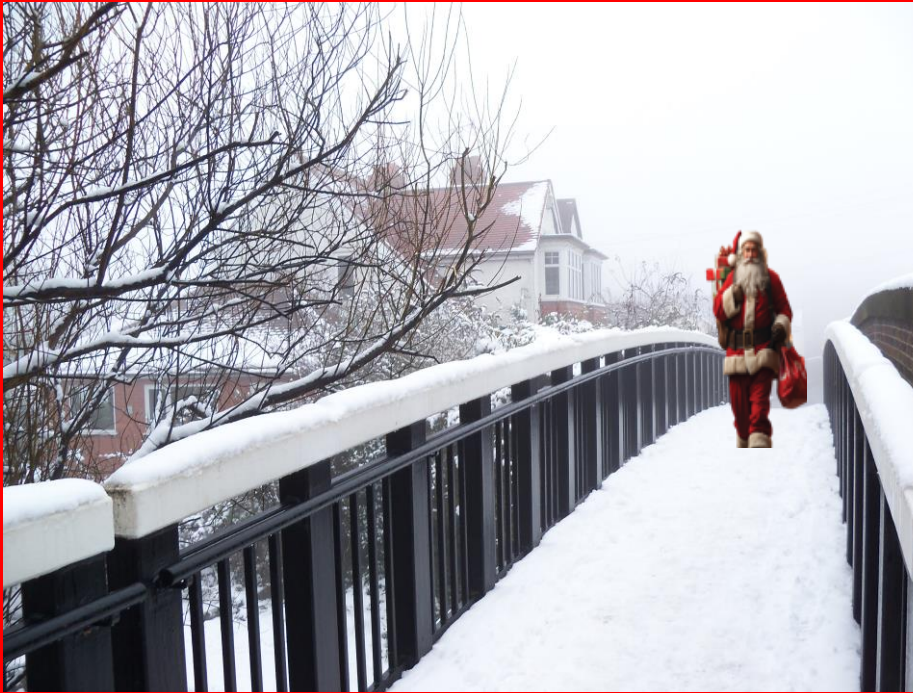


# December 2024 and January 2025



Catney Residents  
Association



## CATNEY NEWS

### CONTACTS

**Frances Cook, Secretary to the Residents  
Association**

**[secretary@catney.co.uk](mailto:secretary@catney.co.uk) 0776 8502039.**

**Residents Association X account:**

**@CatneyResAssoc and the Website of the  
Residents Association [www.catney.co.uk](http://www.catney.co.uk)**

**Catney News: Please send all articles to  
Christine Cluley, Editor, by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the  
month. [chris.cluley1@gmail.com](mailto:chris.cluley1@gmail.com).**

**Village Hall Bookings: Steve Dodsworth on  
07443 505388 or  
[bookings@catneyvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@catneyvillagehall.co.uk)**



## Residents Association News

### Planning News

#### Motorway Service Area (MSA) to be sited adjacent to new junction 5a off Solihull Road

Following the item last month I can report another meeting with the applicant has been arranged for mid-December. More news will be available in the February edition ( now edition in January)

#### Airport Matters - New Night Flying Policy—PL2024/0191e/M106

We understand that the application is likely to be heard by the Planning Committee on the 4<sup>th</sup> December. If you can spare an hour or so on that occasion please come along to the Council Civic Centre on the 4<sup>th</sup> at 6.00pm to show your support for the RA and PC in opposing the application and listen to what is likely to be an interesting session.

Thanks to all those who have submitted a response !!

### Village Hall Update

By the time you read this the refurbishment of the kitchen in the Hall will have been completed. Quotes for refurbishing the wooden floor in the hall - and the project is likely to cost in excess of £2000 - a little higher than we expected. Having just completed the current refurbishment project, we will not proceed with this project until we have boosted our funds a little.

### Pot holes /Drainage issues/ Faulty Street Lighting/ Fly tipping

If you see issues with any of these - please send details to the PC clerk at [clerk@hamptoninarden.org.uk](mailto:clerk@hamptoninarden.org.uk) - we find things get attended to quicker that way. If you can send a picture so much the better but please provide details of its location.

## **Access to Clock Roundabout A45/Airport/Station/NEC and Resort World**

Good news at last - According to our contacts at Skanska, we will be able to access the above using Catherine de Barnes Lane and the new dual carriageway from 19/12 thus avoiding the two diversion routes we have grown to love !!

## **Village Traffic Calming Measures**

Highways have indicated that they have finished the design for the scheme and the PC /RA are hoping to arrange a meeting with them sometime in December to discuss it. On the basis that the designs are ok we will arrange a final open village meeting in the Hall late January/early February in order that the proposals can be viewed prior to work starting in summer 25. More news in the next edition. If there is any news before then we will email members in the normal way and put notices on the notice boards so keep your eyes peeled.

## **Residents Association Committee Meetings**

Generally, Committee meetings are now held on the first Wednesday in the month, the next one is February. Any resident wishing to raise any issue with the Committee, can do so, at least 48 hours before the meeting, by contacting [secretary@catney.co.uk](mailto:secretary@catney.co.uk). Any items of importance discussed at the meetings or decisions made, are communicated to members via Catney News, which is distributed to members only. Non-members are able to view it on our website the following month.

## **Parish Council**

### **Next Hampton in Arden Parish Council Meeting**

The next meeting (Budget and main meeting) will be held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January in the Meeting Room next to the new Soho Tavern in Marsh Lane , Hampton in Arden 7.30pm.

If you have any issues you wish to raise, please make the Clerk, Julie Barnes, aware that you would like to speak, with a brief description of the issue, at least 2 working days prior to the meeting. Julie can be contacted at [clerk@hamptoninarden.org.uk](mailto:clerk@hamptoninarden.org.uk) or phone 01675 442017

**Residents are welcome to attend**

## Dates for the Diary

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January** Hampton Parish Council Budget and Main Meeting

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December**-Christmas Social- with childrens disco, official Xmas light switch on-Christmas sing song followed by mulled wine, mince pies and sausage rolls

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** - Quiz in the Village Hall at 7.30pm with Fish and Chip Supper, Licensed bar.

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March** - Residents Association AGM commencing 7.30pm followed by refreshments

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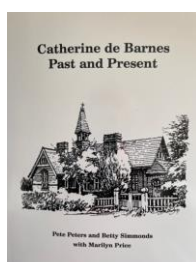
## WELCOME PACK FOR NEW RESIDENTS

If anyone has a new neighbour, knows of a new resident to the village or is in the process of moving, I would very much appreciate it if you could let me know the address of the new resident so that I can deliver a Welcome Pack to them. The Welcome Pack contains information of the village amenities, useful telephone numbers and of course information about the Residents Association and the many things we do. Please email me at [cuthbertlm@me.com](mailto:cuthbertlm@me.com) or text/telephone me on 07776 480813 with the address of the new resident. Thank you.

Lesley Cuthbert

## Catherine de Barnes Past and Present

If anyone would like to learn more about the area we are so lucky to live in, for £5 you can purchase a book which was co-authored by our Residents Association founder and first Chairman Pete Peters entitled Catherine de Barnes Past and Present. Money from the purchase of these books goes to the Village Hall fund. If anyone would like a copy, please contact me, Lesley Cuthbert on 07776 480813 or [cuthbertlm@me.com](mailto:cuthbertlm@me.com)





# Catney Village Christmas Celebration

Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December





4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Village Hall


Free for all Catney residents

Join us for a festive evening of community cheer and celebrate the season with your neighbours!

## Event Highlights:

- 4:00 PM: Children's Mini Disco with Games and Prizes 
- 5:00 PM: Christmas Lights Switch-On 
- 5:10 PM: Christmas Carol Singing 
- 5:30 PM: Refreshments – Mulled wine , soft drinks and Christmas nibbles 

## Special Feature:

-  **Christmas Raffle**
  - **Grand Prize: £100 voucher to spend in our village pub The Boat**
  - Raffle entry: £5 per strip; tickets available for purchase on the day, cash and card payment accepted
  - All proceeds will go towards Village Hall kitchen refurbishment

Bring your family for a wonderful evening of holiday fun!

Event organised by Catney Residents' Association

Of all the months of the year there is not a month one half so welcome to the young, or so full of happy associations, as the last month of the year." – Charles Dickens

## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

There was a really good turnout for the Remembrance Day service on 10th November, remembering all who gave their lives during all conflicts of war so that we may enjoy the freedom we have today, especially remembering those from our village who lost their lives during WW1 and WW2. Special thanks go to Fr Roy for officiating such a beautiful service.

Lesley Cuthbert



## Christmas light switch on and social event Saturday 7th December

Our official Village Christmas Light Switch on will be on Saturday 7th December. There will be a children's disco from 4.00 p.m, organised by our events group, official light switch on at 5.00 p.m, Christmas Carol Sing-a-long at 5.10 p.m followed by a Christmas social of mulled wine and Christmas nibbles. We do hope you will be able to join us on this joyous occasion.

Lesley Cuthbert

## ????? Quiz Night Saturday 22nd February 2025 ??????

To brighten up those long, dark, winter nights, we will be putting on a Quiz Evening on Saturday 22nd February at 7.30 p.m. Tickets will be £12 per person to include a fish and chip supper. There will be a licensed bar, and a raffle. Ideally teams of 6 but don't worry if you can't get 6 together we will work something out.

For tickets call or text me on 07776 480813 or email [cuthbertlm@me.com](mailto:cuthbertlm@me.com)

Hope to see you all there

Lesley Cuthbert



## MUSIC ... MUSIC ... MUSIC

A SERIES OF TUESDAY EVENING SUPPER CONCERTS AT

### ROGER'S - THE MUSIC CLUB WITH A DIFFERENCE

The Arden Room – Fentham Hall – Marsh Lane – Hampton-in-Arden – B92  
0AH

7:30pm – 10pm

Come along and enjoy an evening of superb entertainment from musicians of the highest quality, in an intimate and relaxing atmosphere. From Gershwin to Grieg, you will savour a selection of musical styles and genres to delight everyone. Seating is cabaret style.

Tickets are usually £20, to include a light supper and tea and coffee. A full bar is normally available. Limited tickets so reservation essential. Contact Roger on 07599 002275 or email [rogernwaring@aol.com](mailto:rogernwaring@aol.com) for full details and to book your table. Singles are welcomed.

A full programme of music for 2025 will be published soon, but in the meantime, here are the next offerings:

#### December 17<sup>th</sup>

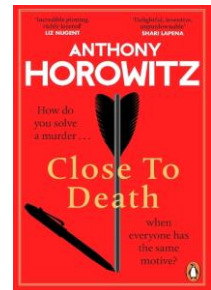
**The Yorkshire Military Band** are a five-piece brass orchestra guaranteed to bring a bit of Christmas cheer to our concerts. Based in Barnsley, they will finish off our year in great style.

There is a special concert on **Tuesday March 18<sup>th</sup> 2025**. Appearing in the Main Hall will be the very highly regarded **SIMON & GARFUNKEL THROUGH THE YEARS**. They are considered the premier tribute band and have travelled and performed worldwide. Priority for bookings will be given to local residents before wider publicity is given to this concert, so please contact Roger to ensure and reserve seats. £30 a ticket. No payment necessary until January.

If you see fly tipping in the village you can report it to Solihull Council  
[https://solihullcouncil.custhelp.com/app/smbc/dio/report\\_it/forms/streetcare/report\\_fly\\_tipping](https://solihullcouncil.custhelp.com/app/smbc/dio/report_it/forms/streetcare/report_fly_tipping) or contact the clerk at HPC  
([clerk@hamptoninarden.org.uk](mailto:clerk@hamptoninarden.org.uk)) who is very efficient at getting these things

# BOOK REVIEW by JOHN ALDERSON

## CLOSE TO DEATH A Novel by Anthony Horowitz



Horowitz has the ability to delight and annoy, not in equal measure, more often delight but his use of putting himself into his story's alongside his protagonist Hawthorne, can occasionally irritate.

Close to death takes the title from Riverview Close, a gated community of only six homes. Which when one householder is murdered seemingly limits the number of suspects, particularly when there are additional pointers for the police to follow. Hawthorne and his assistant John Dudley, reluctantly called in to help the police are sceptical about their conclusions as to who is responsible for the killing.

The story is in two parts, the first being the above and the second when Hawthorne and Dudley return to the scene a few years later to try to reopen the case as they didn't agree with the original verdict.

An excellent author telling a fascinating story. I really enjoyed it.



Remember when the shops looked like this?

**"December has the clarity, the simplicity, and the silence you need for the best fresh start of your life." – Vivian Swift**



# WHAT'S ON LOCALLY

## Solihull Festive Village

Celebrate Christmas in Solihull town centre!

November 29th - December 22<sup>nd</sup>

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### The Core - Christmas Market

Do your festive shopping at The Core's Christmas Market, with handmade and artisan goods from small businesses & local artists.

FREE entry - just drop in any time on Saturday 14 December between 10am and 4pm.

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## Tranquility in a Landscape - an Exhibition by Catherine Holland

Wed 29 Jan - Sat 22 Feb 2025, The Courtyard Gallery exhibitions

Solihull artist Catherine Holland presents local views from the borough.



Frozen Canal in Catney a few years ago—  
photo by Chris Cluley

**"I heard a bird sing in the dark of December. A magical thing. And sweet to remember. We are nearer to spring than we were in September. I heard a bird sing in the dark of December."  
— Oliver Herford**

Or before the shops existed?



**EX URBE CHAMBER CHOIR  
CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

# Bach to Bethlehem

**6PM SATURDAY  
7TH DECEMBER 2024  
HAMPTON IN ARDEN PARISH CHURCH**

CONDUCTED BY BENJAMIN HAMILTON  
ORGAN STEPHEN PERRINS

tickets from [www.exurbe.com](http://www.exurbe.com)

Ex  
Urbe  
chamber choir



## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT HAMPTON PARISH CHURCH**

22nd December 4pm Nine Lessons and Carols  
24th December 3pm Interactive Nativity for all ages  
24th December 11.30pm Midnight Mass  
25th December 11am Family Communion

5th January 11am Christingle



# Hampton Church Family Christmas Fayre

**Saturday 7th December  
11am @Church hall**

**FABULOUS STALLS, CRAFTS,  
TOMBOLA, & OTHER  
CHRISTMAS STALLS**

**CHILDREN'S  
STALLS,  
ACTIVITIES, &  
LOTS OF FAMILY  
FUN OVER IN THE  
CHURCH**

**HOT DRINKS,  
MINCE PIES &  
FOOD ALSO  
SERVED IN  
CHURCH HALL.**

**Visit Santa!  
& His Cheeky  
Elves!**



**Don't forget to bring your pocket money!**



### **Christmas Parties are here! Children aged 1 - 5!**

Would you like to join us for a fun phonics Christmas party? Your little one will have lots of Christmassy fun and will be learning at the same time! We'll be singing, dancing, dressing up and playing games whilst learning a letter sound.

There are two parties to choose from:

**Sunday 8th December 2024 at the magical - Catney Village Hall 11.00 am – 12.15 pm** Includes all the usual phonics fun and games plus a craft and gift from Santa - **£12 per child** (2 adults can join us for free - older children outside the age range can come for free)

**Friday 13th December 2024 at Olton Library** – this venue is small spaces will be extremely limited. 10.30 am – 11.30 am Includes all the usual phonics fun and games plus a craft and gift from Robot Reg - **£9 per child** (1 adult joins for free – the space is limited but if you ask, we may be able to accommodate 2 adults).

You can book via the website at [www.robotreg.co.uk/solihull](http://www.robotreg.co.uk/solihull)

or message me directly 07812 891594

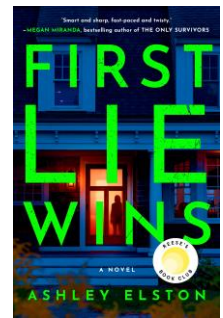
In the New Year, never forget to thank your past years because they enabled you to reach today! Without the stairs of the past, you cannot arrive at the future!"

— Mehmet Murat Ildan

# BOOK REVIEW by JOHN ALDERSON

## FIRST LIE WINS

### Psychological Thriller by Ashley Elston



This is a very interesting psychological thriller told in fractured sort of way and by an author new to me, Ashley Elston.

Evie Porter is the central figure, although you are introduced to her by another name, who is controlled by a mysterious Mr. Smith. He gives her tasks to move into another town and become involved in a persons life ,who Mr Smith has an interest but whose motive is not always clear. It is all about control.

The first contact is Ryan Sumner and his friends with whom Evie becomes close finding that he too leads a double life which seems to be what interests Mr. Smith. Also he introduces "Evie Porter" a lookalike with all Evie's personal and background information.

Other assignments are introduced by moving the timeline around but all come together in an interesting and clever way with the help of Devon a highly competent "techy" who also seems to be able to physically move at pace.

All this means you are never quite sure who is in charge or what is actually legal, even up to and including the last page.

I found this a hard book to put down and one which needs your attention but rewards by being such a surprising read.



Kim Rawson is still collecting supplies for Ukraine (ongoing, indefinitely). If you have anything to donate (including cash - which is specifically for the buying of cars to transport supplies plus fuel for the cars to travel across Europe), contact Kim on [kim.rawson@btinternet.com](mailto:kim.rawson@btinternet.com) or 07527540529.

Kim is the organist at Hampton Church  
Thank you.

## ***List of Supplies Useful for Ukraine***

***Adult Nappies / (Old) Android Tablets / Battery Operated Tools  
Candles (new or used) / Crutches / Gloves (Men's) (not mittens)***

***CASH / Hand Sanitiser /***

***Medication (in or out of date) ...***

***Cold/Flu relief sachets/capsules / Heat Gel / Cough med.***

***Paracetamol / Ibuprofen / Hand/feet warming pads***

***Men's Socks, T-shirts / Multi-Tool Pocket Knives / Powerbanks***

***Shoe insoles / Sleeping Bags / Thermal Underwear***

***Toiletries:***

***Razors / Shaving foam/gel / Toothbrushes / Toothpaste***

***Torches (Recyclable) / Vests (Men's) / Walkers / Washing Capsules***

***Wet Wipes (not baby) / Wheelchairs / Yoga Mats***

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# Local history

The following publications are available directly from Hampton History Group. Orders can be placed by email: [info@hamptoninardenhistory.org](mailto:info@hamptoninardenhistory.org),

The Hampton-in-Arden Chronicles  
1800 Years of Village History  
Clive Hinsull

George Fentham  
A Hampton-in-Arden Benefactor  
His Life and Legacy  
by Peter Green

The Doctors of Hampton  
Volume 1  
Rodger Charlton, MD  
In Association with Hampton-in-Arden Local History Group

The Railway Photographs of Alan Theodore Smyth  
A Local History Group Publication

The Hampton-in-Arden School  
The Remarkable Story of the Artistic Legacy of a Warwickshire Village  
Clive Hinsull

Old English Revival in Hampton-in-Arden  
The Architecture of W. Eden Nesfield  
Clive Hinsull

Hampton-in-Arden Local History Group  
A History of Hampton's Railways  
Roger Waring  
Supported by the Hampton-in-Arden Society

The Story of Hampton-in-Arden's Vicars  
Clive Hinsull

HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN  
A Village History  
Robin Wootin and Mike Bryant

HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN  
An Old Millstream  
Compiled and Edited by Mike Bryant, Roy Parker and Henry South

Hampton-in-Arden On Old Picture Postcards  
Clive Hinsull

Hampton-in-Arden  
Those Who Served 1914-18  
Clive Hinsull

Hampton-in-Arden In Old Photographs  
Clive Hinsull

**BOOKS CAN BE PURCHASED FOR £5 - £15**

Books can be delivered within Catney and Hampton or collected. Postage, if required, is extra. There is a small selection held at Hampton Post Office.