



50 YEARS OF TWINNING - THE CELEBRATIONS

In 1953 the people of the Hatfield area responded magnificently to an appeal to raise money for those living on the North Sea Coasts who suffered from the devastating floods.

Sufficient money was raised to enable a significant sum to be sent to the Dutch town of Zierikzee on the island of Schouwen-Duiveland which is in the delta of the Scheldt and Maas rivers in the province of Zeeland .



From left to right:
Michael Ganné,
Herr Böhm, Crone,
Deputy Berg
Shouwen-Duiveland,
Mr Kadera

Following that help, relations between the two towns developed, particularly in providing an annual youth exchange which has continued for 50 years. Zierikzee was also assisted by the French Town of St Hilaire du Harcouet and on the weekend of 1 and 2 October a small delegation from Hatfield joined the celebrations of our golden anniversary in Zierikzee, now part of the Council for Schouwen-Duiveland.

Amongst the speeches, which included one from the British Deputy Ambassador to the Hague, the Chairman of Hatfield Town Council, Councillor Mick Long, said

"Mr Crone, Monsieur Ganne, Mr Kadera, the representatives of the Embassies, particularly the Deputy British Ambassador, Mrs Darby and of course all the guests and friends from Schouwen-Duiveland, St Hilaire and Namestovo.

We are honoured to be invited to this the 50th Anniversary of our twinning links which developed from your terrible flooding in 1953. Then, as now, we admired the way in which you coped and rebuilt this very attractive area of the Netherlands. The people of Hatfield were able to give financial help and the first link was the visit of young people from Zierikzee to Hatfield that year.

That youth exchange has continued every year and shows the close association between our towns, an association made greater when local government reorganisation linked us with the bigger family of Schouwen-Duiveland. The Town of Hatfield has always been proud of this association and looks forward to its long continuation.

I am honoured to be Chairman of Hatfield Town Council this year and to be able to attend functions such as this representing out town's folk. On behalf of them all may I ask you, Mr Deputy Burgomaster to convey out thoughts and good wishes to your Burgomaster, Jack Asselberg.

Once again many thanks for your hospitality and we wish you lots of luck in the future".



From left to right: Councillor Michael Long, Hatfield Town Chairman, Michel Ganné of St Hilaire, Mr Kadera Mayor of Namestoro

HATFIELD GOES DUTCH

During August fourteen Hatfield young people accompanied by three adult leaders spent ten days in the homes of host families in Hatfield's Twin Town, Zierikzee, and other communities on the island of Schouwen-Duiveland in Holland.

This year's Annual Youth Exchange proved to be one of the most successful to date.

During the ten day experience the group along with their Dutch Twins went to Amsterdam, spent a day at a Dutch theme park, went mussel cutting, had a BBQ, visited a water park, and cycled to the beach on more than one occasion.

James Rossington one of the participants "enjoyed the exchange and would recommend it to anyone"

Emma Whybrow said "it was fun and I enjoyed myself"

These are just two of the many positive comments by the young people on their Dutch experience.

Recruiting is now taking place for the visit of the Dutch to Hatfield in the Summer Holidays next year. If you know a 14 or 15 year old who lives in Hatfield and would like to find out more ask them to get in touch with Paul Widdicombe on 01707 262023 during office hours or Barry Clark at Breaks Manor in 01707 263201.



If you are considering a celebration of any kind then Hatfield Town Council can provide you with the perfect venue. Both are suitable for Birthday Parties, Weddings, Engagement or Work Parties. (Both are licensed Premises)



ROE HILL HALL

Roe Hill Hall, Briars Lane, Hatfield
Roe Hill Hall is the prime function hall in Hatfield set in a quiet yet central location with ample floodlit car parking. It underwent a major transformation last year and now has a wooden floor with adjoining room perfect for a buffet. It has a capacity of 200.



LEMSFORD VILLAGE HALL

Lemsford Village Hall, Brocket Road,
Lemsford Hall is set in the picturesque surroundings of the Lea Valley. It has a woodblock floor and wooden beams. It has a capacity of 120.

Both Halls are non-smoking but smoking is permitted in the Bar area of both sites. For further information and price guide please contact Birchwood Leisure Centre on 01707 270772.



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CHRISTMAS CHARITY GOLF DAY THURSDAY 8TH DECEMBER MILL GREEN GOLF CLUB

In aid of Hatfield Town Council's Chairman's Charities Keech Cottage Children's Hospice and Hatfield Women's Refuge.

Fancy a game of golf and a three course Christmas dinner all in the name of charity.

Then enter a four man team for only £185 for the 18 hole competition with Nearest the Pin and the Longest Drive challenges.

For more information please contact Hatfield Town Council on 01707 262 023 or email: enquiries@hatfield-herts.gov.uk.





Chairman's Christmas Message



Councillor Michael Long

To the Towns folk of Hatfield. As the Chairman of Hatfield Town Council I would like to wish you all the compliments of the season. As you will all know Hatfield has become a

revitalised town. We were for a while in the doldrums but now thanks to investment by large businesses and the growth of the University of Hertfordshire we now live in an area where unemployment is amongst the lowest in Southern England. This of course is a wonderful position to be in but we should not waste this opportunity to go forward.

Soon the Town Centre will start to be redeveloped and revitalised. We are all living in a thriving Town with many new residents, all helping to establish our Town as the No. 1 that we should be. If you think I sound proud to be Chairman it is because I am. I moved here from Islington in 1961. Working locally for many years I've grown to love Hatfield and its people. Next year Hatfield will have its first Town Mayor. I said I am proud to serve Hatfield and am always available should I need be. I have attended many functions and events so far this year and for that I thank you. Once again I wish you all on behalf of your elected Councillors, Officers and Staff, Seasons Greetings, good health and lots of happiness for 2006.

Councillor Michael Long

Chairman, Hatfield Town Council

Birchwood Bulletin

Just in time to get trim before the excesses of the festive period the Birchwood Centre is launching its new Gold Card Scheme. For just £19.00 per month (by standing order) customers will be entitled to the following:-

- Unlimited use of Beeches Health Suite
- Free off-peak Badminton or Tennis
- Free entry to all Aerobic classes

The launch follows extensive improvements to the Beeches Health Suite including the repair, service and re-upholstery of all new machines and the purchase of a Precor Cross Trainer The area will also be painted and have new televisions.

Leisure Services Manager Mike Speddy commented - "The Birchwood Centre continues to use value for money as its core objective. The Beeches Health Suite is extremely popular for ladies and the 50+, and this investment represents our committed approach for affordable leisure for the local community where customers do not have to pay a joining fee merely for privilege of becoming a customer".

For further details about the new Gold Card you can contact the Birchwood Centre on 01707 270772.

Christmas is

What's on

Best Festively Dressed Window Competition

All businesses in the Town Centre have been invited to enter this competition. The staff/volunteers at the winning premises will receive a £100 cash prize. The winner last year was Trims Trading - who will lead the way in brightening up Hatfield this Christmas?



Tree Lighting Ceremony & Carol Service

On Thursday 8th December at 4pm the Chairman of Hatfield Town Council, Councillor Michael Long, will switch on the Christmas Lights at Kennelwood House.

Many local schools will join in the Carol Service which will be led by Brian & Thelma Dummer. Father Christmas may even take time out of his very busy schedule to collect wish lists from all the good children in the parish.



Christmas Festival Day - Saturday 17th December

Come and join in the Community Christmas spirit on Christmas Festival Day.

There will be a Santa's grotto in the Community Resource Centre. Every child who goes to see Santa will receive a gift.

Only 50 pence a child and all monies raised will go to the Hatfield Town Council Chairman's charities - the Keech Cottage Children's Hospice and Welwyn Hatfield Women's Refuge.

There will be many Charity and Community stalls including Alzheimer's Society, Hatfield Heritage Vehicle Society, Keech Cottage Children's Hospice, MS Society and the Community Safety Unit.

For information on having a stall at the event please contact the Council on the telephone number below Applejack the Clown will be paying a visit with her magic tricks and there is a strong chance of snow on the day ...

For further details on all these events contact Miranda Smith on 01707 262 023 or email: Miranda.smith@hatfield-herts.gov.uk



Cards for Good Causes Multi-Charity Christmas Card Shop At

Welwyn and Hatfield Council for Voluntary Service, 1 Town Centre (near Pizza Hut), Hatfield.

From

Monday October 31 -
Thursday December 15 2005

Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm

3 December 10am - 2pm (Sat)

10 December 10am - 2pm (Sat)

All Charities receive at least 81 pence in every £1 from their card sales.

Coming



this Winter



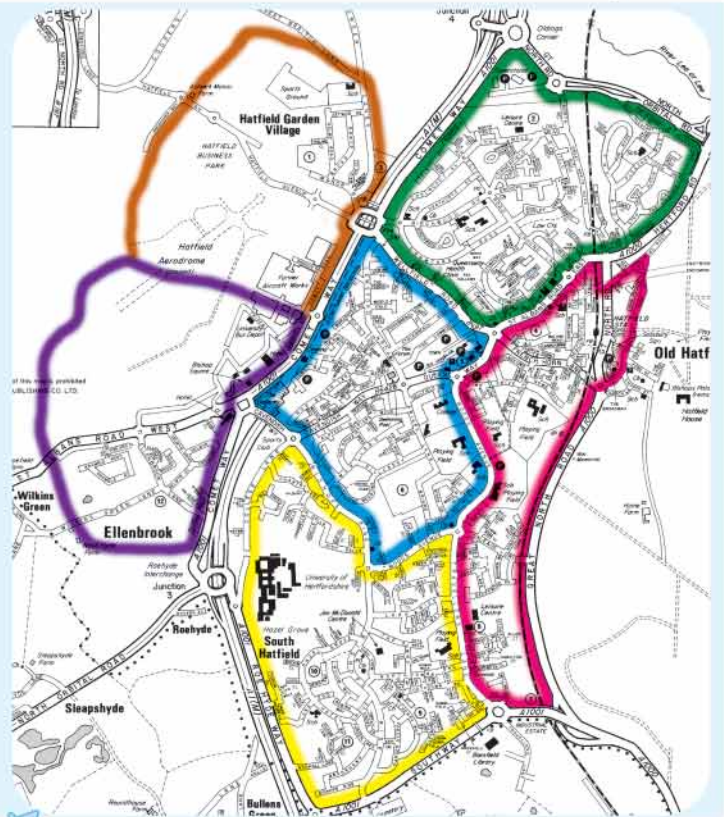
Christmas Evening Tours

Father Christmas is taking time out from his busy schedule to visit people in the Parish of Hatfield.

Jimmy Macs is helping Father Christmas with the Tours this year with volunteers collecting for the centre and Jimmy Macs activities.

Please see the route map for when he will be visiting you and don't forget to look out for his sleigh.

Monday 5th Dec	Lemsford Village
Tuesday 6th Dec	Hatfield Garden Village
Wednesday 7th Dec	North Hatfield
Friday 9th Dec	South Hatfield
Tuesday 13th Dec	East Hatfield
Wednesday 14th Dec	Central Hatfield
Thursday 15th Dec	Ellenbrook



NEWGATE STREET VILLAGE



Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th November

Exhibition & Sale of Paintings

at The Village Hall
10 am to 5.30pm
Refreshments
Admission free

Entry forms & information from:
Sharon Bryant 01707 877799

Christmas Tree Festival

at Ponsbourne St Mary's Church
10 am to 6 pm

Home made Christmas produce on Sale
Admission £2 (children free)

Entry forms and information from:
Gill Sutcliffe 01707 874388

Advent Carols and Readings

Sunday 27th November
At Ponsbourne St Marys Church
6.30 pm



JIMMY MAC'S

ACTIVITY CENTRE FOR THE RETIRED AND PEOPLE OF ALL ABILITIES

Jimmy Mac's Activity Centre offers a wide range of activities for older people.

The Centre is involved in the Community. This Christmas Jimmy Mac's will be conducting the Santa's Evening Tours throughout Hatfield.

Jimmy Mac's has a Lunch Club that serves a cooked meal Monday - Friday and Sunday 12pm -1pm with seating for 80 people. There is no need to book.

For one of Jimmy Mac's Christmas Lunches call the telephone number below to book.

There is good quality clothing and Bric -a- Brac at Jimmy Mac's own Charity Shop. Donations are always welcome.

You can have fun and keep fit at Jimmy Mac's in their large hall with activities including line dancing and carpet bowls.

"You are never alone at Jimmy Mac's"

There is something for everyone there.

Contact the Co-ordinator Lynne Fletcher on
01707 270068 or 07785 541064

Jim McDonald Centre, 3 Mc Donald Court,
High View, Hatfield www.jimmymacs.co.uk



Learn a new skill

Learn to cook the healthy way at Streamwoods School. Thursday 10 Nov to 15 Dec from 1pm to 3pm.

A 6 week course introducing basic cookery skills for evening meals, party food, divine desserts and packed lunches using techniques.

Understanding Children's behaviour at Number 1 Hatfield. Wednesday 16 Nov to 14 Dec from 10am to 12pm (crèche provided)

A 5 week course looking at behaviour, incentives and how to manage your toddlers.

Changing Spaces at Number 1 Hatfield. Mondays 28 Nov 19 Dec from 12.00 to 2.30pm (crèche provided)

A 4 week course to give you ideas how to change the rooms that do not work for you. Solve storage issues, lack of light and family unfriendly rooms.

For more information on these and other courses please contact Gillian Rant, Welwyn Hatfield Learning Forum on 01727 737532



Grants



Are you a community group in Hatfield?

Do you need financial help or match funding to provide your service?

If you need to improve your facilities or buy new equipment why not apply to Hatfield Town Council for a monetary grant? Applications are invited from all community groups in Hatfield.

During the past year the Council has supported a wide range of organisations including Jimmy Mac's, St Ethelreda's Church and the Hatfield Credit Union.



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

Shared Care Scheme

This scheme provides family based respite care for children and young people under 18 years who have a learning and/or physical disability.

The scheme recruits, trains and supports people who are willing to help the families of children with disabilities by looking after the child for short breaks. Shared Carers are ordinary people from all walks of life.

What you need is plenty of understanding, common sense, flexibility, reliability and be over 21. You would need to offer time, mostly in your own home. It could be at weekends, during school holidays, overnight, during the day, in emergencies, baby sitting or social outings. As long as it a firm ongoing commitment, whatever time you have to offer will be valued.

Shared carers are paid an allowance to cover expenses and will be covered by insurance.

If you would like the satisfaction of getting to know a child or young person and of being able to give support to their family, you can find out more by contacting your local Shared Care Social Work Team. Free phone 0800 917 0925.



News from Isabel Hospice

Festival of Art - Thursday 17 November 2005

Haileybury College, Hertford Heath.

This high quality exhibition of local art will be hosted by Haileybury for the fourth year running.

Hatfield Christmas Market - Saturday 19th November 2005

Old Palace, Hatfield House. 10:30am - 4:00pm

Get in the mood for Christmas at this market full of wonderfully original ideas for presents, cards, food and goodies.

For further information please contact 01707 651616.

Lights of Love - Saturday 3 December 2005

Hatfield Galleria, Hatfield, 4:00pm.

The Isabel Hospice Christmas Remembrance ceremony.

Taking place all over East Hertfordshire to remember those loved one who died.

Dedicate a light to them and join with us for a ceremony of thanksgiving, remembrance and carols.

For more information please contact 01707 376782.

Where is this?

Can you guess what Council Facility this is in Hatfield?

Taken over 40 years ago the area may have changed slightly but there are some clues in the photograph as to where in Hatfield this may be.

Please send your answer with your name, address and contact telephone number to Photo Competition, Council Offices, Kennelwood House, Town Centre, Hatfield, Herts, AL10 0LG.

The winner will have the choice of

- a) Free Friday night hiring of Roe Hill Hall or Lemsford Village Hall (subject to availability)
- b) A years free membership at Beeches Health Suite
- c) A copy of Hatfield Goes Back to the Future DVD

All correct entrants will receive a commemorative First Day Cover.

Good Luck!

Closing date:

Friday 16th December 2005



For that different Christmas Gift

Hatfield goes Back to the Future

Hatfield Goes Back to the Future is available to own on DVD.

The film was originally made to mark 150 years of Hatfield's history since the arrival of the railway and 50 years since Hatfield became one of Britain's New Towns. It is a film to keep which includes footage of the first jet airliner, which was to make Hatfield famous.

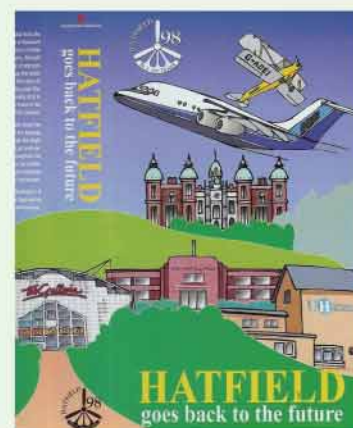
DVD £10.00

First Day Cover

These First Day Covers have the official stamp and have 1st Class postage. They were created in 1998 to mark the 150 year anniversary of the arrival of the railway and 50 year anniversary of Hatfield becoming a New Town. The cover design was carried on the Class 317 MK2 train, "The Hatfield Comet".

Available for 50 pence as a good long- term investment.

To purchase any of these telephone 01707 262023 or visit the Town Council Offices at Kennelwood, Town Centre, Hatfield, Herts.



GET IN THE SWING AS CHRISTMAS APPROACHES AND JOIN US AT THE



60's, 70's & 80's Music Night



AT

ROE HILL HALL



SATURDAY 19TH NOVEMBER

8PM ONWARDS

MUSIC PROVIDED BY TOPHAT DISCO!!!!!!

ALL PROCEEDS GOING TO HATFIELD
TOWN COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S CHARITIES

**HATFIELD
WOMENS REFUGE**

**KEECH COTTAGE
CHILDRENS HOSPICE**

TICKETS ONLY £5

AVAILABLE FROM - HATFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
KENNELWOOD HOUSE, HATFIELD
OR TELEPHONE 01707 262 023

Christmas Holiday Playscheme

Monday 19th December to
Friday 23rd December

For all children age 5 to school year 6

At

Birchwood Leisure Centre

For a booking form or enquiries contact

01707 262023 or email:
enquiries@hatfield.herts.gov.uk



Book Early

Hatfield Heritage Vehicle Society



Classic Vehicle Rally
For all the Family

Saturday 10th June 2006

At

Birchwood Leisure Centre,
Hatfield Town Council

Contact Colin Croft on
01707 265 565

For further information