



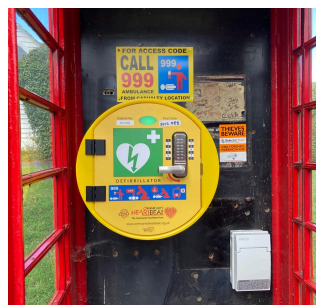
WARESIDE NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the Wareside Newsletter produced by Wareside Parish Council. We hope you enjoy catching up on all the latest news from community groups. If you have any suggestions for the newsletter we would love to hear from you, please email wpcclerk@hotmail.co.uk.

WARESIDE PARISH COUNCIL

We are very pleased to be able to announce that the defibrillator installed in the restored phone box on Babbs Green is now operational and ready for use. We obviously hope that it is never needed but if you would be interested in attending a training course on how to use it in the event of an emergency, please email wpcclerk@hotmail.co.uk.



We have written before in this newsletter about the dumping of rubbish on Little Oak Heath (this includes garden waste). We are very pleased that some of it has now been removed and we are grateful to those concerned. However, quite a lot still remains and more is being added to it on a regular basis. It affects the enjoyment of those using the site and poses a risk to them and to wildlife. The Parish Council will now have to pay to have it removed and this will affect our already stretched finances. We are very pleased that people want to use the site for recreation but we would ask that you take any waste home with you and do not dump rubbish you don't want on the heath. If you would be interested in helping out on the land as part of a working party, please let us know.

We are also on the look out for volunteers to help with maintenance work on the Parish Council's other site, Larks Hill, behind the village hall so again, let us know if you would be interested.

Finally, a word on the problems some of us have encountered over the summer with the smell generated by human waste fertiliser operations. Following complaints raised by villagers to the Parish Council we contacted the relevant authorities asking them to investigate. The Parish Council has received reports that the issue may soon be resolved and will continue to monitor the situation.

WARESIDE ENTERTAINERS

Our next production is "Trains & Boats & Planes"

A tongue in cheek variety review of transport.

Songs, sketches and dance at Wareside Village Hall - 26th & 27th September 8pm, Licensed bar, Tickets £10 (£8 concessions) from

www.waresideentertainers.co.uk, 01920 467223 or scan the QR code.

Check our website for more details. www.waresideentertainers.co.uk



WE are always delighted to welcome new members as performers or back stage help. No experience or auditions needed. We meet on Wednesdays in the village hall; call Judy on 01920 467223 for details.



We will be casting Cinderella, our January 2026 pantomime in September, so a good time to join

WARESIDE ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

Wareside Allotment Association Annual General Meeting took place in August under a very sunny sky. Yet again the association agreed to keep the annual rental at thirty five pounds per plot, that's fourteen years without an increase! Other topics discussed included extending the water capture and storage, management of vacant plots and maintenance of communal areas. Those present agreed that a monthly working party should be organised to carry out some of the tasks highlighted in the discussion. The first working party will be held on Sunday 7th September from 10:00am.

Most plot holders have found the hot weather challenging, both from a health perspective - too hot to do any manual work; and from a cultivation perspective - seeds not germinating or drying out, unable to root into the rock hard soil. Some vegetables that performed well include beetroots and the ever productive courgette. Second early potatoes were a bit on the small side, probably due to insufficient watering, so I have left the main crop in the ground until we have had some rain and hopefully they will be a bit bigger. Fruit trees did well and I'm sure the wasps, hoverflies etc were glad of the moisture obtained from the plums and apples they munched. I don't mind sharing the crop as long as they leave some!

There are still a few vacant plots left if any Waresiders fancy having a go at growing their own. Allotment year starts from September. I have a number of seed catalogues from Kings seeds which give preferential rates for allotment group members. Contact me (mepryan@btinternet.com) if you would like one.

Mike Ryan
Chairman - Wareside Allotment Association

A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends,

I am sure you will agree with me that the roll out of the new waste recycling scheme has not been East Herts District Council's finest hour. How reassuring, then, to know that God is better at dealing with our rubbish (bad attitude and behaviour). Jesus told a story of a man with two sons in which the younger son disrespects his father and wrecks his own life in "wild living." Eventually he comes to his senses, recognises that his life is rubbish and resolves to return home. Jesus tells us, "While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and ... ran to his son" to embrace him and welcome him home! God, unlike EHDC but like the father in Jesus' story, is completely ready for us when we come to our senses and need to bring our filthy souls to him. And the good news of the Christian faith, unlike the new recycling process and timetable, is not complicated – there's no question of us bringing some things to Jesus and struggling with other things ourselves; Jesus deals with everything at once. And when I say everything, that means past, present and future failures to live as God intends – Jesus takes **all** of our guilt and shame. And we need not worry whether Jesus will let us down – the brown bins may lose their lids and EHDC may miss our collection, but in the grace and kindness of God, Jesus **has already** taken the sin of all those who trust him and nailed it to the cross. As he himself said at the moment of his death, "It is finished!"

May you be comforted by and respond to God's offer to deal with your rubbish,

Mark Dunstan

Details of Church services can be found at www.waresidechurch.org

WARESIDE VILLAGE HALL

Quiz nights:

- * Monday 13th October
- * Monday 10th November
- * Monday 8th December

To include Play Your Cards Right!!

To be held at the Chequers Pub - teams of 6 maximum, £5/head, 7.30pm for a 8pm start.

Regular bookings at the Village Hall

- Wednesday - 7.30pm - Wareside Entertainers
- Every month on the third Thursday - 7.30pm - Wareside Parish Council meeting (all welcome)
- Friday - 10.30am - 11.30am - Pilates with Hannah

The village hall committee would like to remind residents parking in the car park to check the notice board at the hall **daily**, as there may be a late booking added.

****Next year is the centenary of Wareside Village Hall 1926 – 2026****

- Celebration weekend Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th September 2026
- Do you have any photographs of events in the hall we could use in an exhibition?
- We are planning a number of events to celebrate. Do you have any suggestions?

Contact: juditha39king@gmail.com or kayikerr@hotmail.com



LIVE MUSIC - THE VICAR AND FRIENDS

What a great evening's entertainment! On Sunday 10th August 120+ people came along to Waterspace to hear Max Robinson with his guitar and then a full set from Rev'd Mark Dunstan and his band, featuring Paul and David Goodman, Mario Abrami, Terry Gerrish and Dave Carter.



This was our 5th VicarGig. Once again we enjoyed top quality Rock 'n Roll – a great community get together and some impressive dancing – all in the lovely setting of Nicholas' and Henrietta's barn.

Over £1200 was raised towards the running costs of Wareside church. Thank you to everyone who supported this event.



RESTORATION WORK ON THE RIVER ASH CHALK STREAM

Flowing through Wareside, the River Ash is a rare and special chalk stream; one of only 260 in the world! As unique as rainforests, chalk streams support rare and threatened wildlife like Water Vole, Kingfisher and Brown Trout. Formed after the last ice age, these low-energy environments remained very stable; influenced only by the plants and animals that lived along them.

Sadly, in the last 200 years the Ash has been dredged, straightened and relocated, partly to support building of the Buntingford Railway Line. These modifications left the river over deep, disconnected from its floodplain and lacking important features like a clean gravel bed and gently sloping banks, leaving its wildlife struggling. In the face of climate change, we need to act to safeguard our freshwater habitats and the wildlife that depends on them, so we can ensure they remain for future generations to enjoy.

Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust and Easneye Estate have been working together for the last 3 years delivering an ambitious restoration project, to reverse the actions of our ancestors by 're-wiggling' the river, restoring in-stream habitats and reconnecting it to the floodplain, all helping to re-start natural processes and transform the river back to a thriving chalk stream!

We've added 2,000+ tonnes of gravel back to the riverbed to create new spawning areas for fish like wild Brown Trout and Grayling, which have been lost from two thirds of their native UK range. Over 300 large branches have been fixed into the channel mimicking natural tree fall, helping to speed up flows and create habitat niches for insects like Mayflies. At least 2 miles of bank have been re-graded, creating marginal areas for native plants to colonise, which in turn provide shelter and food for the endangered Water Vole. Around 5km of river has been fenced to reduce poaching from livestock and prevent silt from clogging up the stream. Relic meanders and old channels have been excavated to 're-wiggle' the river and 15 new wetlands, like ponds and backwaters, have been created in the floodplain providing frog, dragonfly and small fish refuges.



We will be monitoring the river and its wildlife for the next 5 years to track its improvement and we hope you will enjoy seeing it mature over time!

If you'd like to find out more about chalk streams, please visit www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/living-rivers

Article written by Sarah Perry, of the Herts and Middlesex, who managed this restoration project.