HATHERN HERALD



Winter 2018 | The Hathern Parish Council Magazine | hathernparishcouncil.org.uk

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HATHERN 2018'S WINE WALK

Fine wine, some food, lots of chat, loads of history, and a good nose around – that was the Wine Walk that was.

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HATHERN'S WINNING LIBRARY

The best things sometimes come in small packages ! Read how our community library beats the lot.

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CHRISTMAS WITH **HATHERN BAND**

It wouldn't be the same without it ! Carols on your doorstep no matter what the weather. Find out more about the Band.

SEASON'S GREETINGS !



VILLAGE EVENTS CALENDAR

HATHERN BAND

SUN 12 JANUARY – 19.00 LOROS concert, Hathern Church

SAT 06 APRIL Hathern Church Concert

Plus – more concerts and performances in the surrounding towns and villages.

For further information take a look at the Band's website: www.hathernband.co.uk

HATHERN BRIDGE CLUB

MEET EVERY WEDNESDAY VILLAGE HALL FROM 19.15 – 22.00

All New Members are made very welcome. Unfortunately, we do not have the facilities to teach beginners.

For further information call Yvonne Frost – 01509-261445

HATHERN CHURCH

WEDS 19 DECEMBER – 19.30 'Carols around the Piano'

TUES 01 JANUARY - 19.30 New Year's Day Walk. Meet at Church at 11.15 for 11.30 start. Back to Church at 12.30 approx. for Coffee and Soup

FRI 25 JANUARY - 12.00 - 13.30 Lunch in Church

FIRST SATURDAY'S IN MONTH -10.00 - 12.00 Coffee Morning

SEVERY WEDNESDAY – 10.00-12.00 Coffee and Chat

EVERY 4TH WEDNESDAY Praise Evenings, plus refreshments

Further information from Rosemary Worsfold – 01509-842585

HATHERN CLUB

MON 22 APRIL Easter Family Event, Easter Bonnet / Hat parade, Prizes, Kiddies Disco

EVERY MONDAY Quiz Night

Live Entertainment most Saturday Nights, see Notice Board for details

HATHERN VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

MON 31 DECEMBER FROM 23.45 New Year Fireworks, The Cross, Cross St

HATHERN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

THURS 20 DECEMBER - 19.30 Christmas Party, Village Hall

MON 21 JANUARY 'Indoor Kurling' - speaker Heather Herrington

Hathern WI meets on the third Thursday of every month, in the Village Hall, starting at 19.30



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WELCOME TO THE WINTER EDITION OF THE HATHERN HERALD.

First and foremost congratulations to Hathern Community Library and all its volunteers ! Despite it being the smallest library in Leicestershire it has been voted the best community library across the whole county (and Rutland as well !). The Parish Council is extremely proud to have been able to support HCL since the community library came into being some four years ago. More about the award on page 10.

Our front cover reminds us how members of Hathern Band braved the ice and snow last year to bring Christmas cheer to the streets of the village. What you may not know is that they have been doing this for well overa 100 years now and fortunately there is no sign of them running out of enthusiasm yet! There is more about the Band, and especially how it fosters and develops new talent, in our Community Corner feature.

Our regular Nature Notes this time focuses on the "not so easy to see" creatures of the night. Sean Hayle from Hathern's Wildlife Group explores some of the mystery and folklore that surrounds our nocturnal neighbours. Always wanted to be a train driver since you were a child? Well have a read of our Meet the Neighbours article and find out who in the village has managed to achieve that dream and travel world as well!

Open for Business is pleased to feature the Hathern Club – one of the best kept secrets in the village. But not now. Under new management and with a vision to make this one of the best places in the village to relax and socialise we see some exciting times ahead.

Finally we can't let this edition go by without taking a look at some more of the events that have taken place in the village over the past few months as part of the Hathern 2018 celebrations – Jacobean Hathern, medieval justice, and Eleanor of Castile all made an appearance to delight history buffs and there were other events to please everyone. And we also have a special feature on one of the events – Hathern's first wine walk !

That's all for 2018 - see you in 2019.

SEASON'S GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FROM THE HATHERN HERALD EDITORIAL TEAM – ROY DANN, DAVE NEVILLE, MARTIN CLAYTON, DAVE CLEGGETT AND ELLA-MAE HUBBARD AND A SPECIAL THANKS TO SEAN HALE AND LAURA BYRNE FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS.

CONTACT US | TEL: 07938 642018 | EMAIL: CLERK@HATHERNPARISHCOUNCIL.ORG.UK



FUNDING COMMUNITY PROJECTS

If you have walked across Hathern Park in recent weeks you will have noticed the fine new clock tower that sits atop the cricket pavilion. Congratulation to Hathern Old Cricket Club and everyone else involved in that project – the pavilion has been transformed in recent years and it is now befitting of an active and successful village cricket team. It also looks the business!

This has been one of several projects that the Parish Council has financially contributed to over the past 12 months; others have included projects for the Hathern Band, and at the Village Hall. In turn these are part of our long standing commitment to encourage and support local community based organisations that are such an important part of the fabric of village life. The Parish Council has the ability, within strict budgetary constraints, to put funding into the community and what better way to do that by using those funds to help foster and support community groups and community events in the village.

We are fortunate in having many community groups in Hathern and they are generally run entirely by volunteers and, of course, are not for profit. Fund raising for such is extremely hard work and therefore we run a Small Grants Scheme, whereby groups can very simply apply for funding to help get new projects and initiatives off the ground. Details of the scheme, as well as the application form, are included on our website. Funds are still available for this financial year!

ROAD WORKS - LCC FAILS AGAIN

If one set of chaotic road works badly affecting Hathern weren't enough then a second botched road closure should do the trick! You may have thought that was Leicestershire County Council's plan during the road works on the A6 recently. We had many concerned and angry residents contact us on both the 2nd September, when some drivers could not even get in and out of the village, and then again on the 4th October , when the A6 was closed more than a day earlier than publicised ! We have issued two formal complaints to LCC and have had two very apologetic replies. However we are not leaving it there and we are working with our County Councillor, Betty Newton, to try and ensure that LCC recognises incompetent management and puts measures in place to prevent a repeat performance.

For those who haven't used the service yet we do put all local road closures that we get notice of and affect Hathern, on our Facebook site as quickly as we can. So check that regularly for the most up to date information.

ELECTION TIME

Want to put something back into the village? If so why not consider becoming a parish councillor? You will have the opportunity next year as on Thurs 2nd May the local parish council elections will be held. For Councillors the standard term is four years during which you will become involved in a wide range of aspects of very local government and have the chance to make a difference by being involved in decisions that affect our community. For avoidance of doubt this is not politics and you don't get paid!

This is sleeves rolled up and getting down to working in a team to represent the interests of the community, resolve local issues, and help improve the quality of life and the local environment. To be successful the Parish Council needs a range of skills and experiences so why not give it a try? You can get more information about the forthcoming elections from the Clerk or directly from Charnwood Borough Council.

Hathern Parish Council has both a web site and Facebook Page. Find us at : www.hathernparishcouncil.og.uk www.facebook.com/hathernparish

HATHERN 2018 EVEN MORE!

In the previous edition of the Herald we looked at the beginnings of the Hathern 2018 celebrations, a year of events that commemorate 1318 when King Edward II visited the village, 1618 when the oldest church bell was cast and 1918, the end of the First World War.

Since our last update several events have taken place throughout the village.

There's still plenty more to come as we head into the Winter months, make sure to like the Hathern 2018 Facebook Page for continued updates.



In Hathern Church Richard Knox from the 1620's House and Garden at Donington Le Heath put the oldest surviving homes in the village into the context of the 17th Century. Richard also returned later in the year for the Medieval Justice Day!



Hathern WI took the helm after Big Week, hosting a well attended talk on Eleanor of Castile, Mother of Edward II in the Village Hall.



For July the love of fine wines was combined with everybody's favourite hobby of being a nosy parker when Hathern had its first wine walk. Five village houses with long and interesting histories opened up their doors.!



A staple in the Hathern calendar, Wicked Hathern Fest returned for it's seventh year, with over 40 music and comedy acts performing to several thousand festival goers.



Medieval justice was served in September when four local residents went in front of the judge. Luckily all got off lightly!

HATHERN'S WINE WALK

When the idea of a Wine Walk was first suggested to the Hathern 2018 committee, there were some blank looks. Was it a pub crawl asked those more familiar with such activities. No, a Wine Walk is an evening where participants tour houses of historic interest, meet the owners and enjoy a glass of fine wine and food. Five householders agreed to act as hosts for the evening of 28 July and were only too happy to welcome visitors and tell them about their properties. Hathern History Society provided display boards with historic information.

Church House is of course next to the parish church and is one of the oldest houses in the village. Timber in the building has been dated to 1430 – 1500. It was originally of wattle and daub construction and thatched. In 1901 it was occupied by the Price family. Sam Price made silk stockings for the wedding of future king George V and Mary in 1892. Sean and Clare Hale bought the house in 1989 and renovation took many years. The original part of Church House is at the front. The rear is a modern extension sympathetically built to look as if it was original.

At the corner of Narrow Lane and Dovecote Street stands the imposing sight of Dales Farm House, home of John and Jane Sorby. The three storey house dates to the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century and was built in several stages from an original cottage built in the seventeenth century. John and Jane have carried out a lot of research into the house and its occupants who for a long period if time were the Lowe (or Loe) family. A working farm until about 1946, the utility room was originally the dairy, and the playroom was used for storage of meat.

Holly Tree Cottages in Narrow Lane is a large "T-plan" house where much of the construction probably dates from the 17th Century but also includes a 19th Century stockingers' shop addition to one end. The property, bought as three cottages, was extensively renovated as a single dwelling by Roy Dann and Annette Harper over the period 1997-9. These renovations confirmed that the house, at one stage, comprised four not three separate cottages that were constructed in four separate phases of development, probably over a period of a century or so. The cottage has the date 1666 carved above a window.

As you walk up Tanners Lane towards The Leys, you will see Naws cottage just past the barn at May farm. To older residents this is well remembered as Dr. Swan's surgery in the late 1960s, hence the name of the cottage (Swan backwards). Originally four cottages in the early 19th century, these became two by 1922. Jeff and Marina Hardy bought the property in 1977 and spent many years rebuilding and renovating. They have incorporated a display cabinet containing old medical items to reflect the house's history as a surgery.





Jon Smith-Moorhouse and Rachel Bennett live at 10 Tanners Lane which is a two storey building situated in the line of houses at right angles to Tanners Lane. The house dates to the early part of the nineteenth century and would have faced the tannery which was situated immediately to the north. Michael Foster ran the tannery in 1824, however by 1843 he had died and the business was operated by his widow Elizabeth. She was declared bankrupt and it appears that was the end of the tannery.

The houses featured in the Walk are lovingly cared for by the owners who have ensured that part of our village heritage is preserved for the future. Our thanks to them, and for the hospitality, wine and good food we enjoyed. There'll probably be another Wine Walk next year – not to be missed!

More information about the houses at www.hathernhistory.co.uk





THE BEST COMMUNITY LIBRARY!

It turns out that size really doesn't matter! We've always known it, but Hathern Community Library has officially been crowned the best community library at the 2018 Rural Achievement Awards.

Over 2018, the volunteer team at HCL have been recognised at multiple events for the work that they do, both to keep the library going, but also in providing wider support in the local area.

The Rural Achievement Award Ceremony took place at Winstanley House in October 2018, celebrating and recognising the many people, community organisations and businesses that contribute to rural life across Leicestershire and Rutland. HCL took home the best community library award, which was sponsored by B Audio



Visual. The awards are organised annually by the RCC, a local charity established in 1924 to support and represent people living and working across rural areas of Leicestershire and Rutland.





This award came shortly after the Charnwood Community Heroes awards – this is an annual event where volunteers who go the extra mile are recognised and rewarded for their efforts. It is run by the borough council and the 2018 event was held at John Storer House, where the nominees had coffee and cakes and were given their awards by Christine Harris, the Mayor of Charnwood. HCL received their nomination from Cllr. Keith Harris.

All this recognition comes on the back of operational success as well. By the end of September 2018, HCL had loaned as many books as the whole of 2017. The stats are something we keep an eye on but often don't share beyond the volunteer team, however, we thought this was something worth shouting about! For the volunteer team, it is things like this that make the effort all worth while as much (if not possibly more_ than the awards. Recognition for all the hard work is great, but knowing that we're providing a valuable service for the village is why we do what we do. **Our groups:** We'll continue to focus on our regular groups in the next edition. We're also continuing to investigate new groups and activities we can arrange and support.

Did you know: you can now hire the library! Call in for a booking form, or email roomhire@hatherncommunitylibrary.org for more information.

Ways you can support HCL: Join the library; join our award winning volunteer team; attend events; support us through the Charnwood Community Lottery; take part in the HCL lottery; or send us direct donations!

Opening Hours

Tuesday 2pm-6pm Wednesday 10am-12.30pm Thursday 2pm - 6pm Friday 10am-12.30pm Saturday 10am - 12pm



NATURE NOTES CREATURES OF THE NIGHT

As humans we are programmed to be awake during the light and as the daylight fades we retreat indoors where we feel safe. There are however many nocturnal creatures that are far more active at night and it is these animals that are the subject of mystery and folklore.

When we think about nocturnal creatures it is the badger that immediately springs to mind. It is probably the best-known animal of our countryside with it's black and white markings making it instantly recognisable. As a child I remember being enthralled by the character Badger in 'The Wind in the Willows' by Kenneth Grahame but I've learnt that our love affair with the badger is a relatively recent phenomenon.

Given the large number of these beautiful creatures that we see killed on our roadsides, it's ironic that in the past badgers themselves were strongly associated with death. Perhaps their association with the night and the mystery that surrounds such 'unseen' animals of darkness could be the reason.

The fact that they are underground for most of their lives would add to this mystery. Other folklore had it that it was good luck if a badger crossed behind you, but certain doom if it crossed in front of you and scraped up a piece of dirt. Badgers spend the hours of darkness searching for food and as they are omnivorous they will eat whatever food is available at a particular time of year. Their diet may include earthworms, fruit such as apples and blackberries, cereal and even small mammals such as mice and voles. Although badgers do not hibernate they do reduce their activity during periods of cold weather and during the autumn they increase their feeding activity to accumulate body fat reserves for the winter.

Today the hedgehog is one of our most endearing wild animals but again this wasn't always the case. Strangely, back in the 1500s people thought hedgehogs were witches in disguise and there was a desire to eradicate them.

As a boy I remember seeing many hedgehogs in our garden at home but sadly their numbers have declined by 35% in the past 10 years. They are one of only three British mammals that properly hibernate during the winter, the others being dormice and bats. During the late summer and early autumn, the hedgehogs will be feeding very actively to build up fat reserves that will be used to sustain them throughout the winter.

The hedgehog's staple diet consists of beetles, caterpillars and earthworms During hibernation the hedgehog lowers its body temperature almost as low as the ambient temperature. Their heart rate slows down from around 190 beats per minute to a mere 20 and they will only be taking about one breath every few minutes.

There are many myths about bats that a surprising number of people believe. I remember my Mother being frightened of bats because she thought they would get into her hair – rest assured they don't do this! Bats are often associated with the legendary human vampires of Transylvania and it was also believed that witches worshipped horned figures with wings and that they used bat blood in their 'flying' potions. The writings of William Shakespeare did little to improve the bats reputation as they associate them with graveyards, death, ghosts, and goblins.

Despite their creepy reputation they are fascinating creatures. We have about 16 species of bats breeding in the UK but if you do happen to see a bat flying around the village on a summer evening they are likely to be the Common Pipistrelle which is our most common bat. Two other bat species that we have locally are Noctule and Daubenton. To see the latter, you need to go down to the river as the Daubenton feeds mainly over water.

The wily fox has a very mixed reputation that appears to stem back as far as Aristotle who described them as "wicked and villainous". The fox's fiery coat has played a part in folklore; they were often identified with fire, perhaps because they were said to be the animal that witches most commonly transformed themselves into. The association with the burning of witches and the fox's coat was cemented.

We regularly see foxes both in and around our village. The cubs are born in March and if you are lucky you may see them playing around their den. Later in the summer they are foraging for their own food and looking pretty much like adult foxes. However, because they are preoccupied with satisfying their hunger you can often get very close views of them. The trick is to find the location of their den, be still and quiet and see what comes out.

Happy wildlife watching! Sean Hale, Hathern Wildlife Group





HATHERN CLUB

Did you know about Hathern's fifth pub?

Nestled halfway down Dovecote Street in the middle of the village, is Hathern Club. The club was formed as Hathern Liberal Club in November 1886, to be used as place of resort for Liberal members, as well as for political purposes. Naturally, this included the standard caveats for the time – including the refusal of women onto the premises!

Fast forward to 2018 and things are vastly different. Hathern Club prides itself on being a venue open to all. The Club is currently undergoing some changes over the next few months and is under new stewardship in the shape of Marie Hill and her son, Corey. Marie has been a member of the club for as long as she can remember, as are her parents still. She is backed by the Club Committee – unpaid volunteers who are also members of the club, who manage the overall running of the venue.

Marie & the Committee are keen to ensure the future success of Hathern Club. Indeed, in June of this year, members of the Committee attended Meet the Neighbours at Hathern's Big Week, with the aim of gaining feedback from members of the public regarding their image of the club. From this, changes are already afoot.

With the help of Greene King Brewery, new beer lines have been installed, meaning quality draft beers are back on the menu! This is soon to be joined by real ale too. Another request was a gin menu, and this is also being introduced to create a quality range of drinks and spirits. Marie is always happy to listen to suggestions for other drinks too! In the long-term, there are also plans afoot to refurbish the interior of the club and make more of the facilities within for private hire. The interior of the Club sits over 3 separate levels and as such lends itself perfectly for private hires and functions – just recently the club has hosted Children's birthday parties and Wakes.



Hathern Club Specials

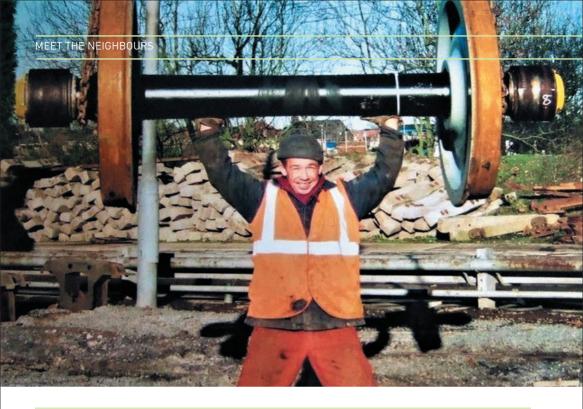
Rhubarb Gin:	Single: £2.70
lidai (m.	Double: £5.00
	Single: £2.70
Elderflower Gin:	Double: £5:00
Pink Gin:	Single: £2.00
Bombay Sapphire:	Single: £2.00
Fever-Tree Tonic W	ater: £1.20
Vanilla Vodka:	Single: £1.50

Entertainment is also high on the agenda – as you've no doubt seen in this very publication, a wide variety of events take place in Hathern Club on a weekly basis, including games nights, quizzes and Saturday evening music. As the 2018 calendar of events draws to a close, the Committee are already drawing up 2019, with the aim of expanding their offering to include more live music and events.

The Club is part of the Club & Institute Union (CIU), a non-political federation of over 1600 clubs in the UK. However, Marie is keen to point out the accessibility of the club. Whilst you don't have to be a member to come in these days, she points out it is only £8 annually to fully sign up to Club Membership. So, whether you wish to be a member or not, it's worth noting that in the heart of the village lies a venue open to everybody.

Hathern Club is open to everybody. Opening times are every evening except Tuesdays, as well as Sunday lunchtimes. Full details can be found by searching for Hathern Club on Facebook.





PAUL MINTY

SAY 'HELLO' TO PAUL MINTY.

Nowadays, people say that modern diesel-electric trains don't have the romance associated with old-fashioned steam trains. True enough you might agree, but today's trains are less noisy, cleaner, and are much more comfortable to travel in. And, if you've taken a train during the past five years or so and travelled to exotic places such as Liverpool, Norwich or Matlock and all stations in-between, the chances are that the driver will have been Hathern's Paul Minty, our 'Meet the Neighbours' personality for this edition.

Barrow born and bred, he graduated from Rawlins College and completed his vehicle technician apprenticeship in Leicester. After a variety of heavy engineering tasks, he was seconded to the Italian company "Firema Transport" that was supplying all the rolling stock for the Birmingham Tram System – his role included all the mechanical and technical inspections and final commissioning of the trams to ensure all safety regulations were being met.

Several years later and now in his mid-20's, the travel bug hit with a vengeance and Paul explored Australasia, seeing-in the Millennium whilst in Melbourne and spending several weeks doing conservation work in the Northern Territories. It was when he was working here that his passion for experiencing other cultures while hiking in foreign fields was firmly embedded. Fourteen months of travelling later and now homeward bound, that wonderfully exotic island of Bali provided a brief change of scenery before Paul headed to Thailand for the final month of his 'once in a lifetime experience'. Back home again and it was time to re-join the real world and get a proper job! So it was back again to heavy engineering, this time the welding and repairs of railway rolling stock before he was offered the job of a "Train Shunter", which entailed being on-call 24 hours a day, UK-wide, doing safety checks on freight trains before they were allowed to leave the railway yards. Completing his graduate course, Paul now became a mainline freight train driver. The biggest train Paul drove was an astonishing 762 metres long and weighing some 3500 tonnes! To put that into perspective, that's longer than 7 Premier League football pitches and heavier than 2300 average-sized family saloon cars - now that is some train!

By comparison, following Paul's transfer to main line passenger trains in 2013 he sometimes drives trains just 23 metres long weighing only 42 tonnes – bit of a difference there then.

Inevitably it seems, Paul's annual holidays still involve travelling, venturing to far-flung places such as Venezuela and Vietnam, where he was robbed and left with nothing but just his boxer shorts and passport! Probably best not to ask the obvious! Cambodia, Everest Base Camp, Borneo and the South Pacific are just a few more of the intriguing destinations that Paul has managed to strike off his bucket list. Now here's an interesting travel tip - Paul has learnt that it's best to start a holiday on the East coast of a country to see the dawn and, if possible, finish the holiday on the West coast to see the sunset – good tip, though how that would work in Grimsby is difficult to imagine.

One of Pauls' strangest travel experiences was when he, along with several other tourists, attended a ten-day 'Silent Meditation Retreat' in India – a cathartic experience for all concerned apparently. It was, quite simply, no talking and no eye contact with anyone for the complete period of ten days! And as for mobile phones – forget it! When Paul's cell-like room suffered a plumbing malfunction he was admonished by the monks for trying to ask for help – can you imagine trying to explain a plumbing problem to a plumber just using sign language? And not being able to look at them at the same time! However, Paul survived this challenging lifeenhancing experience. As he says, it was a 'once in a lifetime thing', not to be repeated.

Living in Hathern, Paul still finds time to explore perhaps slightly less esoteric countries in Europe,

a particular favourite being the forested mountains of Poland. Closer to home, the Derbyshire Dales and the Highlands of Scotland also feature high on his walking schedule. Paul's fond memories of his far-flung travels are securely locked away in



his memory hard-drive however. One in particular, possibly his favourite, sticks in the forefront of his mind, and that is of an island belonging to the group of Cook Islands in the South Pacific, now called 'Ma'Uke'. Polynesian legend has it that 'Uke, a leader, was searching for a place to live in peace and landed on the island of 'Akatokamanava' roughly translating to "My heart is at rest, my heart is at peace." With just 300 native inhabitants and no hotels it is indeed an island paradise. And that is how Paul feels now, living in Hathern, surrounded by fields and open countryside - at rest, at peace. So, if you see Paul, mainline passenger train driver, seasoned traveller and lover of open countryside, just wave and say 'Hello!'



For many people there is something special about Christmas carols being played by a brass band, It's a timeless scene and a big part of Christmas in Hathern to see band members playing round our streets with a party of singers. Hathern Band is 162 years old (the oldest Midlands brass band), and we're sure that they would have been entertaining at Christmas right from the start. However, the earliest record we have is of the band playing carols round Hathern on Christmas Eve, 1885, and the oldest photo is from 1955. It shows the band in Loughborough Road and we recreated the scene last year.

The Hathern Bands are in great demand at this time of year and will be fulfilling 15 engagements during December. Bands? The Hathern Band family consists of four bands. The main Band is a contesting band which competes in the top Championship section. Concert Brass is a noncontesting band comprising players who have graduated from the Youth Band, retired from the main Band, and those who simply want to make good music in a friendly atmosphere. Both the main Band and Concert Brass undertake many engagements throughout the year.

Last, but not least are the Youth Band and the Training Band. To ensure that the band continues for many years to come, the focus is very much on the future. In Training Band, instruments, music and tuition are provided for only a £4 monthly subscription. Children are taught not only to play a brass or percussion instrument but also music theory in a relaxed and fun environment. Playing in the Training Band helps enormously with developing sound and reading music, giving children the added benefit of playing in a group of young people of similar age.

The number of children learning a musical instrument has sadly declined in Britain which means that bands such as Hathern have an increasing role to play in teaching music. The band visits primary schools in the area to play and let children "have a go" at the instruments. These visits have resulted in more children from all parts of the community coming along to learn.

Hathern Band's musical director David Newman oversees the Training Band. David said "It's important to ensure that learning an instrument is a fun thing to do and we have lots of laughs in Training Band." As youngsters progress through the bands, David monitors their development to ensure they receive the challenges and encouragement to become better players. Playing in the main Band may seem a long way off to the youngsters, but there are currently 10 musicians under 22 years old who have made the journey through.

Would you believe that the Band features in the Thesaurus of Traditional English Metaphors? "Don't give me Hathern Band" was a saying from early last century. It meant don't repeat yourself – which doesn't say much for the Band repertoire at that time!

Despite playing in the brass band top section, the band remains basically a village band that develops its own players and unlike some bands, Hathern isn't supported by a sponsor. The Patrons Scheme provides a welcome income source and many individuals and businesses contribute a minimum of £25 per annum. Patrons have their own annual concert. In addition, there is the Friends of Hathern Band scheme for supporters to keep in touch with the band organisation. There is no cost in being one of the Friends who receive a quarterly newsletter with news, information, profiles of players etc.

The band will be out on the streets on 23 December – we look forward to seeing you!

Hathern Band's secretary is Lesley Bentley, Tel. 01509 672029 / 07786 604552 Email Lesley.Bentley@dsl.pipex.com. Website www.hathernband.co.uk.







THE NEW WHAT'S ON GUIDE

everything you need to know about the activities in your village.



SPRING/SUMMER 2019

look out for it from December 27th