



NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN/WINTER 2026

PRODUCED BY DAWLEY HAMLETS PARISH COUNCIL

HORSEHAY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL FLOWER, VEGETABLE & CRAFT SHOW

The Horsehay Horticultural Society's annual Flower, Vegetable and Craft Show was held on Saturday 5th September at Horsehay Village Hall, and what a fantastic day it was!

This year saw 121 exhibitors, an increase of 16 from last year, along with a record-breaking 614 exhibits — an incredible 47 more than last year! It was particularly lovely to see so many familiar faces returning, as well as lots of new exhibitors taking part for the first time.

Our refreshments were once again a great success, with the donated homemade cakes and cups of tea proving very popular and keeping our ladies in the kitchen extremely busy throughout the day. A special mention must also go to Colin, our top washer-upper, who worked hard behind the scenes keeping everything under control! We were also extremely grateful for the fantastic selection of raffle prizes donated for the day. A huge thank you to everyone who kindly donated cakes and raffle prizes — your generosity is very much appreciated.

This year, Dawley Hamlets Parish Council Chair, Councillor Bob Wennington, kindly attended the show and presented the trophies. Special thanks to him for supporting the event.

We would like to thank Dawley Hamlets Parish Council for their sponsorship of the show, Horsehay Village Hall for the use of the hall, and Meadowdale Nurseries for their continued support.

The show continues to grow year on year, and this is only possible because of the hard work and dedication of our volunteers and the enthusiasm of our exhibitors. We are extremely grateful to everyone who helps make the show such a success.

Next year's show will be held on **Saturday 4th September 2027**. If you would like to receive an emailed schedule, please contact: debtov@icloud.com.

Deb Tovey – Horsehay Horticultural Society

This show is sponsored annually by Dawley Hamlets Parish Council.

DAWLEY HAMLETS PARISH COUNCIL

SENIOR RESIDENTS CHRISTMAS PARTY at HORSEHAY VILLAGE HALL

DOORS OPEN 12 NOON FOR 12:30PM START - FRIDAY 4th DECEMBER 2026

The Parish Council will once again be holding a free Christmas Party for senior residents of the Parish. If you would like to be invited to attend, please return the slip below or e-mail your name and address to the Clerk. We will post you a ticket two weeks prior to the event.

Admittance will be by ticket only; places are limited and will be issued on a first come first served basis so applicants are advised to respond as soon as possible.

You must be 65 or over and residing in the Parish of Dawley Hamlets to be invited to this Parish Council free event

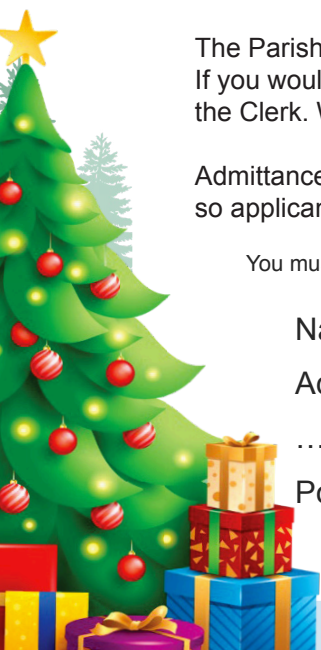
Name:

Address:

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Postcode: Telephone:

Please send this form to: K Ewence, Parish Clerk, 7 Earls Way, Telford, Shropshire, TF6 6FA
or alternatively e-mail: clerk@dawleyhamlets-pc.gov.uk.



FRIENDS OF HORSEHAY POOLS

A new name and a new logo! At our AGM in June, we changed our name to become the Friends of Horsehay Pools, to reflect that we have both Horsehay and Simpsons Pools within our area. We have also changed our membership platform and can now be found on www.patreon.com or by scanning the QR code. All existing members have been asked to sign up to this new platform, so please do so if you have not already done; and if you are not an existing member, please join us.

Our mini wildflower meadow near the picnic benches at Horsehay Pool finally came into flower with a lovely display of wild carrot and yarrow. Telford and Wrekin Council have said they will provide more seed for us to try and generate more variety and colour for next year. Replacement benches have been sited at the Pool together with new bollards at the perimeter edge to try and prevent parking on the grassed areas. Some of our planting has struggled with the very hot summer, but the reeds are still alive and most of the planting opposite the Codfather. We will, however, replace plants that we have lost.



The Scarecrow Festival received Pride Funding from Borough/Parish Councillor Raj Mehta, along with match funding from Dawley Hamlets Parish Council.

On 6 September we hosted our fifth Scarecrow Festival. We were blessed with lovely weather and had a magical day. Lots of scarecrows, lots of visitors and lots of cakes. Thank you to everyone who made a scarecrow and supported our event.

Finally, we are excited to report that we are a finalist in the BBC Radio Shropshire Making a Difference Awards in the Environment Category. Very exciting. The results will be announced at the awards ceremony on 25 September.

Scan the QR code below to become a member.

By Angela Porteous, Friends of Horsehay Pools.



Scan for more information



NEW PARISH SPEED WATCH GROUP

Parish Councillors are keen to start a Speed Watch group and we need your help to get it off the ground. If you're interested in making our roads safer and would like to get involved, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Email: clerk@dawleyhamlets-pc.gov.uk.

Let's make a difference together!

THE FRIENDS OF DAWLEY HAMLETS LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

After our record breaking summer, I'm wondering how the ecosystem of the nature reserve has been affected. Although many trees looked stressed and autumn may come early, they seem to have managed reasonably well. This year I've been focusing particularly on butterflies and moths as part of Telford and Wrekin's recording project. We have a wonderfully rich wildflower meadow on the west edge of the reserve, and this year I noticed many orchids for the first time. We hope this area will eventually be incorporated into the reserve itself. There were days when it was alive with butterflies, perhaps seven or eight species on the wing at the same time. I suspect, though, that the drought may have limited the caterpillars.

Through July and August, the paths were dry and dusty, and many of our pools had pretty well dried up altogether. There were signs of organisms that failed to cope: a dead shrew and vegetation that was dry and yellow. Small coppers and common blues held on where sorrel and bird's foot trefoil stayed green.

I am writing this as I return from tonight's bat walk. Thirty attended. We saw plenty of pipistrelle bats, both soprano and common, though you'd need hearing sharp enough to distinguish between 45 and 55 kHz — or an expensive bat detector — to tell the difference. In September, the bats are in a different phase: maternity colonies are breaking up, males sing and chase around roosts, and mating and swarming begin. They need to build up fat for hibernation, feeding on crane flies, moths, midges and the insects drawn to flowering ivy. There's something pleasing about hearing a barn owl's call while watching the seemingly silent, fluttering bats.



Are you interested in becoming a member of the Friends of Dawley Hamlets Local Nature Reserve? If so, scan the QR code below to sign up, and look out for our events on social media, particularly Facebook.



Find us on Facebook

**By Dave Jackson,
Ecology Officer for Dawley Hamlets
Local Nature Reserve**



Prizes for the best Pumpkins- see our Facebook for the winner!

See our volunteers around the pool for a trick or a treat!



Pumpkin Fest

Get in the halloween spirit and out in nature by leaving your pumpkins somewhere along the main paths around the Pools on **Saturday 31st October.** From **5pm**, volunteers will light the pumpkins up in a spooky twilight walk!

October 31st | from 5pm

Unmanned walk- always walk with someone and bring a torch!
DHLNR not liable for the safety of those on the walk,

Your Parish Councillors

AQUEDUCT WARD



**Chair of the Council
Cllr. Bob Wennington**

T: 07887 880064

E: chair@dawleyhamlets-pc.gov.uk



Cllr. Lyndsey Parker

T: 07462 736006

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Cllr. Sue Wennington

T: 07887 880063

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HORSEHAY WARD



**Vice-Chair of the Council
Cllr. Zona Hannington**

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E: zona.hannington@dawleyhamlets-pc.gov.uk



Cllr. Raj Mehta

T: 07545 023519

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Cllr. Ian Preece

T: 07581 006487

E: ian.preece@dawleyhamlets-pc.gov.uk

LITTLE DAWLEY WARD



Cllr. Kate Barnes

T: 07759 244666

E: kate.barnes@dawleyhamlets-pc.gov.uk

NIGHTINGALE WALK WARD



Cllr. Mark Rogers

T: 07960 570058

E: mark.rogers@dawleyhamlets-pc.gov.uk

SMALLHILL ROAD WARD



Cllr. Jack Hudson

T: 07436 229829

E: jack.hudson@dawleyhamlets-pc.gov.uk

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES OF REMEMBRANCE WILL BE HELD ON: Sunday 8th November 2026

Little Dawley Remembrance Service: War Memorial

Junction of Holly Road / Lightmoor Road
Time 10.45am

Aqueduct Remembrance Service: Aqueduct Bridge

Off Chapel Lane, Aqueduct
Time 2.30pm

HOW TO ACCESS THE PARISH NEWSLETTER

The Parish Council newsletter is produced twice a year and is available on our website, Facebook page, and in some parish businesses and schools. If you'd prefer to receive the newsletter by email, please contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@dawleyhamlets-pc.gov.uk and we'll add you to the mailing list.

Just provide your name, address, and confirm that you opt in. You can opt out at any time.

CHRISTMAS IN THE PARISH



The Parish Christmas trees will be lit from mid November until Twelfth Night:

- Aqueduct: At the junction of Majestic Way and Pageant Drive
- Horsehay: Next to the boundary wall of Horsehay Village Hall, Bridge Rd
- Little Dawley: At the junction of Holly Road and Corbett Close

Interfaith Santa will ride again this year, dates and routes will be posted on our Facebook page when they become available.

Keep in touch with your Parish Council

Tel: 07941 212311

Email: clerk@dawleyhamlets-pc.gov.uk

Web: dawleyhamlets-pc.gov.uk



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