



# Community News

[www.hatfield-herts.gov.uk](http://www.hatfield-herts.gov.uk)

Spring 2008

## Birchwood Leisure Centre



Birchwood Leisure Centre in Longmead, Hatfield is soon to undergo a major transformation with an extension to the building to provide new offices for the Town Council. Ahead of this work other improvements within the building are being made. In the Main Sports Hall the floor is being resealed and remarked, and the hall will be painted in the specific green recommended by Sport England.

This will make it a prime facility for badminton players of all ages and abilities to play at an affordable price.

And it's not just Badminton that the Sports Hall can be used for. Shown here are the 'Soccatots' who use the hall to practice their techniques and tactics.

The area is used by many Sports Users particularly 5-a-Side Football, Basketball and Netball. It can be booked for casual use or take the opportunity to get involved with the various Clubs that hire the Hall.



All Hatfield residents are entitled to Free Membership of the Centre and this enables them to book a Court 13 days in advance. There is no entrance fee and Courts cost just £7.00 during the week daytime and £8.50 in the evenings and weekends. So why not get friends together and for less than the cost of a drink in the pub, have fun and exercise?

If you would like to become more active then the Monthly Gold Card is available at the Centre. For just £20.00 a month this Card gives superb value as it gives unlimited use of Beeches Health Suite (which includes stepper, running machine, bike, free weights and weight machines to exercise the major muscle groups). The card also gives you entrance to all the various Fitness Classes together with use of the Badminton Courts during the day and Tennis in the summer. This Card represents the cheapest Monthly Card available in the District, and it enables local people to participate and enjoy exercise at an affordable and value for money price.



For details of all the facilities, prices, availability and local Clubs based at the Centre, please contact Birchwood Leisure Centre on 01707 270772/3.

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## Playscheme

### HALF TERM

### Playscheme Dates

11 – 15th February at  
Birchwood Leisure  
Centre



## Our contact details:

Hatfield Town Council  
Council Offices  
Kennelwood House  
Town Centre  
Hatfield  
AL10 0LG

Tel. 01707 262023  
Fax. 01707 271145

Email:  
[enquiries@hatfield-herts.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@hatfield-herts.gov.uk)

Our office is open 9am – 5pm  
Monday to Friday.

## Your Town Councillors

**Central Ward** Cllr. Colin Croft 01707 265565  
Mole End 25 Daysmead, Hatfield, AL10 0SE

Cllr. Sheila Jones 01707 273934  
8 Dellfield Road, Hatfield, AL10 8EW

Cllr. Margaret White 01707 880 324  
30 The Downs, Hatfield, AL10 8JX

**North Ward** Cllr. Doug Berry 01707 259843  
9 Daffodil Close, Hatfield, AL10 9FF

Cllr. David Dorrington 01707 276772  
1 Ground Lane, Hatfield, AL10 0HJ

Cllr. Howard Morgan (Deputy Town Mayor)  
01707 264391 Flat 2, Maynard House,  
The Common, Hatfield, AL10 0NF

### **Newgate Street/Woodhill**

Cllr. Geoff Wiltshire 01707 872561  
Tolmers Park Farm, Newgate Street Village,  
Hertford, SG13 8RG

**South Ward** Cllr. Linda Mendez 01707 895892  
12 Shallcross Crescent, Hatfield, AL10 9QH

Cllr. Paul Smith 0770 3056 088  
45 Garden Avenue, Hatfield, AL10 8LL

**West Ward** Cllr. Sarah Atkinson 01707 274968  
365 St Albans Road West, Hatfield, AL10 9RU

Cllr. Mick Long 01707 891973  
7 Lamb Close, Hatfield, AL10 8PS

Cllr. Ron Smith 01707 264742  
44 Willow Way, Hatfield, AL10 9QE

**East Ward** Cllr. Linda Clark 01707 262082  
39 Chantry Lane, Hatfield, AL10 9H

Cllr. Michael Clark (Town Mayor) 01707 262082  
39 Chantry Lane, Hatfield, AL10 9HW

Cllr Hazel Laming 01707 264756  
75 Briars Lane, Hatfield, AL10 8EX

Mr Peter Clark is the  
Town Clerk  
Tel: 01707 262023.  
Council Offices,  
Kennelwood,  
Town Centre,  
Hatfield, Herts,  
AL10 0LG.



## CO-OPTION

Following the resignation of Peter O'Brien, the Council has co-opted Councillor Mrs Hazel Laming to fill the vacancy in the Hatfield East Ward until the elections this May

## ELECTIONS

Although the Town Council had elections for all 15 seats in May last year a review of the ward boundaries, to take account of all the new homes built on the west side of the A1 (M), means that full elections will be held this year, on Thursday 1 May.

## Isobel Hospice Future Events

### **Sunday 17th February**

#### **2008 Spotty Swim – Come and Join In – It's Contagious!**

It will be our Fourth Fun Swim at Haileybury pool, Hertford Heath. There is a decidedly spotty look this year and a collective 100 miles is still our target to swim. Every £1 raised makes a difference and every £1 raised in the swim goes directly into the service. Everyone can join in - young and not so young, families and companies, clubs, pubs, neighbours - everyone. Register on line on our website homepage [www.isabelhospice.org.uk](http://www.isabelhospice.org.uk), or fill in & return a form to Julia Skinner, Hill View Cottage, 23 Wormley West End, Nr. Broxbourne, Herts EN10 7QN.

### **Friday 29th February - Leap Year Black Tie Ball, Bush Hall Hotel**

**7pm for 7.30pm**

Ladies, 2008 is a leap year and your chance to pop the question to your partner. What better setting than at the beautiful Bush Hall Hotel, Mill Green, at the Isabel Hospice Leap Year Ball. You will be greeted with a glass of Bucks Fizz followed by a gourmet six course meal will be followed by dancing until midnight. The £45 ticket price includes half a bottle of wine per person too. Call Val at Isabel Hospice on 01707 376782 or Sam at Bush Hall on 01707 262626.

### **Sunday 9th March – Big Fun Walk, London Parks - 9.30am onwards.**

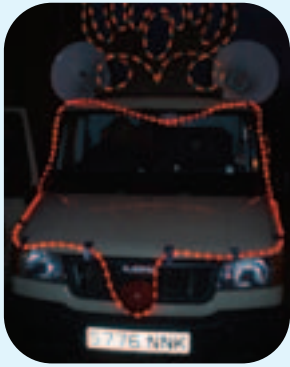
Once again the North London Hospice has invited Isabel Hospice supporters to participate in the beautiful 8 mile Big Fun Walk across the parks of London. It takes in Cherry Tree Wood, Highgate Wood, Parliament Hill, Belsize Park, Primrose Hill, Regents Park, Green Park, St James Park and finishes at Westminster for tea and Jazz. If you are interested in taking part, call Renee Friend on 01279 755320. Dogs welcome.

### **Sunday 16th March – Sponsored Fun Horse Ride, Hatfield Park – 10.00am**

This sponsored Fun Horse Ride takes place around Hatfield Park (Hatfield House) by kind permission of the Marquess & Marchioness of Salisbury. The 8 mile course has optional jumps and passes, mainly through parkland of outstanding beauty. David Court, Hatfield Rotary Club, 20 Meades Lane, Chesham. HP5 1ND Tel: 01494 583155 or email [court-online@ntlworld.com](mailto:court-online@ntlworld.com)

## Father Christmas Evening Tours

Hatfield Town Council provides this decorated vehicle for these popular outings for children to see Santa and most of Hatfield is visited by these evening routes. £1,463 54 was collected by the charity, Jim McDonald's who provide the walkers and Carol singers for the trips. As usual Dollimores provided oranges to give out to children. For the first time volunteers spent an evening collecting in The Galleria, by invitation of Land Securities Group.



Next year it is hoped to have on the Sleigh, a roof to keep the worst of the weather off the pensioners as they drive around and also rear entry steps.



## The Town Mayor Charity Golf Day

19 players competed and the team competition was won by the "Wormley Wobblers". Councillor Geoff Wiltshire, who worked hard to coordinate this event, said they were lucky with the weather and the day ran smoothly. £605.75 was raised for the Cystic Fibrosis charity.

## Best Festively Dressed Window Competition

It does seem to have been appreciated that the whole Town of Hatfield was included this year. Now it's being investigated to see whether the Council should run the event with different categories of shop.

### The Prizewinners were

Maddisons Florist, The Parade  
– 1st Prize

NCH Action for Children, Town Centre  
– 2nd Prize

Trims Trading, Town Centre  
– 3rd Prize



## The Tree Lighting & Carol Service

Although this was a chilly evening, following on from having had rain in the day, the children from the local schools, their parents and many local residents turned up to witness the tree lighting event and to sing with great gusto the many favourite Carols, before having a hot chocolate drink and mince pies, donated by Simmons Bakery. The Hatfield Citizen of the Year, Dennis Hedges, was given his framed certificate at this event.



## Christmas Festival Day

Despite the intense cold and the wind chill factor this event still went ahead and a handful of stalls braved the weather to be in the Town Centre. Inside the Asda entrance there was the Christmas Grotto and approximately 120 children received a present from Father Christmas.



## Santa's Nursery School Visits

These visits took place from the 3rd to the 19th of December. Every Nursery school child and under 5 attending school in Hatfield received a small gift from Santa. Santa arrived at each location in Hatfield Town Council's "Santa's sleigh".



## Hatfield Kids Funzone

Hatfield Town Council is delighted with the response to the opening of its Kids Funzone in October 2007. The Indoor Soft Play Area, within Birchwood Leisure Centre, was originally run by Activity World followed by a brief tenure by Topsy Turvy World, but closed in April 2007. After a 4 month closure, Hatfield Town Council acquired it and after major cleaning and safety checks, relaunched it as 'Hatfield Kids Funzone'. It's now a very popular venue for Children's Parties either with food provided or self catering. (Height restriction 1.52m or 5 feet).

Kids Funzone is open 9.30 – 6.00pm every day with the exception of Bank holidays and between Christmas and New Year, the last session is at 4.30pm. The Café is open at weekends and school holidays.

Also proving extremely popular are the Exclusive Hire Evening Parties these can be booked for your child's party or for youth/children groups who can 'have the place to themselves'. A Hot food menu is now available with this evening hire. ***This exclusive use has proved a winner so book your Child's Party at the Funzone!***

For details of bookings and prices please contact Hatfield Town Council between 9.00 – 4.30pm on 01707 262023. The offices are at Kennelwood, Town Centre, Hatfield, AL10 0LG.



## Howe Dell Community Hall

Hatfield Town Council has another Community venue for hire. The new Howe Dell Community Hall is adjacent to the new Howe Dell School in The Runway, on the former De Havilland site.

This brand new 'state of the art' building has a Main Hall with a comfortable capacity for 80, together with a fully equipped kitchen. This will provide local residents with a quality base for community activities and projects. It is an ideal place for local groups to meet, as well as a venue for Children's Parties.

Other Hatfield Town Council facilities are the licensed premises of Roe Hill Hall and Lemsford Hall as well as Oxlease House and Newgate Street Village Hall, that are unlicensed.

For further details and bookings for these Halls please contact Birchwood Leisure Centre on 01707 270772/3. (Newgate Street Village Hall on 01707 870188 after 6pm.)



## Apply for a grant

**Are you involved in a Community Group in Hatfield?  
Does it need financial help or match funding to provide the service?**

If you need to improve your facilities or buy new equipment why not apply to Hatfield Town Council for a grant? Applications are invited from all community groups in Hatfield. During the past year the Council has supported a wide range of organisations and would like to be able to help you too!

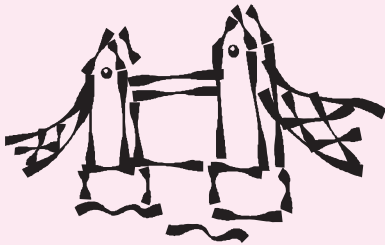
Contact Hatfield Town Council on 01707 262023 for an application pack.

## The Dutch are coming to Hatfield

### Calling 14 & 15 year olds

From Tuesday 29th July to Thursday 7th August 2008 fifteen Dutch youngsters from Hatfield's Twin Town in Holland will be staying in Hatfield. Opportunities still exist for 14 or 15 year olds living in Hatfield to take part by hosting a Dutch youngster and participating in the various activities being organised by the Town Council.

Fancy going to Chessington World of Adventures, Brighton, a tour of London, a BBQ or Swimming to name but a few of the activities currently being arranged. Then give Paul Widdicombe a call on 01707 262023 during working hours to find out more.



## Could you benefit from your local charity??

'Charity begins at home'...We hear this often but sometimes the funds are not available for any charity at home. The Wellfield Trust is a charity purely for the residents of the Hatfield Parish...YOUR HOME!

The Trust provides relief from poverty for those in need, hardship or distress and supports individuals, along with helping to meet the financial needs of community projects.

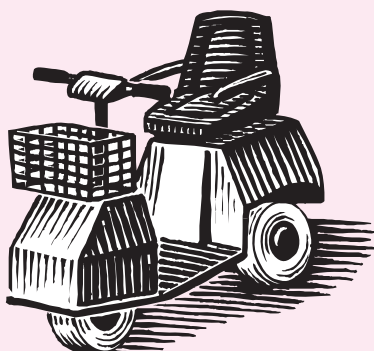
Many of us take everyday items such as; carpets, beds, clothing and household appliances for granted, but some people struggle to pay for essentials. Last year the Wellfield Trust helped 60 Hatfield households with items they could not otherwise afford.

Perhaps your home is in much need of a carpet, or you are unable to fund a course you wish to take. We can even help if your child wishes to attend a school trip and you just do not have the money. The Wellfield Trust will consider your request and may provide you with a one off grant to help in your time of need. All we ask is that you have an appropriate sponsor for your application who is a member of an organisation and understands your needs.

The Wellfield Trust runs a hugely successful scheme lending mobility scooters to Hatfield residents, who are unable to get out and about within the community. Many of the scooters currently being used within the parish are on long term loan from us. All we ask is that you have somewhere safe and secure to keep it! Just think how a Wellfield scooter could change your life: - you could visit friends and family, get to the shops with ease and live your life without depending on others.

Alongside the support we give to individuals, this fantastic local charity also provides support to local group projects. Wellfield Trust understands the importance of community to residents of Hatfield, and the Trust strengthens this by helping projects and programmes.

Are you currently running, or wanting to set up, a group that is aimed at and works with local community members? Maybe the group works with young people who are at risk of social exclusion; the elderly who are in need of social interaction with others in the same situation or a support group that works with people who require understanding and care??



If you think Wellfield Trust can help your individual need or with a project you are involved in contact; Jenny Bayford, Wellfield Trust Manager on 01707 251018.  
Email: - [wellfieldtrust@aol.com](mailto:wellfieldtrust@aol.com),  
Website [www.wellfieldtrust.co.uk](http://www.wellfieldtrust.co.uk) or write to Jenny at: Wellfield Trust, Birchwood Centre, Longmead, Hatfield. Herts. AL10 0AN.



## What Happens When You Push A Button?

A strange question you might think! But, in the case of No 1 Hatfield Community Resource Centre the answer would be ANYTHING!

Whether you are looking for opportunities to meet people, learn new skills or discover how to start and then run your own business we are the place to be! Alice has made twelve new friends at our fantastic toddler music group, Jane has learnt that computers are not evil and James has started a potentially successful landscape gardening business!

Here, at No1 Hatfield, anything is possible. It is a positive and encouraging environment into which you take those first 'life changing' steps. Our Chairperson and Manager both got more involved after joining the toddler group!

There are opportunities to learn I.T. skills with the very successful Progression 2 or improve your English with our Friendship Groups. Our Friday night youth group have the town centre buzzing for the right reasons and have contributed in a reduction of crime.

We can provide excellent volunteering experiences, anything from building maintenance to toddler art and craft, administration to funding! The opportunities are there and if applicable can all be added to your C.V.! To find out more just come and see us, we are located next to Pizza Hut in the town centre, you never know what could happen when you push that buzzer - and don't let having to press it put you off coming in!

### Regular Activities

Good News Coffee Bar	Sunday 10.00 – 12.00
Toddler Art and Craft	Monday 10.00 to 11.00
Friendship Group (ESOL)	Tuesday 9.30 to 11.30
Business Initiative	Tuesdays 9.30 to 11.30
Friendship Group (ESOL)	Wednesday 9.30 to 11.30
Toddler Music	Wednesday 10.00 to 11.00
Women's Support Group	Thursday 10.00 to 12.00
Family Fun (3 to 5yrs)	Thursday 1.00 to 2.00
Progression 2 Course	Friday 9.00 to 3.00

Essence Club, Art & Homework session 10.00 – 12.00 Starts 15th March for School age children.

There is also our internet café and our meeting space which provides all the resources your group or company may require.



**Suzanne Chapman** looks forward to meeting you!

**Ring Us On: 01707 270590**

Call in to Number 1 Hatfield, Community Resource Centre, Town Centre (At the side of Pizza Hut).

## Town Council Meetings

All of the meetings of the Town Council and its committees are held at 7.30pm on a Wednesday evening, nearly always at Kennelwood House in the Town Centre. Notices and agendas for each meeting are posted outside the Council Offices and the public are welcome to attend.

## 100th Birthday?

**Do you know anyone who is shortly to reach this great milestone and lives in Hatfield?**



If so please let our offices know, especially if they don't live in a Nursing Home, as the Hatfield Town Mayor would like to visit them and wish the person "Happy Birthday" on the day.

Telephone Hatfield Town Council Offices on  
**01707 262 023**



# TOWN COUNCIL SECURES £65,000 IN LOTTERY FUNDING TO IMPROVE PLAY AREAS



Thousands of children in Welwyn Hatfield are set to benefit from a major lottery windfall of £200,000 that was announced last December.

Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council had submitted a bid to the Big Lottery Fund to launch new play initiatives in the borough.

While the application was submitted by the borough council, the work in putting all the bids together was down to Welwyn Hatfield's re:play partnership. The re:play partnership includes representatives from Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council, Finesse Leisure Partnership, Hatfield Town Council, Central Hertfordshire YMCA, Groundwork, Welwyn Hatfield Extended Schools and members of different faith groups.

The five play initiatives are:

## **Hatfield Town Council – Enhancing play areas**

Hatfield Town Council is undertaking a three year improvement programme for six of its play areas that have been identified as needing upgrades. The programme will see the replacement of bark safety surfacing with wet pour recycled rubber and the provision of new equipment in each play area that is more accessible for disabled users and a wider range of equipment that is suitable for both disabled and non-disabled children to encourage inclusive play. The Council will be adding its own funds so that just over £150,000 will be spent on those play areas during the next three years.

## **Hatfield Swim Centre – Free swimming**

## **Groundwork Hertfordshire – Outdoor play at nature sites**

## **Lakeside School, Extended Schools, Herts Youth Service and Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council – Play provision for young people with disabilities at Meeting Point**

## **YMCA Central Herts – Monks Walk School Play Scheme**



## Hatfield History Society Events

Number 1 Hatfield (By Pizza Hut) Thursday 14th Feb 2.30 <b>"Teapots and Tea Making"</b> Dr John Beckerson	Friendship House Wellfield Close Monday 10th March 7.30 <b>"History of Potters Bar until 1900"</b> Brian Warren	Friendship House Wellfield Close Thursday 10th April 2.30 <b>"An Evacuee in Hatfield during WW2"</b> Terry Lenahan
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Monday 12th May 7.30pm AGM followed by **"The Industrial Heritage of the National Trust"**



## Hatfield Heritage Vehicle Society's 2008 Classic Vehicle Rally



**Free Entry for Spectators!  
Trophies to be won**

**Fun for all the family  
Saturday 7th June 2008**

**Birchwood Leisure Centre,  
Longmead, Hatfield (behind Tesco's)  
10.00am - 5.00pm**

Vehicles throughout the ages • Side shows and stalls • Refreshments • Tug a Truck • Tug of War • Ring Events • Treasure Hunt • Auto Jumble • Table Top Sales

To participate in anyway, please contact Colin Croft on 01707 265565 or complete the coupon below and send to to 25 Days Mead, Hatfield, AL10 0SE

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Details of stand/Vehicle: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

[www.hatfieldclassics.co.uk](http://www.hatfieldclassics.co.uk)

## Year 7's To Enjoy Birchwood Playschemes

Hatfield Town Council Playscheme based at Birchwood Leisure Centre has raised its upper age limit up to include year 7's at its holiday Playschemes. This follows extensive consultation and questionnaires where parents indicated that it is increasingly difficult to provide enjoyable and safe activities for this age group of children during school holidays.

The Playscheme's daily schedule has been altered to cater for these older children. Friendships have been built up over the years with children from other schools and areas and this extension allows these friendships to continue. When children change from Junior to Secondary school this transition can be helped by the fact the young person has met other children through the Playscheme. Staff at Birchwood are dedicated and committed to continued improvement of the Playschemes.

The Playschemes will be operating over the following periods:

**Monday 11th February  
to Friday 15th February 2008 - Half Term**

**Tuesday 25th March  
to Friday 4th April 2008 - Easter**

**Tuesday 27th May  
to Friday 30th May 2008 - Half Term**



## Town Council Offices

With its offices at Kennelwood being acquired as part of the redevelopment of the Town Centre, Hatfield Town Council has been obliged to find new offices. Plans for an extension to be built on the side of the Council's Birchwood Leisure Centre have been agreed and approved. It is hoped to start work at the beginning of April.

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