

A nighttime photograph of a street scene. A tall, slender pole is the central focus, wrapped in a dense string of small, bright white lights. The pole extends from the bottom of the frame towards the top. To the left of the pole, a large, dark evergreen tree is visible. In the background, a house is partially visible, illuminated by warm yellow lights. A string of colorful lights is draped across the front of the house. The sky is dark, and the overall atmosphere is festive and cozy.

# HKVA Review

HAYES (KENT) VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

Winter 2024

Issue 256

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## Hayes Village Association

### HKVA 90th Anniversary

On Thursday 7 December the Hayes (Kent) Village Association celebrated the 90th Anniversary of its foundation. We were pleased to enjoy a wine and cheese party in the front room of the Old Church Schools. We had previously booked to hold this in the village hall but the hall was commandeered by the council to hold a by-election for a new councillor following the sad death of Andrew Lee. Hence the change in venue. A gorgeous spread of cheeses and pâtés, prepared by Peter Harrold and Beryl Grimani-Harrold, ably assisted by Pat Grimani, was laid out for all to enjoy.



The wine flowed freely and in spite of rather inclement weather everyone appeared to thoroughly enjoy the evening.



We now look forward to the centenary celebrations in ten years' time!

*Charles Wimble, Vice-President HKVA*

## Quiz Night

Since the outbreak of covid it has regretfully been the case that many social events organised by voluntary organisations have had to be cancelled due to lack of support. In spite of this HKVA arranged a quiz for Saturday 18 November which was supported by 64 participants from Hayes and beyond. The atmosphere within the Village Hall was full of friendly competition and frustration at brain failures and memory loss on some of the questions. I have had positive feedback from several people, saying how much they enjoyed the evening with old and new friends.

It is with pleasure that my gratitude goes to the committee members for their generosity as the raffle was funded entirely on donations from them. To add to this social success we made a profit of £735. A big thank you to all of those who attended, and to Hayes Village Fish Bar for the delicious fish and chips delivered promptly and efficiently.

*Peter G Harrold, Vice President HKVA*

### HKVA Review Subscriptions

This is the last issue on the current subscription. In view of the increased costs in printing the committee have agreed to raise the annual subscription from £10 to £11 for the next four issues.

I will email all members who have given me an email address with details of how to pay at the beginning of February. We will not be using the 'Go Cardless' method of payment this year. For those of our readers without an email address I will hand-deliver or post a letter to you with all the details. Please do not send any money until after 1 February 2024.

If you do not wish to renew then please let me know before 1 February so that I can amend our records and I will not pester you for payment at the end of February.

If you have any friends who would like to receive a printed copy of the Review for the next year then please ask them to email me ([charles@wimble.uk](mailto:charles@wimble.uk)) with their name, postal address and email address.

### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday 4 April 2024 at 8.00 pm. Nominations in writing for the Committee and Officers, signed by the nominee, proposer and seconder, should be received by the Secretary at least seven days before the meeting, [secretary.hva@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.hva@gmail.com).

### Copy Deadline

The deadline for copy to reach the editor for the winter issue is 12.00 noon on Friday 22 March 2024. We would be delighted to receive potential articles from our readership for inclusion in the spring Review. Please send your copy to [charles@wimble.uk](mailto:charles@wimble.uk).

## Community Matters

### Hayes Christmas Lights

Once again there was an amazing turn out for the Hayes Christmas Lights Switch On at the New Inn. By the time The Worshipful Mayor of Bromley, Cllr Mike Botting, accompanied by Mayoress Cllr Kim Botting switched on the lights the crowds reached half way down Station Approach!

Residents turned out in force on a dry but cold afternoon to visit the market stalls, watch the stage performers and visit Father Christmas. All in all it was





a great way to kick off the festivities.

The crowds were delighted with stage performances from Pickhurst Infant Academy, Hayes Primary School, Hayes School and students and the Temple Academy of Performing Arts.

The Hayes Christmas Lights Committee has worked all year raising funds to be able to provide the street lights on Station Approach and, for the first time in a long while, Hayes Street, as pictured on the front cover of this issue.

This year a special thank you again goes to the team at Boots the Opticians. Not only do they help with event tickets sales throughout the year but they also sponsored the cost of closing Station Approach.

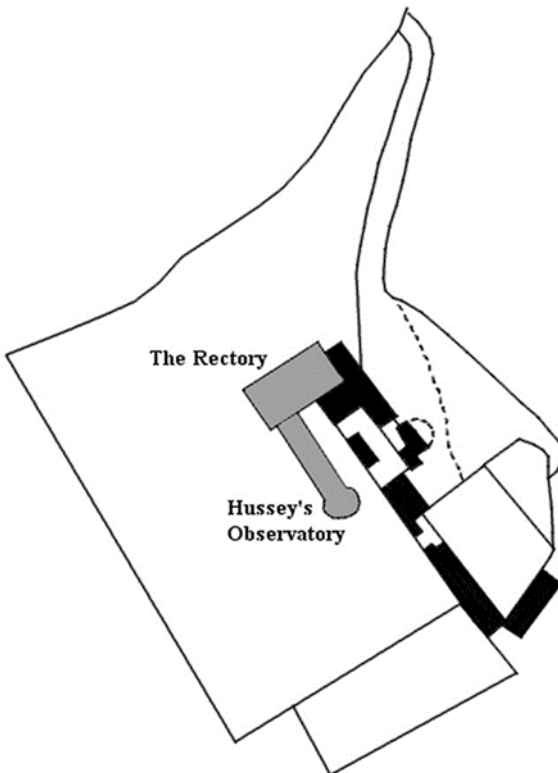
*Steve White, Chairman HKVA*

## Historical Articles

### Notable Hayes Astronomer

Hayes inhabitants were amazed in 1831 at almost the first action of their new rector, the 'eccentric' Thomas John Hussey. Newly married, he moved into the rectory (today's Hayes Library) and immediately began to build an Observatory as an extension to the house. No planning requirements needed then!

He employed a local carpenter, Gabriel Hutfield, who had a workshop in George Lane, to carry out the project. It involved creating a passageway, lined in dark wood, from the rear of the building to a circular room with a 13 foot (3.96m) wooden dome covered with copper. Instead of one continuous open slit his dome had three doors in different sections which he reported 'opened up to provide an excellent view of the night sky.'



*1832 Hussey's  
Observatory  
attached to  
Hayes Rectory,  
today Hayes  
Library*

Hussey was 34 years old and from an early age had been interested in astronomy. Ordained in 1823 he moved into Chislehurst rectory where Francis Dawson had a telescope used by his predecessor Francis Wollaston, who had also been a keen astronomer. Hussey was able to use the Chislehurst telescope to report on sun spots and was selected to provide the English part of a new star chart drawn up by the Berlin Academy of Science. He spent a great deal of his money on astronomical equipment including purchasing a magnificent Fraunhofer telescope, one of only four in the country.

Hussey had to wait until 1832 before he could issue invitations to other astronomers to see his new observatory at Hayes in action. 'The telescope 6.5 inches aperture that I got from Munich is at length mounted and, although about nine feet long, has not, when following the stars with its highest point, the slightest shake and tremor and the machinery keeps going for about half an hour without winding up.'



*Fraunhofer telescope*

In the early 1830s he also verified astronomical tables for John Lubbock, drew up a Catalogue of Comets from 1770 BC to 1744 AD, investigated differences between the views of ancient and more modern astronomers on the Rotation of Jupiter and continued to provide observations which appeared in various journals both in Britain and in Germany.

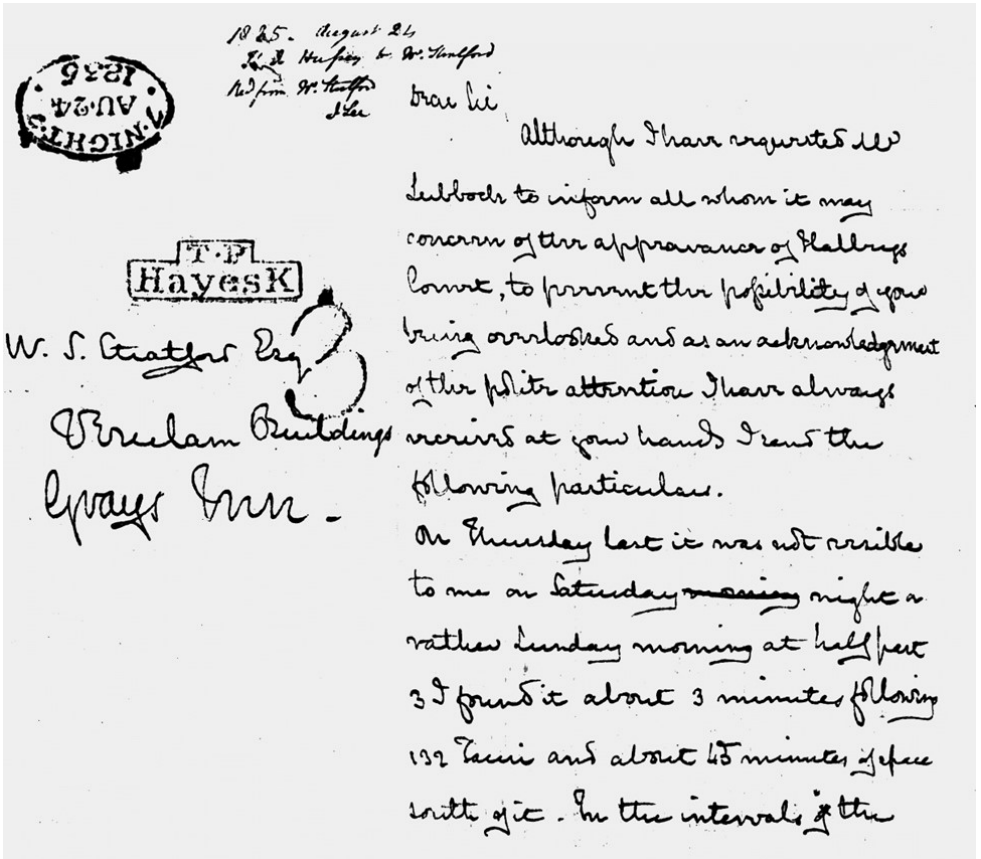
### **Discovery of the Planet Neptune**

On 17 November 1834 he wrote to the Astronomer Royal, G B Airy, to suggest the possibility of some disturbing body beyond Uranus. He proposed to sweep closely for the body or bodies but Airy replied that 'if there were any extraneous action, I doubt much the possibility of determining the place of the planet which produced it'.

Discouraged by this reply Hussey did not proceed but within a few years the new planet had been discovered and was called Neptune. In the 1980s Patrick Moore saw the importance of Hussey's observations and subsequently Hussey was credited in the Guinness Book of Astronomy as the person to be the first to suggest in the 1830s the existence of the planet.

**Halley's Comet**

Hussey's last astronomical sightings were in 1835. Astronomers in England were all competing to be the first to sight Halley's Comet. Hussey wrote very excitedly to John Lubbock and W S Stratford that he had not been able to see it on the Thursday but that he had found it on Sunday morning about 3.30 a.m. His findings were reported in the Times on 25 August 1835.



First page of letter written by Thomas Hussey to W S Stratford about Halley's Comet

clouds last night I verified this  
 which gives as an approximate place.  
 a R.  $5^{\text{h}} 42^{\text{m}} 20^{\text{s}}$   
 Dec +  $23^{\circ} 43' 20''$

This can be no more than an approximation  
 for Dawson who was with me last night  
 coincides in my opinion that it is the  
 faintest object the human eye can  
 distinguish in my equatorial 6.5 inches  
 aperture and which from being a Fraunhofer  
 doublet glass shows faint nebula almost  
 like a reflector.

With my best wishes for yourself and family  
 believe me, dear Sir,

Very faithfully yours,  
 Wm. Hussey  
 Rectory, Hayes, Kent. August 24. 1835.

An accident then happened which prevented him using his observatory which later became a schoolroom for his children. His exceptional collection of instruments were sold to Durham University in 1838 where they were used in a purpose built observatory.

The rectory was sold to Bromley Council in 1937 and shortly before the start of the Second World War Hussey's observatory was one of the structures demolished to prepare for the new public library. Nothing remains in Hayes to mark Revd Thomas Hussey's contribution to astronomy and science.

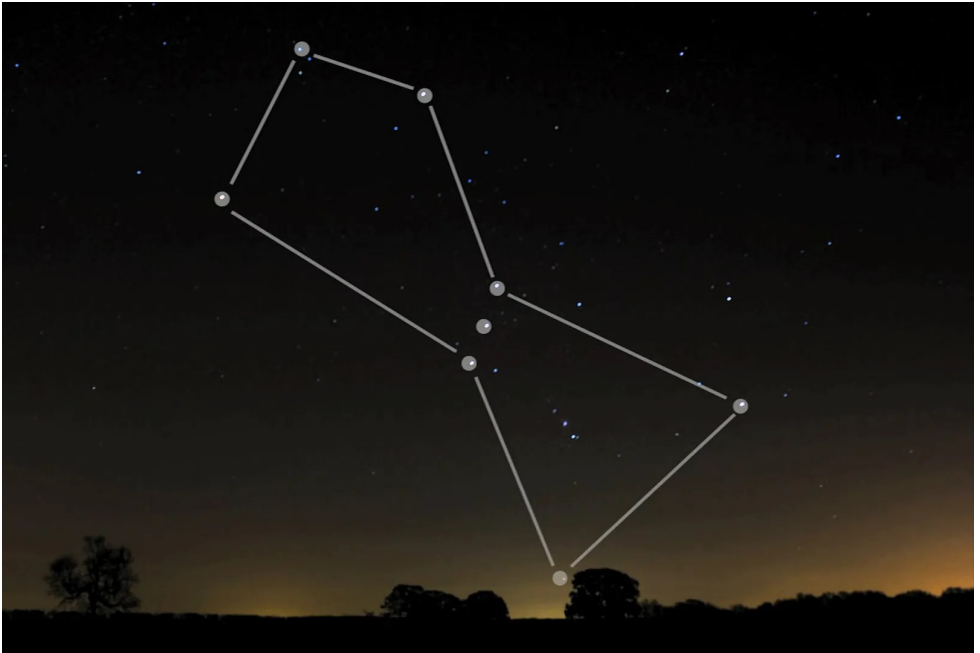
Second page of letter

Jean Wilson, [contact@hayeskenthistory.org.uk](mailto:contact@hayeskenthistory.org.uk)

## Local Groups and Societies

### Stargazing in Hayes

Yes, it is possible. Despite a plethora of streetlights and dazzling car headlights, not to mention the many cloudy nights, residents venturing out in these winter evenings can still catch a glimpse of outer space. The brightest “star” this autumn has been Jupiter. The planet’s orbit has meant that this year it is prominent through the evening – sometimes even overhead. A pair of binoculars will reveal the magical sight of a tiny disc, accompanied by four bright dots – its moons. Saturn is just visible early in the evening as it moves towards sunset. Mighty Orion, with his three-star belt, is coming into view at this time of the year.



Top left above the belt is the star Betelgeuse (“Beetlejuice”) a gigantic red sun 500 light years away and due to explode into a supernova at some time in the next 100,000 years (don’t wait up). Hanging from his belt is the fabulous Orion nebula. To the naked eye, this is just a smudge in the sky. Camera-connected telescopes can reveal a dramatic cloud of boiling gas and dust, from which new stars are emerging.

Early risers will be treated to the sight of Venus low in the southeast. Venus is a rocky planet, covered in volcanoes and with a blisteringly hot atmosphere. A small telescope will reveal a tiny half-moon shape, but little else – clouds completely cover the planet.

The Orpington Astronomical Society meets monthly in Petts Wood, with an observing evening in Otford each month as well. We comprise around 100 members, many of whom live in the Hayes district. Whether you are simply curious about the heavens, or determined to learn how to use your new telescope, we will welcome you as a visitor to our meetings. Every month we have a presentation about what can be seen that month, and usually an informative talk about some aspect of space.

*Andrew Ramsay – Chair of the Orpington Astronomical Society, serving the whole of Bromley: see [www.orpington-astronomy.org.uk](http://www.orpington-astronomy.org.uk) for more details*

### Friends of Hayes Common

The autumn season has seen our main Group sessions continue our woodland site clearances of (mainly) holly and laurel. Specifically we have been working between Prestons Road and West Common Road to clear four almost impenetrable thickets to provide clear conduits for wildlife between three previously-cleared glades.

On each site that we clear we leave small log piles which act as refuges for insects, bugs, small mammals etc. From talking to passing dog walkers, it is clear that the dogs are certainly in favour of our opening up of the Common as it gives them much more space to run around in. And we see that new footpaths are being established as human users realise that they can now take new, different and sometimes more interesting routes from here to there.



Our smaller but busier Habitat Management group has also been clearing holly and other scrub from above the Croydon Road car park in the effort to extend the heathland area to encompass the whole length between the Baston Road and Croydon Road car parks. Contractors engaged by idverde have also been working in this area to thin out some of the larger trees and help with holly control. Heathland reclamation has been sporadically ongoing on the Common for perhaps 25 years now. Because work has been sporadic, reclamation remains a struggle. The reclaimed areas actually require constant attention and regular management without which they revert quickly to scrub and woodland. This reversion process – where the indigenous flora is overwhelmed by an invading species – is termed ‘succession’.



2023 has been a noteworthy year for fungi, especially in the heathland areas, and foragers were often seen looking for and collecting edible wild mushrooms. Although if asked ‘Where is the best place to find edible mushrooms around here?’ many of our members (including your correspondent) would likely reply ‘Sainsbury’s, probably.’

We look forward to continuing our activities in 2024 in conjunction with our idverde partners. If you are interested in joining us please contact the Group Secretary, Ian Thomas, at [ithomas12@compuserve.com](mailto:ithomas12@compuserve.com). Ordinarily we meet at 10am on alternate Tuesday mornings with a tea/coffee/biscuits refreshments break for the volunteers.

*Ian Thomas, Secretary, FoHC*

## Friends of Hayes Parks

As autumn progressed with dry weather, time was spent doing a myriad of small jobs such as cutting back the wisteria on the front of the library, removing ivy from trees and fences, litter picking, weeding beds and dead heading and pruning roses.

In the Knoll the bamboo was cut, its final cut before the winter, opening up the maze for children and cutting it back on the paths at the back of the ponds where the grass cutter has yet to venture. A two minute job for him is a long job for us. Grass, nettles and brambles were removed allowing those walkers keen for some off-road walking to explore. The FoHC carried out a bank raid on the bank at the top of the Knoll clearing wood brambles, nettles, weeds etc so that the spring flowers on the bank next year will be seen.



In Husseywell, complaints about the state of the dead trees which were cut back near the steps resulted in the removal of the trunks and branches which had provided material for the endless building of a bridge to the island. A job which if supervised should have been carried out properly by contractors the first time. The wet weather, muddy conditions, lower temperature and end of school holidays have somewhat dampened the enthusiasm of bridge builders allowing wildlife to use the island as a safe haven once again.



Hedge cutting, leaf raking and litter picking are now high on the agenda and we extend our thanks to the Friends of Hayes Common without whose help this could not be done.

*Debbie Palmer, FoHP*

## Friends of Pickhurst Park

Whilst the early part of winter and late autumn were mainly dry, time was spent with FoHC help to clean the pond of debris and fallen trees. The outfall from the pond towards the Bourne was unblocked as were the surrounding ditches and within a short time the rains came and the pond filled quickly. Much time has been spent clearing the ditches along the lane of brambles, branches and dumped garden waste presumably left by those living locally. Walkways were cleared of protruding brambles and dead trees and overgrown areas were opened up.



The onset of windy periods brought down a number of dead or ivy covered trees. These blocked paths and were promptly brought to the ground safely and tidied up by the Friend members. The ditch running alongside the school was cleared and cleaned allowing the drainage of water unhindered. All that could be heard was the sound of robins and wildlife, of happy children playing in the school and the odd ouches from pricked hands as the brambles fought back. Nearly every dog being walked seemed to want to see what was being done. The park and Pickhurst Green look beautiful as the Friends started leaf clearing of the path through Cuppola Wood. More leaf clearing is yet to be done.

*Debbie Palmer, FoPP*

## St Mary the Virgin – News



There is a great deal happening here at St Mary's, under the leadership of our new Rector, the Reverend Amanda Spence. We hope that many were able to come and enjoy our Christmas services. Now we look forward to the New Year and onward to spring and our Easter Services. All are welcome to your parish church and our **Sunday Services**. 8.00 am Holy Communion – 10.30 am Parish Worship and every third Sunday 'Fresh Start' 9.15 am for families with young children.

There is a welcome these cold Wednesdays to our **Warm Welcome Space** from 12.30 pm to 3.00 pm – a light lunch, soup and other delicious home-made treats, and, of course, friendship and good company.

On the first Saturday of the month at 12.30 pm there is the **Churchyard Tidy Up** – a group of enthusiastic gardeners and non-gardeners meet and set to work with a warm refreshment at the end!

Under very experienced and able direction, a **Craft Group** has been formed and meet on the second and fourth Thursday of every month from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Do come along on these wintery mornings.

For those who are bereaved or live alone we have a **Coffee Morning** on the first Wednesday of every month, 10.30 am – 12.00 noon.

Why not come and join us at one of our events . . . everybody is welcome!!

*Mary Whytock, PCC Secretary*

## Rotary West Wickham

Why do people join Rotary West Wickham?

Below are verbatim responses from some of our present members:

'In 2016 I discovered the Rotary organisation at a *What's On* In West Wickham event. What astonished me was the 'Rotary End Polio Now' initiative. In 1988 350,000 cases were estimated worldwide and by 2016 the numbers had dropped to 37. That's why I joined the club. It was a brilliant decision.' – member since 2016.

'I was not in a good place when I found Rotary and it took me a while to settle down. I now enjoy the meetings, fundraising, social evenings, making new friends and I have never looked back.' – member since 2015.

'I supported Rotary West Wickham for many years as a volunteer, enjoyed the friendship and fun but most importantly knew I had contributed to helping people less fortunate. I decided it was time to become a full member.' – member since 2014.

'I joined Rotary as it gave an avenue to raise funds for more than one charity and we have some interesting speakers at our meetings which gives you an insight into activities you may not have heard about. It's also good fun with like minded people.' – member since 2009.

'My wife and I joined Rotary to help others and to meet new friends was a bonus.' – members since 2018.

To find out more information, to enquire about joining or volunteering to help, contact our President, Barry, on 07514358364 or E Mail [fentonbarryrotary@gmail.com](mailto:fentonbarryrotary@gmail.com).

## Rules for Sharing a Car

We loved our two old cars, always started first time and never had any fear that they would not be there in the car park when we returned. But thanks to ULEZ they had to go. The question then arose, did we actually need two cars. What started as a potential economy drive has ended up with a car costing more than our first house.

The remit for the new shared car, was economical, practical, be able to fit in the garage and within the budget set. Somewhere between the drawing board and reality, things got lost in translation.

*Budget*, we couldn't get anything decent, with our set budget.

*Economic*, what savings made from petrol and car tax would take a long time to recoup



with the price of the new car.

*Fit in the garage*, it fits, but you would have to eject through the roof to exit.

This was only the start of our problems.

When you always have had your own car, sharing is like living with someone for the first time. What you call personalising, can be interpreted as leaving your litter around. After much discussion (that was a nice way to put, endless moaning), the Highway Code rules were applied.

Nothing should distract the driver from the road, you should be able to see clearly through all your windows, for maximum vision. Garfield was going to have to go.

Driver seat, it is definitely not the case that one place fits all. You need to adjust the seat, so that you can reach the pedals comfortably without having to stretch and be able to hold the steering wheel with arms bent at the elbow.

Head restraint, should be properly adjusted, the top should start about the third of the way down the head.

It is not a one person job to check the car, it is the driver's responsibility to check that the car is safe to drive.

Fuel/charge, before you start, check the gauge. If you are sharing, it is bound to be low.

Windscreen wash, check the level, sorry this means you going to have to find out how to open the bonnet and find the thing that supports it. Make sure that you use antifreeze, it is not just for winter. Using anti freezer, reduces the risk of legionnaire's disease.

Tyres are the most important thing on the car, the fact that they are new, does not mean they are legal. The driver needs to check they are properly inflated to vehicle manufacturer's specification for the load carried. If you open the driver's door, usually at the bottom, are the tyre pressures. If you can't find it, it is in the handbook. Check on a flat surface when the tyres are cold. While you are down there, check the tread, it should be at least 1.6 mm across the central  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the breadth of tread and around the entire circumference. This is the minimum, ideally it should be about 2.5mm.

Here is an incentive to check:

Under-inflated tyres can affect stability, they also increases rolling resistance and fuel consumption. Your brakes and steering will be adversely affect by under-inflated or over-inflated tyres, felt as pulling to left or right.

This is the frightening bit, if you are stopped by the police and they check your tyre pressures and they are under/over pressure by 10% this could result in three penalty points per tyre. You the driver could lose your licence.

Before you go and buy a new pressure gauge, have you thought about your driving lately, and you haven't even left the driveway (I would say garage, but we can't get in there now)?

What else could you be doing wrong. Help is at hand, go to the RoSPA, Kent Advanced Drivers website, at [www.kentrospa.org.uk](http://www.kentrospa.org.uk), or phone 07590498514. They have local tutors in your area, and it costs only £35, for your first year's membership.

*Debbie Palmer, Chair RoSPA Kent Drivers*

### Hayes Community Foodbank

There are at least 2,565 Trussell Trust and independent foodbanks across the UK. It may be a surprise to some that one of those foodbanks is here in Hayes!

The Covid-19 pandemic and associated lockdowns affected us all in different ways. A lot of families, who had been financially stable, suddenly found it hard to make ends meet. After a meeting with local church leaders and senior staff at Hayes Primary, it was clear that proposed lockdowns would create a need for vulnerable families. The Chair of Hayes Primary and Secondary Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) came on board, and in March 2020, Hayes Community Foodbank was established.

The end of the pandemic did not mean the end of the Foodbank; in fact, with the additional burden of the cost-of-living crisis, the number of families and individuals we support has continued to increase. It was apparent that the Foodbank was not going to be a short-term project, so in 2022 it became a registered charity.

People can self-refer to the Foodbank and we also receive referrals from many local schools, Social Workers, GPs and Health Visitors. There is no formal assessment or any criteria that have to be met, but we do find out some basic information, for example, how many adults, how many children and their ages, dietary needs, etc, to enable us to tailor what we deliver.

Currently the Foodbank has 50 families and individuals registered, comprising 87 adults and 81 children. Not everyone requests a delivery each week, so in the last few months we have been averaging 40 households per week; quite a leap from the dozen or so families we started supporting in March 2020!

As well as those registered, there are also a further 30 who are now 'inactive' (they are trying to manage without the Foodbank's help; they do, however, know that they can contact the Foodbank at any point if they need to do so). When we receive an email from a family or individual which says thank you for your help, but we do not need it anymore, it is an emotional moment. Knowing that we have been able to play a part in helping people to get through a difficult time, motivates us to keep doing what we do.

We have also been able to offer some wider support, beyond food, to families and

individuals. Sometimes, simply signposting to other agencies has been helpful, but on other occasions we have worked alongside School Family Workers, GP Social Referrers and Social Workers to help with various issues. This wrap-around care from across the community can help towards a better outcome for those we support.

Alongside the board of trustees and management lead team for the Foodbank, all of whom work on a voluntary basis, we have a fabulous team of around 40 regular volunteers who collect and sort donations, pack each week, and deliver direct to people's homes, in Hayes and the surrounding area.

We quite literally could not do what we do without our volunteers and all the many ways they contribute to the smooth running of the Foodbank. Their willingness to give their time and energy is phenomenal. We operate all year round, so depend on their support, week in, week out. (The only week we do not pack and deliver is the week after Christmas, having made bumper-sized deliveries the week before to tide people over into the New Year.)

As the number of those who need our help has risen, so have the challenges we face to meet that need. As a result, we have to adjust our systems quite regularly, but our volunteers have never failed to adapt with us. We value them hugely. It is down to their competence, commitment and good humour that we continue to be able to offer food support where it is currently needed.

The Foodbank is reliant on contributions from the local community, both monetary and actual produce. We have donation drop-off points in four local shops (The Fundraising Shop, Iceland, Panagua Bikes, Sainsbury's) and several of the local churches. The money that is donated is used for a weekly shop, to plug any gaps we have in what's been donated vs what our families need. We also get a weekly delivery from the Transforming Bromley Borough Food Partnership, who operate a food hub in Orpington that distributes food to thirteen church-based foodbanks across Bromley Borough. They receive food each week from Fareshare/Felix Project (a national charity that distributes surplus food from supermarkets to foodbanks across the UK). In addition, Sponge Kitchens in Hayes generously donates all its leftover bread and cakes to us every Thursday; and, fortnightly, the Hygiene Bank in Bromley gives us donations of toiletries and cleaning products. Local schools are also great at organising collections to help keep us topped up during the summer holidays, at Harvest and to help us fill our Christmas hampers.

It was hugely important to us that the word 'Community' was in our name. It is a constant reminder that meeting the needs of local families is at the centre of what we do. Equally important is the support we receive from the local community; we really

couldn't do what we do without it. You have read about how charities, schools and businesses help but there are also countless individuals who, mostly anonymously, regularly give food or monetary donations. We know that providing much-needed food solves only part of the problem. To that end we have been going out into the wider community – to schools, uniformed groups, local WI, for example – to talk about the work we do but also to explore some of the other issues surrounding food poverty.

We are so thankful to everyone who has supported the Foodbank over the past three years: no matter how small your donation may seem, it all adds up. If every household in Hayes donated one item to the Foodbank, it would amount to 3,500 items. . . When we come together as a community, we can make a real difference!

If you would like to find out more about the Foodbank or would be able to volunteer to help with packing or deliveries, please contact us at the email address below.

Any donations of unopened, in date items are so gratefully received (although no pet food or alcohol please!).

Should you wish to give financially, the Foodbank bank account details are:

Hayes Community Foodbank Kent, Sort code: 08-92-99; Account No.: 67307296

[hayescommunityfoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:hayescommunityfoodbank@gmail.com), Registered Charity No. 1198866.

## Youth in the Community

### News from Hayes School

#### House System

This year at Hayes we have relaunched our House system. This is a great way for students to be rewarded for their hard work in a friendly but competitive environment. Upon joining the school, the students are placed into one of four houses: Earth, Mars, Venus and Neptune and will remain in that house for the duration of their Hayes journey. Within each house we have a student leader representative whose job is to motivate and enthuse the pupils within their respective house to play an active part in the school and inter-house competitions. Our house names were voted on by our student leadership team and were created to represent the idea of belonging together – as the planets do in our solar system.

House points can be awarded for positive behaviours around the school and for demonstrating attributes of being a Hayes learner (communication, independence, being a team player, creativity and reflecting on learning). House points can also be

awarded for:

- Excellent effort in class and homework
- Consistently meeting deadlines
- Helping a member of staff
- Volunteering
- Mentoring other students
- Excellent attendance and punctuality

A change we have made this year is that every subject now runs an inter-house competition where students can earn house points. So far, we have had a Year 7 music concert, a modern foreign language cake baking event, a logo design competition and a creative writing scheme.

It has been lovely to see students engage with the house system this term and we look forward to seeing the competitions in the new year. Below is an outline of our competitions and the winners to date.

**Modern Foreign Language Bake off:**

Our first house competition this year was a cake baking competition run by the modern foreign language department. This required students to create a cake using ingredients from a country of their choosing. Students were also tasked with designing the cake to



represent that country. We had over 40 entries and these were judged by a panel of staff and sixth form students. Cakes were marked on the taste, the texture and the overall design.

Here are some quotes from some of the students at the event:

'It was really fun and I liked trying all the different types of cake.'

'I really liked seeing my creation come to life and it tasted really nice.'

'There were lots of Spanish flags and Eiffel Towers.'

'It was good because it was different from what I did at primary school.'

The event raised an impressive £120 for Bromley Food Bank. Well done to everyone that entered the competition and congratulations to the overall winners:

Darwin (Best Taste), Jasper (Best Texture) and Samuel (Best Design).

### Year 7 Concert

We held our annual Year 7 concert in November with over 200 Year 7 students taking part. Students were challenged with learning a song in their music classes that would later be performed in front of their peers and a guest judge. All students performed confidently, and it was lovely to hear a variety of repertoire from Hamilton to Monsters Inc, to Eye of the Tiger!

Our winning classes were 7UVC and 7WXB.

In addition to the class performances, we also had a soloist from every class. This included instrumentalists and singers and it was great to see the support that students have for their peers. Our solo winners this year were Ben who played 'The Bare Necessities' on the trumpet and Alden who performed a Bach prelude on the piano.



### Business Department Logo Design

Last month our business department ran a inter-house logo design competition. Students in Year 10 had to create a logo for the business department. Given a certain criteria, students had to make sure that the logo was dynamic and visual, and that it represented the ethos of the department. We would like to thank all of those who took part and to congratulate the winners with their winning designs.

1st place (Mr Hazlehurst's class) Scarlett and Dylan

2nd place (Mr Mills class) Reis,

3rd place (Mr Ahmad's class) Jasmine



### What's On

All events take place in the Village Hall unless listed otherwise

#### Regular Events

##### Group 88

(Social Group for the over 60s)

Every Monday 8.00 pm – 10.00 pm

Rosary Church Hall (with weekend events)

##### Barnet Wood Short Mat Bowls Club

Every Tuesday 1.30 pm – 4.30 pm

Warman Sports Club

##### Friendship Group (All welcome)

Every Wednesday 2.00 pm – 3.30 pm

Hayes Free Church (Term time only)

##### Hayes Men's Fellowship

1st Wednesday of the month 2.45 pm

Old Church Schools

##### Sitting Keep Fit

Every Thursday 10.30 am – 11.45 am

Old Church Schools

##### Hayes (Kent) Flower Club

2nd Friday of the month (not Aug & Dec) 2.00 pm

##### Hayes Library Opening Hours

Tuesdays and Thursdays

9.30 am – 1.00 pm and 2.00 pm – 6.00 pm

Saturdays

9.30 am – 1.00 pm and 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm

**Other Events** *For more details of HKVA events go to [www.hkva.org.uk](http://www.hkva.org.uk)*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Time</b>
Wed 21 Feb	<b>Hayes Horticultural Society</b>	Annual General Meeting	8.00 pm
Sat 23 Mar	<b>Hayes (Kent) Village Assoc</b>	Easter Egg Hunt Library Gardens	12.00 – 2.30 pm
Sat 23 Mar	<b>Hayes Horticultural Society</b>	Spring Show	2.30 – 4.30 pm
Thu 4 Apr	<b>Hayes (Kent) Village Assoc</b>	Annual General Meeting	8.00 pm
Sat 18 May	<b>Hayes Horticultural Society</b>	Plant Sale	10.00 am
Sun 9 Jun	<b>HAYES FAIR</b>	The Warren	12.00 – 4.30 pm



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