



## Message from HHCA Chairman, Mark Woods

Everyone has made significant sacrifices during this time of lockdown. Some have lost loved ones, other have not be able to meet friends and family, and we have all missed special occasions. My heart and prayers go out to you all. The lockdown will come to an end, and we will be stronger as nation and a community. The general public has been magnificent and proved this generation has the same grit and determination as those who faced as stern tests in the past. We must All continue to Stay Alert, Control the Virus and Save Lives.

You might expect that during the Covid-19 stay at home period, where the Association Office is closed, that work would cease? Far from it!

Members are being invited to join Virtual Events, contacted by phone to glean their email address so we can continue to be in contact with them, former members are being emailed to ask to re-join the Party. An IT project is being implemented allowing our Staff and Officers to work from home. We have upgraded our email systems and are looking at making the phone "virtual". We may not be able to meet socially, but we can keep Association work going, and plan for we can all meet again.

Next year is another important election year. We have County Council elections that will now coincide with the postponed Police and Crime Commissioner's election. We are ready planning for these crucial elections. If you think you would make a great County- or Borough Councillor, let us know. The more the potential candidates we have the better.

To help us be in the best shape possible for 2021 I am asking for contributions to our new '**Fighting Fit Fund**'. This money will be used to make sure that the Association is fighting fit for the PCC and County Elections and help us start at a gallop when lockdown has ended.

Please donate to 'The Fighting Fit Fund' using the 'Donate' button on the [www.hemelconservatives.com](http://www.hemelconservatives.com) website, or by BACS, Ref: Fighting to Sort Code 40-02-26.

Account 12302071, or by cheque made out to 'HHCA', posted to Hemel Hempstead Conservative Association 168 Queensway HP2 5FX. Please put 'Fighting Fit' on the cheque reverse. With your help we will come back Fighting Fit!

Thank you for your support!

Mark W Woods.

My email is [Chair@hemelconservatives.com](mailto:Chair@hemelconservatives.com) should you want to make contact.

## Going Virtual with Events!

The Events Team have not been idle. We have a 'sliding, scaling' plan of events which depend on the Government Guidelines relating to 'social distancing' and 'congregating in numbers' indoors or outside. As soon as we are permitted to, we will set this plan in motion!

To keep us all sane in the meantime, we have organised a '**Virtual Raffle**' where the Prizes are delivered by the prize-givers to the winners. To buy your Virtual Raffle Tickets (£5 for 1 ticket, or 5 for £20) please go to [www.hemelconservatives.com](http://www.hemelconservatives.com) and buy tickets on the right hand side of the screen. The Draw will be in Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June, Prizes include a 'Homemade Meal for Two', a 1Lt Bottle of Famous Grouse Whisky, Red and White Wines, Sweet bakes, and other delights! Please support our first 'Virtual Event' with a prize and a buy a ticket or even better 5.

Look out for your invitation to the '**Virtual drinks party**' of the year!

We may need to limit numbers so do be ready to sign up as soon as it is announced....We have teamed up with Conservative Party Headquarters to run a virtual Video conferencing event '**Drinks With' a well-known Politician** on a Friday in June. The idea is that you buy a ticket to get an invitation to join the event, sit comfortably in your own home with drinks and nibbles, and be entertained by a political speaker who will be happy to answer questions.

Tickets will be available using Eventbrite on the [www.hemelconservatives.com](http://www.hemelconservatives.com) website and Facebook pages once the Speaker and date has been confirmed. More later!

### Keeping Current:

The [www.hemelconservative.com](http://www.hemelconservative.com) website has been updated, and it is there you will find tickets for all events, the virtual ones now, and when the Covid-19 epidemic is over.

### Fun Garden Competition:

We have all been keeping our gardens beautiful during lockdown.

Post a picture of your lovely garden, plot, window-box, view from your home, or indoor plants to either of our [Facebook pages](#), and the Winner (chosen by the Chairman on the 12<sup>th</sup> June) will get a nice plant, or bunch of blooms delivered to your home. It's just for fun!

**Facebook:** The Association has a Public Group '**Hemel Hempstead Conservative Association**' @HHCA so please visit like and join it?

There is also a Closed Page '**Hemel Conservatives**' @HemelBlue run by the Association.

Your likes and Follows are appreciated!

## How else can you get involved?

### **Young Conservatives**

We are seeking young dynamic activists to campaign during the Police and Crime Commissioner and for the County Elections in 2021.

Young members can join the Conservative Party from the age of 16. Young Conservatives up to the age of 26 only pay £5 a year. [www.hemelconservatives.com](http://www.hemelconservatives.com)

### **Get on our Councillor Candidate List!**

We are looking for Borough and County Councillor Candidates!

All you need to be is a minimum of 18 years old, know your local area, and share our Conservative values. See to find out what is involved please visit <https://beacouncillor.co.uk/> Selection meetings will start later on this year. Email: [enquiries@hemelconservatives.com](mailto:enquiries@hemelconservatives.com)

### **Love Campaigning?**

Do you love the excitement of the political fray of getting out, talking to electors, gathering members & changing opinions as a group? You can do this locally through your Branch see 'In Your Area' on the [www.hemelconservative.com](http://www.hemelconservative.com) website for contacts, or as part of a larger campaign contact Linda Lawrence 07863200751

### **Conservative Women!**

We have a sociable group of women who run events and have political and social meetings.

Whether you are a female political activist, or enjoy entertaining and hosting, join us!

Contact Marika Woods email [membership@hemelconservatives.org](mailto:membership@hemelconservatives.org).

### **Political Thinkers interested in shaping Party Policy.**

Janice Marshall runs the Conservative Policy Forum where delegates are given Policy Topics to debate and feed into which shape Party Policy. Yes, CCHQ value and listen to your comments!

Contact Janice by Email: [jmarshall@live.co.uk](mailto:jmarshall@live.co.uk)

### **The New Patrons Club**

Although we managed a magnificent Dinner at The Old Bailey before lockdown, we have as yet not been able to arrange a Summer Lunch. The team continues to plan the annual Patron events based around social distancing and guidelines regarding congregation, and is ready to go when Covid-19 restrictions lift.

The Patrons Club is limited to 100 Members. Patrons enjoy a Summer Lunch and a majestic Dinner during the year. Patrons Club Funds are used to elect a Conservative MP for Hemel Hempstead. Annual subscription to The Patrons Club is £250 for a one person, and £450 for a double-membership (partner, guest etc).

To become a Patron or ask questions about it, email: [fundraising@hemelconservatives.org](mailto:fundraising@hemelconservatives.org) or speak to Marika Graham-Woods on Mobile 07798 871171.

### **Volunteer Locally**

We need poster sites, people to deliver leaflets to households (usually in your area), people to organise Branch events, people to do administrative tasks at the office or at home. If you can spend a little time supporting us please contact Kevin Drew [enquiries@hemelconservatives.com](mailto:enquiries@hemelconservatives.com)

## HHCA Annual Black Tie Dinner

Many of you will already be aware the Annual dinner was due to take place in March but had to be moved to October due to the Covid-19 pandemic. If you were already booked in you would have received an e-mail offering you the option to roll over your booking to the new date which thankfully most of you have chosen to do.

We have pencilled in a date of Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020 subject to government guidelines which we will keep under constant review. All details other than the change of date are the same including our guest speaker **The Rt Hon Jacob Rees-Mogg MP, Leader of the House of Commons.**

### Thursday 22nd October 2020

Complimentary drink and fizz on arrival, a 3-course dinner with table wine and an excellent after-dinner speaker.

### Why not get a table together with your friends?

Dress Black Tie (Lounge suit accepted).

Shendish Manor, London Road, Apsley, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 0AA

[6.45pm](#) for [7.15pm](#) Tickets: £65.00pp. Tables of 10.

HHCA Members and non-member guests are welcome.

Guest speaker: **The Rt Hon Jacob Rees-Mogg MP, Leader of the House of Commons**

***For all enquiries, please contact the Annual Dinner organiser Linda Lawrence on 07863200751***

## Important Elections in 2021

Let's make sure we're Fighting Fit!

### Police and Crime Commissioner David Lloyd

<https://www.hertscommissioner.org/>

Residents in Hertfordshire are to pay an average of £10-a-year extra to support plans for the county's largest ever police force.

Police and Crime Commissioner David Lloyd's proposal to increase the Council Tax police precept as part of the boost were unanimously agreed last week. Mr Lloyd's decision follows a public consultation in which 65 percent of residents said they wanted to pay more to support extra policing in the county. Hertfordshire is on course to have 2,100 officers by the end of the forthcoming financial year, the highest level in a decade. Numbers are then set to increase to 2,314 officers, the highest number ever, by the end of March 2023.

### **Hertfordshire County Councillors**

We have excellent County Councillors within our Association. Their Contact Details can be found on Hertfordshire County Council Website <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/home.aspx>

Hertfordshire County Council is responsible for Adult Social Services, (including Bus Passes, Blue Badges), Children's Social Care (and Child Protection), Schools and Education, Libraries and Archives, Highways, Roads and Pavements (including streetlights, and roadworks), Recycling, Waste and the Environment, Births, Deaths and Marriages (including Citizenship), Health in Hertfordshire, and Fire and Rescue,

#### **Each of our County Councillors has a Specific Portfolio at County Level:**

Terry Douris	Bridgewater Executive Member, Education, Libraries & Localism.
Fiona Guest	Hemel Hempstead North West
Tina Howard	Hemel Hempstead South East
Richard Roberts	Kings Langley Executive Member, Adult Care and Health.
Andrew Williams	Hemel Hempstead.
Colette Wyatt-Lowe	Hemel Hempstead North East, Chairman of the Council.
William Wyatt-Lowe	Hemel Hempstead Town, Vice Chairman, Standards Committee, and Vice-Chairman, Audit Committee

**Produced by Marika Graham-Woods**  
**Deputy Chair Membership and Fundraising**  
**Email: [fundraising@hemelconservatives.org](mailto:fundraising@hemelconservatives.org)**  
**Mobile: 07798 871171**

To unsubscribe email [membership@hemelconservatives.org](mailto:membership@hemelconservatives.org) Privacy [www.hemelconservatives.com](http://www.hemelconservatives.com)