

HOTTA NEWSLETTER

Issue 008

28th May 2026

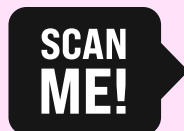
What is HOTTA

HOTTA (Hemel Old Town Traders Association) was formed in October 2021. We are a small committee who are working on behalf of the wider trading community, to identify and set up a range of initiatives to help improve Hemel Old Town for all.

HIGH STREET HIT BY MAJOR POWER AND BROADBAND DISRUPTION

This week the high street has been heavily impacted by a major electrical and broadband disruption, leaving many businesses without power, internet, or card payment facilities for extended periods. In some cases, outages have lasted over 24 hours and are still ongoing, creating significant challenges for trading and stock protection. Despite this, it has been great to see local businesses supporting one another by sharing resources, WiFi access, and advice during a very difficult time. We encourage all affected businesses to join our WhatsApp group and follow our Facebook page for the latest updates.

If your business was without power for more than 12 hours, you may be eligible to claim compensation via UK Power Networks:



STRONGER TOGETHER: B2B SUPPORT ON THE HIGH STREET

This is a great opportunity to strengthen our high street through genuine B2B support. If your business is in a position to help another, even in small ways, it can make a real difference—whether that's sharing resources, offering temporary workspace, helping with stock storage, providing services at short notice, or simply collaborating on solutions during challenging periods. By working together more deliberately as a local business network, we can keep services running, reduce losses, and build stronger trading relationships across the high street. If we all take a B2B mindset and look at how we can support one another, the whole community becomes more resilient and better prepared for disruption.

A LITTLE HAS A HUGE IMPACT

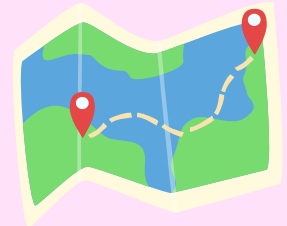
We're encouraging all shops and businesses on the High Street to take a few moments each day to do a quick litter pick outside their premises. It's a small action that makes a big difference in keeping our town clean, welcoming, and looking its best for customers and visitors. Brian can provide council-approved bags which can be left by bins for easy collection. If we all play our part, however small, it helps create a stronger sense of pride in our High Street and shows the best version of our community every day.





EMAIL THE BRIAN TO REQUEST COPIES OF THE PRINTED MAPS

BRIAN@TOPDECBRUSH.COM



HIGH STREET MAP IN FINAL DRAFT

The High Street Map is now in its final draft stage and is due to be launched over the next few months. This will be available in both printed and digital formats, making it easier than ever for residents and visitors to explore everything our High Street has to offer. It will showcase local businesses, key locations, and help highlight the full range of shops, services, and hidden gems in our town.

Im really excited to bring this to life and will share more updates as we get closer to launch.

A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

As we move into brighter, sunnier days, it's a great moment to celebrate our High Street and the strength of our local community. There's a real sense of energy returning—new opportunities, fresh faces, and a shared commitment to supporting one another.

We're pleased to see new shops opening on the High Street, bringing variety, choice, and a welcome boost to our local economy. Please take the time to explore what's new, shop local, and support these independent businesses as they get established.

It's also fantastic to welcome the return of the Markets—always a highlight for many. They bring colour, character, and connection back into our town, showcasing local produce, unique products, and a great reason to spend time on the High Street.

Most importantly, this is about community. By working together, supporting each other, and staying engaged, we can continue to build a stronger, more vibrant High Street for everyone.

Here's to a season of sunshine, local shopping, and community spirit.

Brian Green – HOTTA Chairman

WHATSAPP HOTTA CHAT- JOIN UP TODAY

Join the Hotta WhatsApp Chat

A go-to space for local retailers to stay connected, informed, and supported. Get real-time updates, share important information, and discuss key issues affecting our High Street—from crime and disruptions to community support and opportunities.

It's a place to collaborate, help one another, and strengthen our High Street together.

To join, simply scan this QR code



www.hotta.co.uk

Hemel Old Town Traders Association