be aware, bogus callers can be very convincing and will often pretend to be representing a utility company; a genuine caller won't mind coming back at a time when you can arrange to have somebody you trust with you.

Rule Two:

**If you are expecting a caller:** Only open your door when you are happy that you know the person. If you can't see who is calling and need to open the door, use your door chain and ask for identification or a pre-arranged password before you let them in.

Rule Three:

**Never keep large amounts of cash at home** If you ensure that large amounts of money are securely in a bank or building society account and any valuable jewellery is safely and discreetly locked away then, even if a criminal cons their way into your home, there is nothing of value for them to steal.

More advice and information about can be found on [www.herts.police.uk](http://www.herts.police.uk).



# **Thacs**

## **Tewin horticultural arts & crafts society**

### **Recent events ~ Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2009 - THACS Spring Show**

The eighth Tewin Horticultural Arts & Crafts Society (*THACS*) Spring Show at Tewin Memorial Hall took place on a wet and windy 28<sup>th</sup> March, which did not, however, dampen the enthusiasm of the 88 exhibitors. The five classes included Horticulture, Arts and Crafts, Photography, Culinary and Children, and the standard of exhibits was excellent.

Ray Keppler, the Chairman, presented the prizes. Marie St Pier won the Van Hage Cup for Horticulture and Gay Cates won the Tewin Society Salver for Arts and Crafts. The Photography class was won by Julie Bridgman, and Roe Hill picked up the Nodder Bowl for her Culinary efforts.

The children's entries were a delight, ranging from drawings of mummy or daddy, handwriting, gardens made of sweets, Easter cards and decorated eggs, collages, mini gardens, flower arrangements and photography. The joint winners were Lauren Cates and Scarlett Christian-Cox, who will share the Tewin Cowper School Award during the coming year. All the winners in the children's class received prizes too, and there was a pot of sweets for all the entrants to share.

The full show report, including all of the results, can be found on the *THACS* page on the Tewin village website ([www.tewinvillage.co.uk](http://www.tewinvillage.co.uk)). The *THACS* committee worked hard to make the show a success and are very grateful to all the other helpers and to our excellent judges.

### **Forthcoming events ~ Sunday 7th June 2009 - Treasure Hunt followed by BBQ at the Rose & Crown**

It is hoped that participants in the *THACS* 'Treasure Hunt' Walk, to be held on 7<sup>th</sup> June, will enjoy a convivial evening stroll along the footpaths of Tewin, solving a few riddles en route and answering a number of simple questions relating to *THACS* interests.

The walk will start at the flagpole on Lower Green at **5.00pm** and will take about 1 hour 30 minutes before returning to The Rose & Crown for a delicious BBQ meal at **7.00pm**. The meal to include chicken breasts, salmon, sausages, jacket potatoes and a selection of salads, is priced very reasonably at **£10 per person**.

For the less fleet of foot, there will be a shortened version, taking about 30 minutes and providing the opportunity for an earlier return to our local hostelry before the BBQ meal.

Please come and join in the fun.

You can get the booking form from the newsletter on the *THACS* page on the Tewin web site ([www.tewinvillage.co.uk](http://www.tewinvillage.co.uk)) or from **Pat Fulford, 27 Bishops Road, Tewin Wood, AL6 0NP (01438 798717)**. Please send your completed booking forms and payment (cheques payable to *THACS*) to Pat Fulford by **30<sup>th</sup> May 2009**.

### **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2009 - Visit to the Victoria & Albert Museum, London**

Here is an outing that has something for everyone! The Victoria & Albert is the greatest museum for art and design, a world treasure house with collections which hold over 3000 years worth of artefacts, including ceramics, fashion and jewellery, furniture, glass, sculpture, metalwork, paintings and drawings, photographs, prints, books and textiles. **All free.**

At this time there will be a special exhibition on the **BAROQUE Period 1620 – 1800**. This is one of the most opulent styles of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, from the Rome of Borromini and Bernini to the magnificence of Louis XIV's Versailles. On display will be religious paintings by Rubens and Tiepolo and all the splendours of a Baroque palace.

**The cost of this exhibition is at the discounted group price of £8 per person.**

All else is free, including a one-hour introductory tour if desired. If the V&A museum cannot satisfy you, then just around the corner are the Science and Natural History museums.

**The cost for the coach is £10 for members and £12 for non-members.**

If you wish to come, then please complete the booking form and send it with your payment to Pat Fulford by **13<sup>th</sup> June 2009**. You can get the booking form from the newsletter on the *THACS* page on the Tewin web site ([www.tewinvillage.co.uk](http://www.tewinvillage.co.uk)) or from **Pat Fulford, 27 Bishops Road, Tewin Wood, AL6 0NP (01438 798717)**.