

THE HILLS ECHO

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
NORTHWOOD HILLS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

NORTHWOOD HILLS REGENERATION HAS STARTED



AUTUMN 2013

Visit us at www.northwoodhills.co.uk



From The Chairman

Welcome to the Autumn 2013 edition of The Hills Echo!

It seems an age since February 2012 when it was announced that the bid for funding to rejuvenate Northwood Hills had been successful, but it is obviously extremely pleasing that the public realm works have at last started. As previously advised the work will be carried out on a zonal basis so as not to cause too much disruption to parking and more importantly trade, on which the shops in Joel Street are reliant. Please, please do your utmost to support the shops between now and next spring when the work is scheduled to be completed.

Many of you will have seen that we have lodged an objection to the plans to build Heathrow Aviation Engineering University Technical College (UTC) at Northwood School. We stress that we are not opposed to the concept. It is the specifics of the current plan and lack of proper consultation with residents, who will be severely impacted, if planning permission is granted, to which we are objecting. What the project team seem to have forgotten is that this proposed UTC is very much different than others being created around the UK. This one will have a large factory floor fitted out with noisy heavy engineering machinery. Before the school summer holiday we wrote to Northwood School offering them space to write an article about the proposed UTC but the School did not submit any copy. *(More details on page 42. Ed)*

In May we joined forces with Nick Hurd and Northwood Residents' Association and invited a large number of "stakeholder groups" to a meeting at Fairfield Church to discuss how in years to come the needs of the increasing Ageing population will be met. Government projections for England show 50% growth in the number of people aged 65 and over by 2030 and 100% growth in the number of people over 85 in the same period. We are now analysing the result of the discussions and have begun to formulate a way forward.

In June we held the Northwood Hills Independents Day and we were delighted that so many families came out in force to support local businesses. Feedback has been extremely positive and we believe that this will now become an established event.

We have already started planning the Grand Christmas Lights Switch on event and have identified that we are going to need to work around the Joel Street rejuvenation works. Please note the ongoing works may mean, for this year only, that we have to reduce the number of lamp columns we traditionally decorate with Christmas lights displays.

Talking of which, please mark your diaries to come and celebrate at
The Grand Switch on event on Saturday 16th November.

Further details to follow but amongst other things we are looking to incorporate a 'Treasure Hunt' to support the local shops.

*Andrew Riley,
Chairman,
Northwood Hills Residents' Association*

LETTING YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON

This Summer, there seems to have been an increasing number of instances where projects are being proposed, which are clearly against the expressed wishes of the residents, but fortunately, thanks to the efforts of local communities, sometimes supported by their local Council, some progress is being made to oppose and reverse these applications.

Because the Hills Echo only appears twice a year, some members of the Residents' Association could be unaware of events which may affect them, until it is too late to take any action; we intend, therefore, to send urgent information and updates by email.

If you wish to receive these messages, please send your email address to secretary@nhra.co.uk.

Your details will be kept by NHRA, and will not be revealed to any other organisation without your permission.

Current and ongoing situations in the Borough

Hillingdon Council is actively supporting residents across the Borough who are opposing the HS2 Rail Project, as well as fighting the proposed Heathrow Airport expansion, but in some areas, residents are having to battle on alone, sometimes even against their own Council.

In **Northwood**, there is massive resistance to the proposal to sell off an area containing several businesses, to build an enormous unwanted, unnecessary supermarket, but there the battle has only just begun, and success cannot be guaranteed.

In **Eastcote**, residents are objecting to the proposal to fence off part of Kings College Playing Fields, a much used local amenity. The planning application has been temporarily withdrawn, in the light of many technical objections, but the determination of the applicants hasn't gone away, and the plans may well be re-submitted.

In **Northwood Hills**, the Residents' Association is objecting to the likely sale of the Cottage Hospital to developers, with no benefit to local residents, and the current re-development of Joel Street will include the disliked reverse parking bays.

As reported by the Chairman, the proposal for a new University Technical College on the site of Northwood School is meeting strong resistance.

In addition, several of our members have contacted us to say they are angry and disgusted that Cllr Andrew Retter, who they see as a most active and effective Local Councillor is to be deselected at next year's local election.

Hopefully, this increasing determination by residents to reclaim our areas, and to fight for what we feel is right, will have a successful outcome, but nothing is easy, and all these situations are volatile, so please get involved, remain vigilant, and support your local Residents' Association one of the most respected in Hillingdon.

Further information about all of the above, and contact details, are on the relevant websites –

Northwood Hills Residents' Association
Northwood Residents' Association
Eastcote Residents' Association

www.northwoodhills.co.uk
www.northwoodresidents.co.uk
www.eastcotera.co.uk

Acre Surgery Patient Survey 2013

A survey of patients' views was designed by the Patient Participation Group to discover whether the way the practice works is best for the patient.

The full results of the survey are available online at

<https://www.myhealth.london.nhs.uk/lon/5at/gp/e86041/about/acre-surgery-patient-survey-2013>

A brief summary shows that :

Telephone Services

87% of patients felt the service did indeed meet their needs which is an increase of 37% on the 2012 survey.

Prescription Services

95% of patients said this service met their needs.

Telephone Consultation Service

79% of patients felt the service met their needs.

Opening Hours

84% of patients are happy with the practice's opening hours.

Receptionists

92% of patients felt the receptionists were generally considered to be helpful.

Nurses

95% of patients are happy with the service.

News from St Edmund the King, Pinner Road

Fifty years ago, on the 29th September 1963, the first stone was laid for the present St. Edmund's Church. Some thirty years earlier a multi-purpose church had been built –serving as both a hall and a church for the new parish of St. Edmund the King, Northwood Hills; but, largely through the vision and energy of Fr. Reg Ames the decision was made to build a new church, and the present building, with its beautiful interior, is the result.

So, on 29th September, St. Edmund's folk will be giving thanks for the past, and looking forward to all that lies ahead here, with a special service at 10am. This will also mark the beginning of our 'Golden Jubilee' year, which will conclude in October 2014, when the Bishop of London will be with us to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Consecration of the church.

Autumn will also be Harvest Thanksgiving time at St. Edmund's. This year, our Harvest Service is on Sunday 6th October, and starts at 11am. Our children and young people will be involved in planning and leading the service, and all are welcome to join us for this, and the harvest lunch afterwards.

A popular event in our calendar for our children is our 'Saints and Sausages' party on October 31st. This is an 'alternative' Halloween celebration –celebrating it's real meaning, which comes from 'All Hallows' or All Saints' the following day –and has little to do with the mischief and pranks it gets associated with these days. 'Saints and Sausages' is a great evening of games, fun, food and celebration –if you know any children who'd like to come, just let us know, we'd love to welcome them!

Not long after All Saints Day we recall those who have given their lives to secure the peace and freedom of this land, on Remembrance Sunday –November 10th. The 10am Sung Eucharist that day includes the two minutes silence, as the nation pauses to remember and give thanks.

In the afternoon of Remembrance Sunday, at 3.30pm, there is a particular invitation to those who have recently lost loved ones to come to our annual Memorial Service. It's a very poignant and beautiful occasion, in which there's an opportunity to come forward and light a candle in prayer and remembrance –giving thanks for their lives and the ongoing love we yet share, and asking God for help in the pain of loss.

Our building is often host to local choral societies for their concerts, and our own Classic Concerts at St. Edmund's continue to prove very popular, offering our local community first rate classical music, at affordable prices. Look out for details of our next concerts –on Sunday 22nd September and Sunday 17th November –both at 3.30pm. They promise to be great afternoons of music –and are rounded off with a mouth-watering tea!

Dare we note that Christmas is approaching! The Christmas Bazaar here includes a host of wonderful stalls: mouth-watering cakes, cup-cakes, Christmas puddings and mince-pies; gifts and crafts, a fabulous draw and games and activities for children –not forgetting, of course, Father Christmas in his grotto! It's on 30th November, so make a note in your diary

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Christmas brings with it that wonderful combination of glorious music in the warmth and glow of our candlelit church, and our celebrations for the birth of Christ. The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is on Sunday 22nd December at 6.30pm; then on Christmas Eve the ever popular Crib Service is at 4.00pm. During this special family service the children present their retelling of the birth of Christ, and we raise the roof with the hearty singing of familiar carols. The Christmas celebrations reach their climax as in the beauty and wonder of the Midnight Mass, beginning at 11.30pm, we go in heart and mind to Bethlehem, and adore the newborn King.

Finally, don't forget that January sees the fabulous St. Edmund's Pantomime! We'll be performing 'Humpty Dumpty' –and let me just say that involves a lot more than him just falling off his wall!

Life here is busy, rich and rewarding -come and join in, we look forward to sharing it with you.

With all good wishes,

*Fr Philip Barnes,
Vicar of St Edmund the King, Northwood Hills*

Community News from St John's School

As we come to the end of another exciting term at St John's, it is a good time to reflect on some of the community events of the last academic year.

As has become a tradition, our musicians led the turning on of the Christmas lights in Northwood Hills early last December, when we were joined by several other local schools. We were also delighted to be able to provide the Christmas tree which stood outside the Namaste Lounge during the Christmas period, and we intend to repeat these festivities in the coming months.

We believe that it is important to share our excellent facilities with our local community and we enjoyed two super outdoors sporting events earlier in the year. In the spring term we held our second Inter School Tag Rugby Festival with specialist training from Saracens coaches. Six local primary schools enjoyed the afternoon, including Frithwood and Hillside Schools. As the weather improved we hosted a similar event but this time replacing rugby with Kwik cricket - another successful and well attended day. We are looking forward to repeating both 'fixtures' during the coming year.

Boys in Year 8 will sit their transfer exams at the end of January and we have, in recent years, partially changed their curriculum from February until they leave in July. One of their options is a community project and boys are

extremely keen to sign up to this. We are in partnership with the 'Northwood Live at Home Scheme' which involves boys visiting local residents in their homes to do odd jobs and to have a chat (and the odd biscuit!).

Finally, at St John's we are acutely aware that there are many people in the UK (our own local area included) who lack some of the basic needs in life. To that end, we nominate a charity to support each year. We have, in the past, raised money for great Ormond Street Hospital, NSPCC, WaterAid, The National Deaf Children's Society and this year we chose Barnardos.

We held several fund raising events including a day of orienteering around the School grounds, but there is no doubt that the highlight was when two of our teachers ran the London Marathon in aid of Barnardos. The boys really got behind this momentous challenge and there were big cheers for both staff as they hobbled into School on 22nd April! We have, over the course of the year, raised £13000 for this worthwhile cause. Lastly, we mustn't forget our Christmas visits to Sunshine House RNIB School and Erskine Hall where our boys sing and play seasonal songs and chat to the children and residents.

We look forward to another busy year when we hope to develop further links with our local community.

REMINDER

The Association depends on its Road Stewards to deliver the newsletter to help the Association keep going. The Association is trying to organise events to develop the sense of community in the area but can only do this through its members. We have several roads in Northwood Hills not covered by a Road Steward.

If you have time to cover a few homes near you, please call

Paul Akers on 01923 821115

COUNCILLORS REPORT

We are pleased to say that for once much is happening in Northwood Hills and most of it very positive! You will have read elsewhere in the Echo about the on-going improvement works to Joel Street which are now much in evidence. After a slow start, we expect the pace to pick up and soon the changes should begin to emerge for all to see. A regular newsletter has now started, sent out by the Council's own officer team to shopkeepers and the NHRA, so that it can be passed on to all. This will be the most reliable source of information on progress although of course, we are always willing to answer any questions you may have.

In addition to the improvements to Joel Street, we are delighted to report that the Council has started a significant new program of road re-surfacing and having lobbied on your behalf, we can report that there will be more roads in Northwood Hills re-surfaced in the coming months in whole or large part.

As a further step, the Council is rolling out a program of re-painting white lines at junctions and elsewhere where many have faded over recent years and lastly you may have noticed in a number of locations, the painting of double yellow lines at road junctions to deter dangerous parking and make crossing safer for pedestrians.

On the planning front, and as reported elsewhere, we are supporting residents in their fight over the proposed Heathrow UTC (University Technical College) on part of the Northwood School site. We are not opposed to the principal of the UTC because it will offer an exciting new facility to the area, but we do share the serious reservations of the local residents over the current proposals and how they might also impact on future plans for the redevelopment of the school.

The Council has also listened you the residents, Since the middle of August, London Borough of Hillingdon has been collecting the green refuse on a weekly basis, and will start in early September

The weekly collection of linens, and finally, for those residents who wish to volunteer, there will be a weekly collection of food wastes.

Cllr Jonathan Bianco Cllr John Morgan Cllr Andrew Retter

HILLS ECHO
Copy Date for Next Issue
1 March 2014

Do you Remember ?

It's amazing how far-reaching the Hills Echo has become -

We have another request from a reader in Australia, to see if anyone has any information about his great grandfather **Philip Hugh Spivey** who lived at 161 Pinner Road from 1953 until his death on 22 June 1963 (aged 66) at Guys Hospital.

Other residents were:

Frank Benjamin Upson and *Ada Upson* (nee Brill)

Frank and Ada were possibly married in 1926 in Tendring, Essex

Brian Frank Trevor Upson, presumably Frank & Ada's son.

Philip Spivey had an exceptional military career through both world wars, serving in the RN, RNAS and RAF on it's inception in 1918. A number of his descendants have also had long military careers. His great-grandson is trying to piece together his post military life so that he can complete the family tree.

If you have any memories or information, please contact David Watson :

dtwatson@me.com

<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/david-watson/36/878/223>

+61 448 758237

8 Foambark Court

Eatons Hill

Queensland 4037

Australia

Northwood & District Community Association

Well the summer is nearly over and our minds turn to getting back to our autumn and winter activities.

Our programmes restart in September and all our sections could do with some new members, so to keep your body in good working order why not try our Indoor Short Mat bowls sections? We have three sessions, Monday afternoon, Tuesday and Thursday evenings held in the Emmanuel Church in the Old High Street, Northwood.

At the same venue we have three Keep Fit sessions, two on Monday morning and one on Tuesday morning.

At Oaklands Gate Methodist Church, we have Yoga on Friday mornings and Badminton on Thursday evening. Then at the United Reform Church in Joel Street we have Line Dancing on Wednesday mornings, and Table Tennis on Monday afternoons.

To keep your mind in tune, how about trying our Whist, Scrabble and Bridge sections all held at the United Reform Church?

We also have a German Conversation Group, a monthly Wednesday afternoon stroll and a monthly Sunday ramble, Saturday tennis and a board games evening on Tuesday, Three Ploughman Lunches per year, and a Christmas Quiz which is always fun.

You will find a welcome at any of these sections, good company at reasonable cost – so phone me today on 01923 836346 - I look forward to hearing from you.

Pat Dunhill – Secretary.

JOEL STREET ALLOTMENTS



The Ruislip and Northwood Co-operative Smallholding and Allotment Society Ltd, otherwise thankfully known as the Joel Street Allotments, has been a feature of the Northwood Hills landscape for over one hundred years. It is a charitable institution overseen by trustees and run by a voluntary committee of plot holders.

Originally, a plot was 20 poles. A pole is an archaic term for an area equal to one hundred and sixtieth of an acre or about twenty five square metres. You can imagine that few people nowadays can manage such a large expanse of earth. Fortunately, over the years, good sense has prevailed and most plots have been divided and many divided again. There are now 106. There are also a few Starter Plots for novices, some of whom decide to graduate to 5 or 10 poles.

On the subject of effort, taking on an allotment is not for the faint-hearted. Lucky newcomers land a well cultivated area but some plots can be a challenge to thrash into shape and a pragmatic approach is often the best. Clearing one area to cultivate and keeping the rest tidy with a strimmer can make sense in the first year.

This year has been good for growing after a cold spring start. Many people will be harvesting their 5-a-day, at least during summer and early autumn. Orchard and soft fruit are popular as well as vegetables. Flowers also feature, for cutting or just dotted about adding to the ambience. A great deal of ingenuity is evident on a wander around the site. People do clever things with posts, plastic piping and netting to keep crops pest-free.



Raised beds are popular as they make the job more manageable and also help drainage if it is a very wet season like last year. Someone has constructed an ingenious method of ripening figs: a glasshouse hoisted several feet off the ground on a scaffolding pole base. Some plots are little gardens complete with grassed area, table, chairs and umbrella (such optimism); others are more utilitarian with rows of fruit and veg.

There are people of all ages. Families and couples work many of the plots, though quite a few are managed single-handedly and although the work is the responsibility of the holder, allotment neighbours often exchange views and produce and help each other out, particularly at holiday times.

There is normally a waiting list, though because it is such a large society, there is a low, but steady turnover. The annual rental is very reasonable.

If you would like further information go to the joelstreetallotments website or you can speak to the Lettings Secretary on 07914 921390.

*Angela Fleming
(Secretary)*

Harlyn Happenings

Harlyn School was opened in 1957 and at that time was a small one form entry Infant and Junior School. Since that time the school has grown in size and number of pupils and currently we have 410 on role.

The School celebrated its 50th year in 2007 and ex pupils and local residents may remember our playground and month long celebrations.

As a school we are extremely lucky to have large attractive grounds which we use all the time for school activities.

As many of you will know the London Borough of Hillingdon along with many other local authorities is currently working hard to provide much needed additional places in schools for our local population. Harlyn was approached to consider becoming a three form entry school and in doing so we would be provided with additional classrooms and facilities. Over the last twenty years additional 'temporary' classrooms have been added to our site. Although they provide adequate accommodation a permanent structure would be preferable. With this in mind the school is now being expanded

not only to admit more pupils but the programme will provide additional permanent classrooms to replace temporary buildings.

This of course means that a considerable amount of building work will be taking place over the next year but it will, when completed, provide our pupils with modern up to date facilities.

The programme involves two new two storey blocks and the removal of the current nursery and school keeper's house.

There will be new classrooms, a studio, a food technology room as well as a new ICT suite, library, staffroom and admin offices.

We are delighted that work has finally commenced and although life will be 'interesting' over the coming year the end result will be worth waiting for.

I am aware that the work taking place will affect our neighbours and local residents but I sincerely hope we can work together to ensure work is completed on time and that the new updated Harlyn school will be an asset to our local community.

Jackie Lack Headteacher

Changes to Northwood Hills Policing

The model for deployment of policing resources in Hillingdon Borough has changed recently due to the implementation of the Local Policing Model.

The North sector of Hillingdon now has the benefit of a Neighbourhood Policing Team, available to deal with anti-social behaviour and local Policing issues in and around the North wards.

Northwood Hills has 4 officers who are dedicated to ensuring that the ward receives an effective level of policing and are available to listen to the concerns of residents. Inspector David George, Sergeant Alison Jeffery, PC Max Christmas PCSO Ricky Soler de Los Rios.

Our contact details can be found at www.met.police.uk

Over the Summer months our resources are directed towards anti-social behaviour in the long warm evenings and the team have been working to deal with the emerging problem of scooter/moped riders causing nuisance to residents. Warnings have been given and the situation continues to be actively policed.

Over the Autumn months the Metropolitan Police will be launching it's yearly campaign to tackle Anti-social Behaviour over the Halloween and Bonfire Night period.

Operation "Autumn Nights" will be targeting those misusing fireworks or selling fireworks irresponsibly, and will be upholding the firework laws that exist to stop dangerous and reckless use of fireworks. The Neighbourhood Policing Team will be at the forefront of this campaign.

Sergeant Alison Jeffery

NORTHWOOD HILLS REGENERATION

Update from Hillingdon Council Town Centre Improvements Team

You may have noticed improvement works have already started in Northwood Hills. New lamp columns have been installed and over the next few weeks bespoke lanterns will be attached to the new columns and the redundant columns removed.

Work has begun to install new paving in Joel Street. This will be carried out in phases and in collaboration with BT and Virgin Media who will be undertaking cable diversions ahead of the main paving works being carried out by the Council's contractor, Enterprise Mouchel.

Information on how the works will be phased is shown on a plan available within Northwood Hills Library, with larger versions of the plan displayed on the community notice boards within the town centre.

The contractors are experienced in working within busy town centres and every effort will be made to ensure the minimum amount of disruption. As you will appreciate, complex work of this nature sometimes throws up unforeseen challenges and so it is possible that some elements of the programme may have to vary slightly to accommodate this. We will do our utmost to minimise the risk of this happening.

If you have any specific access needs which may be affected by the works, then please do not hesitate to contact the Town Centre Improvements team so that we can ensure the contractor takes these into account. Over and above this, Jane Chamberlain from the Town Centre Improvements team will be in the town centre on a regular basis to keep you updated as the work progresses. If you have any further queries, please contact the team on 01895 250461.

Thank you for your co-operation and we look forward to creating a thriving and much improved town centre.

Town Centre Improvements Team

CLEAN-UP DAY
Saturday 28 September
Meet outside
Northwood Hills Station
10:30am
Gloves and tools will be provided

HEART MATTERS:

What is Cholesterol?...asks John

John: *What's the link between cholesterol and heart attacks?*

Sabby: A heart attack happens when one of the fatty 'bumps' within an artery in the heart suddenly cracks open by only a few millimetres. Some cholesterol and debris seeps out into the flowing blood. The body attempts to 'heal' this miniscule crack by forming a clot on the surface- similar to the clot that forms on your skin if you were to accidentally cut yourself. However as the heart artery is only about 5mm wide, this clot unfortunately completely blocks off the artery within minutes. This causes the bit of the heart muscle supplied by that artery to be suddenly deprived of blood- resulting in severe chest pains in the centre of the chest, often bad enough to cause sweating, nausea and vomiting

John: *How does the cholesterol get into these fatty lumps in the first place?*

Sabby: We are all born with very low levels of cholesterol (2-3 millimoles). Our body needs this cholesterol for building cells and tissues. The trouble is that our diet together with our genetic make-up determines how much our liver makes excessive cholesterol. Although our liver makes most of our cholesterol, we can also directly absorb the cholesterol from foods containing cholesterol. All this excess cholesterol swimming about in the blood has to end up somewhere.

John: *Where?*

Sabby: Well, the liver tries to mop most of it up. It does this by producing HDL-cholesterol which goes around the blood hoovering up the unhealthy excessive LDL cholesterol and bringing it back to the liver. The liver packages it into fat cells and sends it to you-know-where...

John: *...to my belly and love handles! So the higher my HDL cholesterol, the better and the lower my LDL cholesterol the better.*

Sabby: That's right. The trouble is that the liver cannot cope with too much cholesterol and so LDL starts seeping from the blood in the lining of the blood vessels resulting in fatty lumps. This seepage is made much worse if your cholesterol is too high, if you smoke, if you are obese (especially around your tummy), or suffer from diabetes or have raised blood pressure.

John: *What levels of cholesterol should I be worried about?*

Sabby: Your total cholesterol should ideally be less than 5 mmols/l. There is strong evidence that getting it lower than 4 is even better. Your unhealthy LDL cholesterol should be less than 3 and your healthy HDL should ideally be more than 1.

John: *So what can I do to improve my cholesterol?*

Sabby: You can help reduce your unhealthy cholesterol by improving your diet and losing excessive weight, especially the fat around your tummy. Your healthy cholesterol can also improve with getting more active and losing weight.

John: *What about these statin drugs I'm hearing so much in the news about?*

Sabby: Cholesterol reducing drugs are best reserved for those with heart disease or those with very high risk factors for heart disease. Statin drugs are certainly life-savers for such patients who we already know have diseased fatty bumps in their heart arteries. They are also an essential treatment for those with genetically very high cholesterol. However their use in lower-risk individuals is controversial and your GP can help you decide whether you will benefit from them or not.

Dr Sabby Kant MBBS MRCGP DRCOG DGM DCH DipCARD
Mountwood Surgery
Northwood

Live at Home: Help and Fun for Older People

The Northwood Live At Home Scheme has a full programme planned for the rest of the year, helping older people to remain active and supporting them to stay living in their own home. There will be lunches, outings, gentle exercise sessions, the Breakfast Club and shopping trips.

The Friendship Group at Northwood Hills URC Church in Joel Street meets every Monday from 9.30am to 2.30pm. It provides an exercise session, craft activities, quizzes, a healthy lunch and lots of opportunity to socialise with friends. Members can stay for part of the day if preferred.

There will be a Musical Evening for members, volunteers and supporters with champagne and supper on October 26 at Holy Trinity Church Hall. It's a popular event with great food, the Stardust Big Band and an opportunity for a 'bit of bling' for those who enjoy dressing up.

To find out the whole programme of events, contact the office on **01923 842494**.

And if you have a few hours to spare a month and would like to volunteer to help run our activities, drive people to them or visit people in their own homes, please contact the office too on **01923 842494**.

www.localgiving.com/charity/northwoodliveathome



Our volunteers proudly showing their Queen's Diamond Jubilee Volunteering Awards

GREAT NEWS - SAVE MONEY WITH THE SCOUTS CHRISTMAS POST SERVICE



The Scouts Christmas Post service for the Ruislip, Eastcote and Northwood area is now in its fifth year.

How does it work?

For a cost of just 20p we will deliver your Christmas Card for you
It will be delivered by hand between 12th December and Christmas Eve
Post your cards and payment in one of our boxes between
the end of November and 17th December
There will be a box in Bennett Holmes in Northwood Hills,
other locations to be confirmed.

Full details are on <http://www.renmaspost.org.uk/>

If you run a business and would like your cards collected and hand-delivered,
please contact us via the website to discuss details and prices - we can also help
with label printing and putting cards in envelopes if required.

**This enterprise is to help raise funds for the
REN Explorer & Scout Network Expedition to Kandersteg 2014**

Northwood Hills



We have just celebrated our 2nd Anniversary and now have a total of 570 members at last count. New groups continue to be started and a few of the latest are Snooker, 20th Century Design and Swimming.

Our Architectural and Buildings Section has become the most popular and has been forced, due to increasing numbers, to split into 4 House Groups with another one pending. The ever-changing environment and the effect buildings have on the way we live, work and shop is a much discussed topic.

A holiday in Norfolk was very much enjoyed recently, by most participants. One of our members had a fall but is now well on the way to full recovery. This has not dimmed our enthusiasm for more trips. Many thanks to Jean Marks for her work in organising these holidays.

Theatre outings, days trips to beautiful gardens and historic places are occasions to both be with friends both old and new and sometimes adding to our knowledge of these interesting places.

Tables Tennis, History, Creative Writing, Mah Jong, Gardening, Music of most kinds, Maths, French and on and on. Nothing there you like? Speak to Ann Smith, our tireless Group Coordinator and if you want a subject that we don't cover, she will sort it !!

Our Meetings continue to be on the 1st Wednesday of each month at Fairfield Church, Windsor Close, Northwood Hills.

Do not worry if you are coming alone, you will find a very warm welcome and will soon find some like minded people.

A final word is to say a huge THANK YOU to Roxanna and her team at Fairfield. For the last two years they have been unfailingly helpful and always make us feel welcome.

Northwood Hills Remembered A Letter from Jersey

The world wide web is a truly wonderful thing! In a rare idle moment over the weekend I discovered the website of the Northwood Hills Residents Association which triggered a flood of memories from childhood and youth. It was particularly interesting to access your latest Newsletter and see an item from St Edmund's Church - there I was Baptized and Confirmed, worshipped, joined Cubs and Scouts and from it my brother gained his second Christian name (Edmund). My cousin is still a member there.

I was born in 1939, spent a few years in a flat in Valley Close (round the corner from St Edmunds) and at the age of eight moved to a council house in Norwich Road. At that point I attended Pinner Road School and later attended Pinner County Grammar School.

I have all sorts of memories of the Joel Street area - an uncle with an allotment alongside a pig farm - the owner of the pigs gathered waste food from catering establishments and Uncle Fred garnered the cutlery that had been inadvertently discarded - I equipped a Church Hall with 100 complete place settings over a period of time. There was Eric Robarts farm - my father was a milkman, initially with Craddocks using a pony and trap for two deliveries per day, then with Robarts and finally Express Dairy (of which I believe Eric became Chairman). The dairy on Pinner Road had its own bottling facility, stables and horses - Dad's was called Blossom - she ponged!

From about 1965 I joined Emmanuel Church and eventually trained in North London for ordained ministry, serving in Old Trafford Manchester, Roxeth Hill Harrow, Woodbridge Suffolk and finally St. Ouen in the Island of Jersey, where we now live in very active so-called retirement.

I wish you well with the Association and appreciated very much the opportunity to scan some of the articles, not least those that enhanced ancient memories - like the lovely Miss Napthen at Pinner Road Primary School.

With very best wishes,

Ray Speck
revrayspeck@hotmail.co.uk

THE WAY THINGS USED TO BE

A new Facebook group called **Ruislip Northwood Memories** has recently been started up with lots of pictures and general chit chat about school days and life in Northwood.

OLYMPIC LEGACY



It is just over a year now since London hosted the 30th Olympiad and I believe there can be little doubt that they were the most successful Olympic Games in history. One that I know will live in our memories for many years to come.

But what about the much talked about lasting legacy? A legacy, much of it built on infrastructure, as we see with the regeneration of my boyhood home in the East End of London and building of the Olympic Park.

Closer to home, here in Hillingdon we saw the building of the Uxbridge sports complex incorporating an Olympic size 50m swimming pool and partly paid for by a massive injection of cash from the Olympic fund. With the new infrastructure we saw more involvement in sporting activity and an opportunity to try a new sport, such as rowing with the formation on August 4th 2012 of the fledgling Hillingdon Rowing Club located at Hillingdon Outdoor Activities Centre, near Denham.

Starting with a handful of young boys and girls, Hillingdon Rowing Club has grown over the year to have 35 youngsters from all parts of our borough involved in a sport and being asked by the Council to represent Hillingdon at the London Youth games. Of the 5 crews, 2 were in finals and the 3 others top 10, Hillingdon's best ever result in this event. Something they aim to beat next year.

However, for me the games left us with another rarely noticed legacy, far more potent than any building or structure, the rebuilt spirit of community. I was one of the seventy thousand who volunteered to help out at the games. I have a history working in the voluntary sector with a couple of local charities looking after elderly people, so this seemed a positive way of being part of the Olympic spirit. But being a games volunteer was different not just because there were so many of us but because since the games the vast majority of us have kept on volunteering.

I am now a Saracens Pioneer, helping out at Allianz Park trying to make the day enjoyable for the spectator. Something we learnt was so important during the Olympic Games. The games gave us much to be proud of in terms of Gold medals but it also gave us something more, the opportunity to be a community again. That is the legacy I wish to see endure.

Councillor Andrew Retter

Without Comment

Councillor Andrew Retter has been a hardworking and effective Councillor, representing Northwood Hills for over twenty years. He has been de-selected by his Party, and will not be allowed to stand as a Conservative candidate at the local elections next May.

Editor

Outstanding Results at Northwood School

Northwood School is delighted to announce its best ever GCSE results. 97% of Year 11 students gained 5 or more A*-C grades, with an impressive 73% achieving 5 or more A*-C grades including English and Mathematics.

Both outcomes are significantly above the averages achieved by all schools nationally and represent the fifth successive year of improvement in results at Northwood.

Deputy Headteacher, Mark Anderson, who oversees student achievement at the school, commented: "These outstanding results affirm Northwood's status as a high performing, academically successful school. As delighted as I am with them, they come as no surprise because they reflect the outstanding teaching and learning that I see on a daily basis throughout the year."

Students achieving excellent individual success include Daniel Simpson who gained 7As and 4 A*s, Khin Tin who gained 7As and 3A*s, and Max Harper who gained 8As and 1A*.



Headteacher, Graeme Atkins, said: "Our students benefit from the fact that we are a relatively small secondary school therefore we can devote the one-to-one attention that enables them to achieve as well as they do. We are ambitious for them and they in turn are highly motivated to succeed."

Parents in Hillingdon, Harrow and South West Herts who are keen to find out more about the fantastic provision on offer at Northwood are warmly invited to attend the school's Open Evening on Tuesday 24th September at 6.00 p.m.

Did You or Didn't You ...?

Hillingdon Council recently asked us to vote in a referendum.

Do we, or don't we want a third runway at Heathrow Airport ?

The voting system was made really easy; just two clicks if you are online, or two ticks on a paper form, which then goes in the postbox.

So how many of us voted ?

Just 41% - less than half of us !

How lazy do we have to be not to vote ?

People all round the world are dying or being killed just for the chance to have their say, yet we are so idle that we can't be bothered.

So if you didn't vote, and the outcome is not to your liking, who will you blame ?

Anila Hashim

Northwood Hills Library



The summer holidays have once again been busy, with around 300 enthusiastic children taking part in the Summer Reading challenge.

This is a national initiative to encourage children to improve their reading. They visit the library 6 times over the holidays to borrow books, and receive stickers and a small gift on each occasion. When they make their 6th visit they get a medal and certificate to mark their achievement.

This summer the theme was 'Creepy House' and some of the stickers had rather pungent smells!

Did you know that Hillingdon Libraries have an online library?

Not only can you search the library catalogue for books, talking books, movies, music, renew and reserve books, you can also search encyclopaedias, dictionaries, newspapers and magazines online.

You can research setting up a business (Cobra), trace your family tree (Ancestry), study for the Life in the UK test (GoCitizen), learn a language (Transparent Language), practice your driving theory test, or many more options, any time day or night.

Check it out at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/libraries.

Coming up this autumn – Who do you think you are?

This is your chance to have a go at tracing your family tree. Kathy Westhead from the Northwood U3A Family History group will be here on October 24th (see below for details), to give pointers on how to do your research online.

Regular events held in the library:

Monthly coffee morning on Thursdays 10.30am – 12 noon

With **Age UK advice surgery**

September 19th – Gentle exercise

October 24th – Taster on how to research your family history

November 21st – Christmas crafts

December 19th – Join us for a pre-Christmas mince pie

Story and rhyme time for under 5s:

Thursday mornings 10-10.30 am, during termtime only.

Restarts 12th September 2013.

Library opening hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday	9.00am - 6.00pm
Thursday	9.00am - 7.00pm
Friday	9.00am - 5.30pm
Saturday	9.00am - 4.00pm

Tel. 01895 556460

email: northwoodhills-library@hillingdon.gov.uk

www.hillingdon.gov.uk/libraries

Eastcote House Gardens

This is a very exciting year for Eastcote House Gardens, in May the footbridge across the River Pinn which links Eastcote House Gardens to Long Meadow, was dedicated to the memory of Sheila Liberty. The Leader of the Council Cllr. Ray Puddifoot gave a special dispensation for the naming. He recognized the tremendous service Sheila had given to the Eastcote community and the special place she has in our hearts. Usually a person has to be dead 10 years before a road, building, bridge etc can be named after them. The bridge was formally dedicated by Cllr. Mike Markham, Mayor of Hillingdon on May 5th during the first Vintage Tea Garden of the season..



After many years of work by so many people the Heritage Lottery Fund have made a grant of **1.3 million pounds** for the restoration of the Stables, Dovecote and walled garden, there will also be a new building to house Tea Rooms and toilets. This grant will secure the future of these much loved gardens for generations to come.

The Friends of Eastcote House Gardens are fund raising to meet the match funding target set by the Heritage Lottery Fund of 150K, 125K will be in volunteer hours, and the remaining 25K in cash. We have reached the half way mark, thanks to a recent donation of £1,000 from Eastcote Residents Association, and a further £1,000 from an anonymous donor. Full details of the project and a time line of works will be issued as soon as definite details are known.

Long Meadow

The Countryside Conservation group, part of the Friends of Eastcote House Gardens, who meet several times a month, have been recording the butterflies and all plant life in Long Meadow, to enable the formation of projects for schools. £20,000 has been granted from the Mayor of London's Big Green Fund for improvements to the Meadow and River. More details to follow.

Meeting dates for the Gardeners and Countryside Conservation are:-

- 1st Friday, Gardening meet 9.30am
- 2nd Saturday Gardening meet 10.00am
- 3rd Thursday, Gardening meet 9.30am
- 4th Thursday Countryside Conservation meet 9.30am

Everyone welcome, no experience is necessary.
Tools, refreshments and good company provided.

Annual Tree Dressing Saturday 30th November 2013 starting at 1.30pm.



New College in Northwood Hills ?

A body called Heathrow Aviation Engineering UTC, has submitted a proposal to build a **University Technical College** for Aviation Engineering on the Northwood School site in Potter Street, beside the existing school buildings.

The application is sponsored by Brunel University, Uxbridge College, Heathrow Airport, Virgin Atlantic, British Airways and RAF Northolt. Hillingdon Council supports this application.

Your Residents Association has submitted a Letter of Objection regarding this proposed development.

We did this as we believe that the proposed plans as now submitted, if approved, could have a detrimental impact on residents living in a number of roads in the vicinity.

We have strong concerns about a number of issues including;

- Impact on Traffic, Congestion, Parking in Potter Street and surrounding roads.
- Access to the site.
- Noise and Nuisance.
- Operational Hours and Future Utilisation of the Proposed facility
- Lack of Consultation
- Development on Greenbelt
- Incomplete Documentation Submitted with the Planning Application

At the end of July/beginning of August we requested the applicants to withdraw the planning application pending proper consultation with residents to see if amicable solutions could be found. This request was refused.

The applicants did however meet with some of the residents at Hillingdon Civic Centre on Wednesday 21st August.

At the time of going to print, Hillingdon Council have not made a decision on the planning application. We believe their decision will be made sometime in September.

Details of the proposal are online at www.heathrow-utc.org, and the minutes of the Civic Centre meeting are on the NHRA website www.northwoodhills.co.uk

Also, see the report in the Gazette:

<http://northwood.uxbridgegazette.co.uk/2013/08/northwood-hills-neighbours-kne.html>

Haydon School Report

This July saw the end of another busy and highly successful year at Haydon, and I would like to thank everyone who has supported me during my first year as Headteacher. I am delighted to report that our exam results have been excellent once again. At GCSE 71% of students achieved 5 A*-C grades including English and Maths. Many of our pupils exceeded their target grades, and some highlights include one pupil who achieved 13 A*s, two others who achieved 12A* and 3 A grades and another 16 pupils who achieved all As and A*s.

At A Level we are very pleased indeed to report that the overall pass rate was 98.6%. All the staff are very proud of all our students, who worked incredibly hard to achieve such great results.

Our Alumni Programme was launched this year to encourage former pupils to return to Haydon and inspire our students to achieve their full potential.

As the new school year begins we are hoping to continue the dialogue with residents we began this year about ways we can make our community an even better place to live. In June pupils performed at St Vincent's nursing home; both the staff and residents were delighted to see our talented youngsters singing and to have the chance to bring young and old together. Towards the end of term in July, students from our Eco-club conducted a litter pick in the local area. We hope to conduct more activities like this as our relationship with the residents deepens throughout the coming year.

We will also be organising an Oral History project in collaboration with the Northwood and Northwood Hills Residents' Associations, the Northwood Live at Home Scheme, and Hillingdon Council. Students of History will be trained to interview people about their lives and their experiences of some key periods of history such as World War Two. We will be conducting interviews with elderly residents working with the Northwood Live at Home scheme but are keen to hear from anyone who would like to share their experiences of life in the area with us. The interviews will be filmed and put on the Internet for other local schools and interested parties to download. They will also be used in History lessons. If you are interested in hearing more about the project, or would like to participate, please contact our Head of Humanities, Lucy Hall, on lhall42.312@lgfmail.org.

We look forward to another exciting year at Haydon and to the opening of our new Performing Arts building in late September. Building work will begin later in the year on a new sports hall which will provide our young people with first class facilities to develop their sporting talents. We apologise for any inconvenience that these building works may cause and urge local residents to contact us, so that we can try to minimise the disruption.

Contact us at info@haydonschool.org.uk or call 0208 429 0005

Rob Jones
Headteacher, Haydon School

Northwood Hills Residents Association Committee Officers as at March 2013

President	Tony Lane
	Erika Kimber
Vice Presidents	Lishman Easby
	Vacant
Chairman	Andrew Riley ACIB
Vice Chairman	Leo Mindel
Hon Secretary	Roz Lester (Acting)
Minutes Secretary	Maxine Goswell
Hon Treasurer	Fiona Morgan FCCA
Hon Auditor	Jane Brighton ACMA
Road Steward Coordinator	Paul Akers
Planning	Anila Hashim
Transport	Herbert Levinger
Health Officers	Christine Bushell
	Herbert Levinger*
Hillingdon Police Committee	Graham Mann
Environment Consultant	Lesley Crowcroft
Press Officer	Andrew Riley
Shops Coordinator	Steve Allen
Editor of The Echo	Alan Lester
Web Master	Ray Krystofiak
	Lynne Halse
Events Committee	Christine Bushell
	Leo Mindel
	Jane Clayfield
	Lyn Ives
Committee Members	Lucy Hall**
	Trevor Dixon

* Herbert Levinger is also the NHRA Representative on the GP Patient & Public Involvement Strategy Development Working Group.

** Lucy Hall is also proofreader for the Hills Echo

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