

# Parish Update Autumn 2024

*Looking back on a busy Summer, and ahead to activities and events still to come.*

## **Concert in the Park**

Back in July, the sun was out and Hunsbury Hill Country Park was alive with the sound of music! The event organised in collaboration with Friends of West Hunsbury Parks was a great success with lots of fantastic feedback. West Hunsbury WI cake stall sold out of cake, the craft stalls did a roaring trade, the West Hunsbury over 60's club cleared their tombola table, and St Benedict's Church stall was abuzz with chatter. A big thanks to the mastermind of the day David Stone, and to all the volunteers who made it possible.



## **Wood carvings, benches and a dinosaur!**

A huge thank you to the Friends of West Hunsbury Parks for the amazingly carved wooden benches, all paid for by a National Lottery Community Grant. It was lovely seeing the shire horses moving logs around and Peter Leadbetter expertly carving. The Parish Council have covered the cost of an added extra, the dinosaur in Hunsbury Hill Country park, that children at Hunsbury Park Primary will be naming.

## **Drive carefully, hedgehogs crossing!**

There has been concern from many about the number of injured hedgehogs around West Hunsbury. The Parish Council have bought some 'drive safely - hedgehog crossing' signs to display at key junctions / accident spots. Let us know where you would like to see a sign, photo is from Hunslet Lane.

If you find an injured hedgehog please contact Animals in Need [www.animals-in-need.org] or any other local vets.



## **Congratulations to Northamptonshire Ironstone Railway Trust (NIRT)**

In September, NIRT celebrated its 50th anniversary with a busy day of train rides, and even a blessing from the Reverend Griff! For those that don't know, the trust has a small museum, workshop and some gardens with a play area. It features a 1.5 mile long Heritage Railway line that runs through the park. NIRT run train rides every other Sunday (April - October) as well as specials through the year (including with Santa!). Thanks to all volunteers involved at NIRT, it's appreciated across the West Hunsbury community.



## **Biodiversity recording**

Last month the Parish Council were well represented at the first West Northants Climate Summit. Climate Action is important to many of us and the event was designed to inspire and support activity at a parish level. There's lots we'd like to do, but to start with we felt biodiversity recording was important. The Friends have just had an audit of the wildflower meadow in Hunsbury Hill Country Park and recorded more than 50 plant and animal species! We'd encourage everyone to please record biodiversity using **inaturalist**, it's an easy to use app, helps to identify what you're looking at, and maps it too. Look for the project...

**'Biodiversity of West Hunsbury'**.



## **Dates for your diary**

- **Sunday 10th November**; Remembrance Service at St Benedict's Church.  
*The Parish Council will be putting up a display at the remembrance bench in Ladybridge Park and poppies on lamp posts through the parish.*
- **Saturday 30th November**; Christmas Tree Festival at St Benedict's Church.
- **Sunday 1st December**; Christmas tree lights switch on. *The Parish Christmas tree will be put outside the church.*
- **Sunday 8th December**; Opportunity to add your eco-friendly decorations to the Christmas tree - part of a free family fun event at St Benedict's, open to all.
- **Wednesday 18th December**; Christmas carols around the tree.
- *And now we're looking much further in advance... **July 2025**, Community event for all the family in Ladybridge Park (all details TBC).*

**Keep an eye on our website and facebook for more details on all events. Please get in touch if you'd like to get involved and help out with any parish activities.**