



Northwood

Residents' Association

www.northwoodresidents.co.uk

Newsletter 172, Autumn 2018

NOMINATE A GOOD...



Northwood Neighbour



**There are many good neighbours in our community
performing small acts of kindness or help.**

**If you know someone in Northwood who you think
deserves recognition, this is your chance
to nominate them.**

Please email your nomination with a short paragraph describing their good
deeds to info@northwoodresidents.co.uk or hand in at Sharman's marked
'NRA Northwood Neighbour'. Don't forget your own contact details.

Nominations to be in by **Jan 31st 2019** for a presentation at the AGM in April.

For Terms and Conditions please visit our website below.



Northwood Residents' Association

www.northwoodresidents.co.uk

We're inviting
businesses to take
part in our
Christmas Display
Competition

See Page 2

Join us for
festive fare in the
town centre,
Thursday 13th
December,
from 6pm

See Page 2

CEO of Michael
Sobell Hospice
Charity gives us
a statement

See Page 6

TfL's plans for developing Station Approach are
back in the news.

See Page 5

Business News

CONGRATULATIONS TO NORTHWOOD CARDS & GIFTS!
Run by Steve and Savita Marsh with Sophie Elliott, this gem of a shop has won a RETAS award - an Industry Award for the "Best Greeting Card Retailer - London inside the M25"



CHRISTMAS DISPLAY COMPETITION 2018

We have been delighted with the positive responses and interest in our Christmas Display Competition. As promised, here are the final details.

The competition is open to all businesses and not just members of the NRA. A judging committee from the NRA will be visiting the High Street and Green Lane areas, admiring all of your window displays on, or shortly after, Friday the 7th of December. So, please get your final displays ready by then!

We will be looking at displays which are festive, inviting, creative and appropriate for your merchandise. The cost of your display will not matter. The main thing is your real attempt to make Northwood an even more festive and attractive place for residents to shop.

Along with the council, the NRA is working hard to provide even better lights and an eye-catching Christmas tree will be sponsored by **Robsons**. Together with your displays, we should attract more shoppers into Northwood.

The judging committee will then adjourn and decide on a winner and runner-up in both the Green Lane and High Street/Pinner Road shopping areas. The judges' decision will be final. We shall visit the winners to present each with a Christmas hamper and a certificate of merit. We will let you know exactly when.

In addition, we will be photographing not only the winning displays but some others which caught our attention. These will be published in our March Newsletter and on our website. We also hope to get media coverage and raise Northwood's profile more widely.

RESIDENTS, if you would like to join in the fun and vote for your favourite, then do email me to tell us what *you* think.

Now is the time to show off what Northwood has to offer!

business@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Hoda Lacey



Join the NRA committee members for Festive Fare!

It's a few years since we put on an outdoor Christmas event in Northwood, so this year we plan to revive the tradition by supporting Holy Trinity Church's **Carols@Costa** evening. This is an annual event where church members invite everyone to join them for coffee and carol-singing at Costa Coffee in Green Lane.

We shall erect a gazebo in the vicinity of Costa and the War Memorial where we would love to share a drink and a mince pie with you. Look out for publicity posters and website notices nearer the time for more details. We look forward to seeing you there!

SAVE THE DATE: Thursday 13th December, 6pm to 7.30pm



Northwood Christmas Craft Market

VENUE: Methodist Church Hall, Oaklands Gate, Northwood HA6 3AA

TIME: 10am-3pm **FREE ADMISSION**

DATE: Saturday 1st December

The Christmas Craft Market is the ideal place to find original, high quality gifts, all handmade by local craftspeople. Crafts for sale will include seasonal decorations; embroidery; wildlife photography calendars & cards; fabric bags & purses; jewellery; knitted items; children's clothing; crocheted toys; artwork; household accessories; and much more.

Children will be able to visit Father Christmas in his grotto and there will also be hands-on Christmas crafts for them to



make something to take home. The Northwood Live at Home Scheme will be there selling homemade jams & jellies and other festive fare to raise funds for their charity. As always, you can call in to the church coffee shop for tea, coffee and delicious homemade cakes.

After the Christmas Market, we will be taking a break until March 2019, when we will resume our monthly markets.

For more information, take a look at our website:

www.northwoodcraftmarket.co.uk

Like us on Facebook; Follow us on Twitter @CraftNorthwood

Email: northwoodcraftmarket@hotmail.co.uk

Telephone Susan on **07780 601842**

From the Chairman

INTRODUCTION

Well, the saga of the proposed station development has started again. A report on the initial consultations is produced on page 5. I would encourage all residents to get involved at the next stage when plans will be shown to us. One thing is certain, Northwood is losing traders, buildings are looking worn and we need something special to bring life back to our town. Maybe an influx of new shops and residents will do this.

"Save our Northwood" still has over £18,000 in the kitty and will no doubt be involved at a later stage.

MEMBERSHIP

We now have a data-base of over 600 email addresses which enables us to send emails updating members of any news and development. This is an important step forward, bringing us into the 21st century. There are probably more than 1500 of you with access to the internet who have still to register. Please DO register your email address with us. See the Chief Road Steward's report on Page 5. And of course, if you change your contact details, do let us know.

STANDARD OF DRIVING

Time for a moan! The police tell us that the majority of motorists caught speeding in Northwood are actually Northwood residents. A few weeks ago a woman in a 'Chelsea tractor' overtook me on a speed hump forcing me to take evasive action. She then accelerated to well over 60mph ignoring the 20mph limit, and other speed humps. I noted her registration and reported the incident to the Safer Neighbourhood team and she was cautioned by a police officer.

At the risk of offending some members, such drivers are anti-social, as well as dangerous, and are not welcome in Northwood.

PLANNING

You will read below that we no longer have a committee member responsible for planning.

We are getting an increasing number of planning applications that need careful investigation. St Helen's School, which is in the conservation area, has recently applied to demolish the Fitzwilliam building, a beautiful Victorian house in Eastbury Road. The plan is to replace it by a modern building.

In addition, Northwood College has held a consultation with residents with a view to constructing another modern building in the conservation area of Maxwell Road. Personally, I found the building extremely ugly and I made some suggestions as to how the frontage could be improved to be more visually acceptable. This went down like a lead balloon with the young architect. The plans also reduce the number of staff parking spaces which will lead to more congestion.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The usual ceremony will take place on Sunday, 11th November starting at 10.30 in Green Lane. Being 100 years since the end of the 1914-18 war, the ceremony will be even more significant than usual. I do hope you will all make a special effort to attend.

COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS

I regret to report that our President Alan Prue's recovery from his stroke is very slow and I am sure you will all wish him and his wife well.

We owe a big thank you to David Goodman who left us after five years in the planning role.

Our Secretary, Ros Plume has been co-opted to the committee as has Sue Mansfield, our new Minutes Secretary.

No-one has stuck their head above the parapet to take over from me as Chairman. I have now served for nearly ten years. I believe I am still making a worthwhile contribution and continue to enjoy the challenge – yes, it can be hard work – but I do believe the NRA would benefit from new blood. Perhaps next year??

IT'S NOT ALL ROUTINE

My fellow committee members and I spend many hours working hard on your behalf to make Northwood a good place to live. As well as attending to the routine matters, we are organising the street Christmas decorations, organising a Christmas Display competition, joining in with Holy Trinity Church at "Carols@Costa", sponsoring a "Good Neighbour" competition and of course, we will be keeping an eye on the station development. If you have any suggestions for our attention, please let me know.

CONCLUSION

As usual, thanks to our councillors and MP for your continued co-operation and contribution.

By the time you read this, the clocks will have been put back and the weather become more inclement. Don't forget to look out for your elderly neighbours. A kind word, a cup of tea or a bit of shopping make all the difference to their lives.

Be safe and well this winter.



Tony Ellis
chairman@northwoodresidents.co.uk
Tel: 01923 821237

NRA Planning Officer Needed, urgently!

David Goodman resigned at the end of August. We have advertised for a replacement and, as yet, we have not been successful. For the last five years David has perused all planning applications, made objections when justified and dealt with members' questions. This is a vital part of the service that the NRA offers to members.

In the meantime, we will monitor new planning applications and take action where possible. This will in no way be comprehensive.

Will somebody please step up to the plate? Appropriate training will be given.

Tony Ellis
chairman@northwoodresidents.co.uk
Tel: 01923 821237

Traffic and Highways

NORTHWOOD TRAFFIC STUDY

At the risk of repeating myself, LBH has carried out a transport study for the following roads:-

- A404 Rickmansworth Road
- B469 Green Lane between Rickmansworth Road and Maxwell Road
- Maxwell Road

A report has been written, but, at the time of writing, it has not yet been submitted for review by Cllr. Burrows, Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Recycling, as discussions are still continuing between council officers and the contractors who carried out the work. Watch this space!

PARKING CONSULTATIONS

As reported in the last issue of the Newsletter, informal consultations with local residents have taken place in Northwood. The report was completed and reviewed by Cllr. Burrows. The recommendations are as follows:

1. Instruct officers to design and formally consult on a Resident Parking Permit Scheme in the following roads:
 - a. Grove Road, Hallowell Road, Harrison Close, Kewferry Road, Mezan Close, Moor Park Road, Roy Road (including Barker Close), Treetops Close and The Avenue, Residents' Permit Parking Scheme operated Monday-Friday 1pm-2pm.
 - b. Gateway Close, Residents' Permit Parking Scheme operated Monday-Friday 9am-5pm.
 - c. Myrtleside Close, Residents' Permit Parking Scheme operated Monday-Saturday 10-11am and 3-4pm.

2. Instruct officers to formally consult on a Stop & Shop Scheme in the eastern side lay-bys of High Street, Northwood.
3. Defer taking any further action in Chelwood Close, Closemead Close, High Street (west side), Langland Court, Langton Grove, Mallard Way, Reginald Road, Rising Hill Close, Sandy Lodge Way and Wedgewood Close.

I understand that it is hoped to deliver the relevant information to the addresses of involved residents for the formal consultation early in December 2018. These documents will differ for each individual road and three weeks will be allowed for responses to be returned to the council. It is **very important** that as many responses as possible are received by LBH because decisions will be made and a low level of returns could result in minority choices being implemented.

BREAKSPEAR ROAD SOUTH

A little further afield, HS2 is now making its presence felt. There have already been closures of Breakspear Road South, but further ones are planned, specifically starting on Monday, 22nd October, and continuing for five weeks. There will be more to come.

traffichighways@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Peter Lansdown

Metropolitan Line

THE RUNNING OF THE MET LINE CONTINUES TO

EXACERBATE THE PLIGHT of regular commuters with continual signal failures and lack of communication. As if to rub salt into the wounds, we also had a tree on the track at one stage causing a few hours of delays – at least we can't blame the Victorian signalling for that one! Frustratingly the signal failures appear to have increased despite the dry weather over the summer. One problem is that LUL is nursing an old system that is well past its replacement date, with most of the system being nearly 60 years old and some parts even older. There are some new problems caused by the S stock which is wearing the rails in a different way from the old A stock. As a result, there is spalling of the rails with some fragments crossing the insulating gaps between signalling sections. Actions to remedy this problem include widening the insulating gaps, using magnetic sweepers to remove the spalled metal and some reprofiling of the rails. The result has been a reduction in signal failures recently whereas the number of failures was well over the target in a three-month summer period. That is your technical lesson for the month.

IN BETTER NEWS we are told the Monday to Wednesday closure of the Metropolitan line (due to drains and track work at Finchley Road) from town to Wembley from 10pm will finish at the end of the year as originally

promised. Something on track (excuse the pun!), it will certainly be a first. But before you get excited about the prospect of Night Tube, I am afraid that is still a long way off (years) due to our old friend 'upgrading of the track and signalling' work.

We are aware of noise from the Met line trains causing irritation to our residents and beyond. Furthermore, unannounced works have been taking place in the rail sidings in the early hours of the morning. It's quite a challenge to find the right people to talk to at TfL about this. Let us know if you are experiencing similar issues.

IN WIDER LOCAL NEWS, at least 400 new homes will be built on the car parks of three Harrow tube stations as part of a development scheme led by the Mayor of London. The projects, which boast 100 per cent affordability targets, will make use of space at Canons Park, Stanmore and Rayners Lane underground stations.

Finally, the common-sense Croxley link looks dead in the water as politicians could not come to an agreement on the funding.

Feel free to contact me at:
met@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Gerry Pimm



Station Approach Development - from the consultants' point of view



Notting Hill Genesis and Transport for London hosted three successful drop-in events for Northwood Station Quarter at St Matthew's Church on Hallowell Road on 10th, 11th & 12th October.

Invitations to the event were sent to 7,500 Northwood households and businesses and posters were provided for display at the station, local places of worship and the library. We would like to thank Northwood Residents Association for distributing the posters locally and advertising the event on their website.

We were delighted that across the three days, 537 Northwood residents attended the events.

Residents were able to be introduced to our new project team including Transport for London, their development partner Notting Hill Genesis and the Architect Hawkins\Brown.

Members of the team took the opportunity to engage with as many residents as we could, answering questions and taking on feedback. A significant number of residents provided extensive and constructive feedback for the team. To date, we have received over 150 feedback forms via the website and post and they continue to come in.

We are currently in the process of considering all your feedback as we draw up more detailed proposals, as well as bearing in mind the feedback from the previous application's consultation.

Residents were pleased that the proposals will include step free access to Northwood Station and the scheme will not include a supermarket. Other themes also included whether improvements can be made to the bus interchange and questions were raised regarding parking, height and affordable housing.

In the coming months we will be hosting more events showcasing the proposals in more detail. Once again we will drop invitations through letter boxes and advertise locally. We encourage all residents to take part in future engagement.

To be kept up to date with proposals and future consultation events, please visit **northwoodstationquarter.co.uk**

For further information
Email: samn@curtinandco.com
Tel: 020 7399 2293

Curtin&Co.



... and a personal view

I left the Consultation feeling very uneasy having been told that there would be fewer station parking places, that five storeys high was not high-rise, the whole of the current car park would be flats, most of the flats would be one or two beds and little provision made for families. Northwood needs affordable housing for young professional families who are trying to get on the housing ladder. We need our policemen, teachers and nurses to live locally.

I was also told that considerable savings have been made on the original plans from which I surmised that we will end up with a dense development of high-rise flats, the result being a miniature Harrow-like centre with a few shops which will, no doubt, be too expensive for our current traders to occupy.

Now we have to wait and see what plans evolve. I urge you all to take part in the next consultation and make your views known.

Tony Ellis
chairman@northwoodresidents.co.uk
Tel: 01923 821237

NRA Membership

Our "alerts-sent-by-email" system is now up and running and has been working well for the last few weeks.

Our policy is to send only notifications that will be of general interest and particularly if they are urgent in nature such as

- the recent warnings about a three-day closure of Ducks Hill Road to repair a broken watermain and
- to suggest all Northwood residents should please visit one of the three afternoon presentations about redevelopment planned by TfL in the centre of Northwood.

DON'T MISS OUT!

If you have not received these alerts please let us know by email to admin@northwoodresidents.co.uk so your address can be added to the database or updated if no longer correct.

These alerts were sent to some 600 of our members who had registered their email address with us. Judging by immediate responses these were much appreciated.

Finally, my usual plea for Road Stewards to help distribute our newsletter three times a year. We again have several roads with members where a replacement RS is urgently required, so if you can help anywhere in the Northwood Ward, please do contact me.

chiefroadsteward@northwoodresidents.co.uk
Home Tel: 01923 821036

Paul I. F. Barker
CRS and DPO

Michael Sobell Hospice - Update from the Charity's CEO

October 2018



There has been much behind-the-scenes work by the charity as we continue to drive the NHS Trust providers of the hospice building and the clinical service to make a decision on the future of the inpatient unit.

Meetings have been held with the Clinical Commissioning Group, who fund the service and are committed to there being provision of palliative care beds in the North of Hillingdon. The charity is now a member of the Hillingdon End of Life Care working group. We have met with, and received support from the Michael Sobell Foundation, and remain in close contact with them, as well as with Nick Hurd MP. The charity is invited by Hillingdon Council to the External Services Select Committee meeting on 30th October. Also invited are Hillingdon Clinical Commissioning Group; Hillingdon Hospital NHS Trust and East and North Herts NHS Trust, all of whom have responsibility for the Hospice and its patients.

OUR ACTIONS TO THE END OF DECEMBER ARE:

- ⇒ To work with the NHS leaders to put concrete proposals on the table by the end of 2018 - patients in our community must see progress and agreement on the way forward over the autumn.
- ⇒ To keep fundraising for our current day care services, based in Michael Sobell Hospice. The day centre is fully funded by us and cannot operate without donations.

Judi Byrne
Chief Executive

Visit the website where further updates will be posted:
<https://www.michaelsobellhospice.co.uk/>
You can also sign up to receive the MSH newsletter.
Tel: 020 3826 2367 (fund-raising & events)

From the Treasurer

As it is likely all subs for 2017 have now been received and the membership database therefore accurate it enables analysis to be completed. Yes, I did write **2017**, hopefully all subs for 2018 will be received prior to our financial year end on 31st December 2018.

One of the most common questions I am asked is why are the subs so low? Another is why are subs just not £5? Both perfectly reasonable questions and both have been debated many times over the years.

At the NRA's foundation in 1966, the subs were "Husband and wife 7/6. Single subscription 5/-". By 1976 it was 50p (10 shillings) per household, before doubling to £1 in 1990 and doubling again to the current minimum of £2 in 2002. As long as our income meets or exceeds our expenditure we remain a viable organisation. The risks we have are not financial but in maintaining high membership and interest so we have sufficient Road Stewards and committee members.

2017 Subs paid	%
£2	40
> £2 < £5	12
£5	37
> £5 < £10	1
£10	9
>£10	1
	100

In 2017 40% of our members did pay the £2 minimum, which means 60% paid more than £2. The total residential subs received were £8,271. We have other income so in total we received £11,073 which was just a little less than the £12,171 we spent. The spend figure was higher than usual since the AGM

approved some significant donations.

The income and expenditure usually roughly balance so there is no need to increase the subs - that answers the first question. A £5 sub does have some rational positives. It is the lowest denomination paper note so could be easier to pay than hunting around for a few £1 or £2 coins. Many ATMs do not dispense £5 notes so they are not necessarily as available as one would think and since cash is used less getting a fiver in the change happens less often. Of course, a tenner can be used, 9% of members did pay that sum.

VALUE FOR MONEY. When you consider a weekday newspaper costs between 35p and £2, a cup of coffee is around £2 and a bar of chocolate around 75p, a £5 sub is very reasonable. What it provides is a full colour, three times a year newsletter, the website, push email notifications of items of interest to members, the efforts of the committee members in maintaining our objectives, the Road Stewards who provide another conduit to reach the committee members and to ensure residents' views are known.

Assuming we did increase the sub and everyone did pay the increased number, we would have a greater income, but unless members can identify additional things we can spend the money on any increase would just add to reserves. Not a bad thing since there is always the possibility of something unusual requiring funds to represent our members. Of course, not all current members may wish to pay a higher sub so the overall membership may reduce. That is undesirable since the more members we have the stronger our position. As such the current situation appears optimal. We encourage subs of £5 or more, but the minimum remains £2. As long as 60% of us do continue to pay the higher subs we will remain financially sound. Prices do rise so I am sure at some point we will need to raise the minimum, if everyone voluntarily paid £5 or more, it would happen by default.

I shall end with my usual plea for subs to be provided promptly to the Road Stewards, please make their jobs as easy as possible, so have a cheque ready, payable to "Northwood Residents' Association", or have the cash, ideally folding money ready. If you receive a collection envelope, please place your sub in it and return promptly to your Road Steward or Sharman or Carter Chemists; it avoids your Road Steward having to chase for payment.

treasurer@northwoodresidents.co.uk

David Blowers

Meet Your Committee

Tony Ellis is our chairman. He says,

"I was born in Leicestershire where I was educated and qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1963. My professional life took me to Africa for many years, then Marks and Spencer and finally spending 7 years in the oil industry frequently visiting Kazakhstan.

"I have been a Northwood resident for over 28 years and your chairman for the last 9½. After retiring I took up working with several local organisations and I am now a volunteer with Northwood Live at Home (15 years) and am lead Governor at the Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. The latter position is very interesting and also demanding as the problems in the NHS are numerous. It also gives me a wonderful opportunity to help local residents.

"Apart from my voluntary work my interests include fine wines and food, travel, reading crime novels, tending to my large garden and keeping my family happy – wife, three grown up children and five grandchildren.

"My role as NRA Chairman keeps me very involved in the local community. Apart from answering members' questions, I meet with local businesses, councillors, our MP and of course keep the executive committee, a devoted team, on the straight and narrow. It can be quite a time-consuming role, so it is an advantage being retired."



Emma Brown is our newest member. She says,

"I moved to Northwood in 2002 and immediately fell in love with the area. I loved the leafiness, I loved the community spirit and I knew that I wanted to make it my home for many years.

"In those days my home was outside the NRA catchment area and joining the committee was not an option, so I got on with my life. Until... this year I went to the NRA AGM and spoke to Tony, the chairman; he invited me to join their next monthly meeting. I went along, and I guess the rest is history. I have now been on the committee for six months!

"My role is set to evolve over time, but at the moment my key aim is to bring more awareness to the community that we exist and of the important work that we do. I will work with the NRA to encourage even more members to join and try to arrange more community social events. Northwood is a wonderful place to live and I hope that I can help to bring more attention to that."



A Message from Nick Hurd MP

Regular readers will know my long-standing frustration with the neglect of the Northwood and Pinner Cottage Hospital. With superb support from Northwood Residents' Association, I have been campaigning for the NHS to honour past promises and retain community health facilities on the site. It has required patience because the NHS does not like to be rushed into decisions.

Still, there is good news. In a recent meeting with the Chairman of the Hillingdon CCG, he confirmed his intention to use the Hospital as the site for a "hub" of new primary care services to help keep people out of hospital. In addition the NHS seems committed to upgrading the Northwood Health Centre and moving it into the main Cottage Hospital building. There will need to be some redevelopment of the rest of the site for residential accommodation to help finance it, and I hope this will be focused on sheltered/extra care accommodation. This is a compromise, but a much better outcome than we faced a year ago when it looked like the

NHS was going to flog the whole site for the highest price.

I will continue to keep a close eye on Northwood and Pinner, but my growing frustration is now with the future of Mount Vernon, not least given the uncertainty around the much-loved Michael Sobell Hospice. Two NHS trusts share responsibility for this site but neither seems to have a plan for Mount Vernon, which is secondary to them both. To my eyes it is looking increasingly run down, and I do not want the constituency to lose a Hospice. More on this in future articles, but I would welcome input from constituents. Please do not hesitate to contact me.



To contact Northwood MP, Nick Hurd:

Email: nick.hurd.mp@parliament.uk

Post: Nick Hurd MP, House of Commons, Westminster, London, SW1A 0AA

Tel: 020 7219 1053 or 01923 822876

You can follow his work on the website: www.nickhurd.com and on Twitter: @nickhurduk

No **Councillors' Column** this time, but if you need to contact them, here's how:

Elected councillors for Northwood ward are:

Richard Lewis, Carol Melvin and Scott Seaman-Digby.

Tel: 01895 250316 - Civic Centre office (9am - 5pm weekdays)

Tel: 01923 822876 - Northwood Office

Email: rlewis@hillington.gov.uk
cmelvin@hillington.gov.uk
sseaman-digby@hillington.gov.uk

All views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors.

SINGING TRAINS!

The Metropolitan line trains stopping at Northwood station appear to be producing a new singing or whistling sound – quite a high-pitched note actually. The fast Met. line and Chiltern line services appear unaffected. What is happening is that a noise is being generated from the track. This is a result of some rail grinding work London Underground (LU) carried out at the beginning of August. The rails are re-ground to keep them in good condition and to even out any corrugation, but unfortunately, this can lead to a period of high-pitched noise afterwards which is unavoidable. This effect is usually only temporary and should dissipate naturally as the rails start to get rougher again, but that may take some time.

NOISY NIGHT WORKS

Residents living near the station and sidings may have become aware of recent night working by LU staff and contractors that has included trackside work in association with the construction of the new signalling building. It is understood that the preparation work should now be complete, LU has indicated that the work will recommence at the end of October and last for approximately three weeks.

We know that Hillingdon Council has advised London Underground that an application under the Control of Pollution Act 1974; Section 61 should be made before the commencement of any works.

UNSAFE CONTRACTOR WORKING – AN EXAMPLE



This picture was taken in Rickmansworth Road one

September morning where a delivery of materials to a building site occasioned a fork lift truck to reverse across the busy main road then approach the side of the lorry to load up before backing off and finally delivering materials to the site, without the contractor's staff stopping the traffic.

Here you can see example of where there is an absence of corporate social responsibility and poor working practice by the Managing Contractor. By luck no passing vehicle or occupants were hurt. Drivers, please be alert as you pass major works and building sites as safe work practice may not always be high on the agenda.

PAVEMENT OBSTRUCTION & OVER-HANGING FOLIAGE

Looking at this picture, the front hedge seems well manicured. Look more closely and you can see that the homeowner's garden contractor has failed to consider pedestrians or people pushing prams and pushchairs as there is insufficient room to get comfortably between the post and the hedge. Overgrown gardens can obstruct.



Whether it is hedges, foliage, overhanging tree branches that make walking difficult or restrict headroom, or groundcover plants that encroach on Northwood's pavements, it matters that you cut back overgrowth to the correct place – or that you get your garden contractor to do it for you. Be a good citizen, do what is right in a timely manner.

environment@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Andrew Egan

For all information about local environmental issues, visit the council website, www.hillingdon.gov.uk and follow the links: Residents > Environmental Issues.
Email: contactcentre1@hillingdon.gov.uk
Tel: 01895 556000

Northwood & District Community Association

Well, summer is over and we have resumed all our activities – except, sadly, our Line Dancing Section. The instructor has retired and a suitable replacement could not be found to take it on at the time and place we wanted. Such a shame as it was a very popular section of the Association and had been going a long time.

We could always do with new members in some of the sections: Keep Fit, Rambling, Bridge, Board Games, German conversation, Whist – so why not give one a try?

In spite of friendly competition from the U3A, which offers so many varied options, we maintain about 280 members over the 15 sections that we run.

One of the founder members of the rambling group died recently and I have been given his log of the walks, starting with the first one in November 1971! Interesting to see that the members attending the walks numbered around 30 and there was a waiting list as that was the maximum number that could be coped with. The log detailed the walks, who ran them, how many attended and comments on the pubs that were used for the lunch time stop and made fascinating reading. For example, there was Reg with his canvas bag collecting all kinds of fungi and salivating on what he would have for tea, and Lorna collecting Elderflowers to make a cordial when she got home!

Want to know more? Contact me on **01923 836346**

Pat Dunhill

Health Round-up

PAUL STRICKLAND SCANNER CENTRE

In the last newsletter we reported delivery of a new £1.5million charity-funded MRI scanner unit to Mount Vernon; it was officially opened by the MP Tim Farron, chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Radiotherapy, during a special event on 3rd September.

The scanner unit will bring a multitude of benefits to patients. Claire Strickland, Paul Strickland Scanner Centre Chief Executive, said: "Cutting edge scanning equipment allows clinicians to determine the exact location, size and shape of the tumour in detail in relation to surrounding normal tissue, allowing radiotherapy to be delivered with a degree of precision that wouldn't have been possible only a few years ago."

During the event, attendees also listened to a talk on next generation imaging solutions for prostate cancer diagnosis by Prof Anwar Padhani, lead consultant for MRI at Paul Strickland Scanner Centre, who is an internationally recognised expert in cancer imaging.

MICHAEL SOBELL HOSPICE

CEO of Michael Sobell Hospice Charity, Judi Byrne, attended the NRA Executive Meeting on Tuesday 11th September 2018 to present information concerning the Hospice.

Her statement regarding the latest situation is to be found on Page 6.

ON-LINE connection with own GP Practice

Those who are able can register with their own practice for on-line facilities, which makes life a lot easier, saves time and stress. Residents can (1) Book Appointments (2) See their own Blood Test Results and (3) Request REPEAT MEDICATION. Medication can then be delivered to their homes if requested.

It is also good practice to visit your GP at least ONCE a year for an annual checkup if you haven't been seen by the GP during the whole year (particularly applicable to those over 65 years).

LONDON AMBULANCE SERVICE

London Ambulance Service has been working closely with NHS rapid response teams across North West London, helping more patients to get the treatment they need in their own home. This enhanced way of working has seen more than 100 people a month being cared for at home. More and more people are avoiding unnecessary trips to A&E and possible hospital admission. The patient's GP will also be notified and involved in their care.

health@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Dr Amir Lakha

Minor Injuries Unit, Mount Vernon Hospital

Open: 9am - 8pm daily

Telephone: 01923 844201

Need a blood test?

Mount Vernon Hospital's Phlebotomy dept. is open:

Monday to Friday, 7am - 4.45pm

Telephone: 01923 844732

The department's doors normally close at 4.30pm so that staff can process any patients who are already there. No blood tests are performed after 5pm.

War-time Northwood.

Jean Macfarlane has seen many changes in Northwood. She was born here in 1939, went to school here and married at Holy Trinity Church in 1962. Then followed a spell living in Hampstead before returning to Northwood in 1985 to care for her parents. Here are Jean's recollections of Northwood during WW2.

"Soon after I was born in Northwood war was declared in September 1939. My early memories are of hearing the air-raid sirens wail, and my brother and me being put under the dining table which was solid oak, covered by an old velvet curtain – it was safe there, no Anderson shelter in our garden.

"We went to a little school along the Pinner Road opposite the Cottage Hospital where Mum was a Red Cross Nurse.

She used to pop over to the school playground when the sirens went off to make sure we children were safe whilst bombs were dropping nearby. They were aiming for the railway line where steam trains ran from Marylebone to Aylesbury. The nearest bomb to land was in Acre Way quite near to the hospital.

"My father was Station Sergeant at the mock Tudor police station, and in his spare time tended two allotments in Joel Street where we picked blackberries that left purple stains on our fingers!

"I have vague memories of being on the Hog's Back where low flying aircraft dropped fruit for the children, we had never seen a banana before. That was VE Day 1945. The street parties were soon organised – I have memories of long tables, cakes, flags and happy laughter."

Members, this is your newsletter! I am always eager to receive comments, articles and suggestions for topics that you would like us to cover.

There's no harm in sending me your ideas, however whacky - I can always use my "editor's decision is final" powers!

editor@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Ros Plume



Hello. I hope you all enjoyed the hot weather during the summer months. Now that Autumn is upon us and the nights are drawing in it's really important to follow some simple crime prevention steps to help deter burglary. We always tend to see a rise in this type of crime during the darker nights. Improving your lighting both inside and outside your home is a good deterrent. I would advise:

- Have good lighting at doors as it makes it safer for you when coming and going after dark.
- A clear, low white light that activates at dusk to dawn is ideal for lighting a yard and garden and allowing any person to be clearly seen.
- Check to make sure that trees and plants do not obscure your lighting. It's recommended that you regularly cut vegetation back.
- Take care to position these lights so that light pollution doesn't annoy your neighbours.
- Use an automatic plugin time switch to operate a lamp or light at pre-set times when you're away.
- Energy saving LED bulbs are best as they do not use as much electricity, last longer than conventional bulbs and do not generate heat, reducing fire risk.
- In blocks of flats, automatic low energy lights that detect movement are recommended for corridors, stairwells and communal areas such as car parks and cycle stores.

There is more helpful advice on the Met Police website on the most common types of crime

<https://www.met.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/>

We communicate with our residents using OWL (Online Watch Link) to keep you up to date with key dates for police contact points and other events. We also send our monthly newsletter using OWL and share with you any crime patterns or scams that we have been made aware of. If you haven't already done so then please register yourself at www.owl.co.uk

Thanks for reading. Sergeant Sam Quinn



Northwood Ward Team can be contacted on

Telephone: 020 8721 2545 or 020 8246 1823

Email: Northwood.snt@met.police.uk

Twitter: @MPSNorthwood

Mobile: 07500 097 182

Address: Ruislip Police Station, The Oaks, HA4 7LF

Sergeant: samantha.quinn@met.police.uk

Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch

Hopefully, following extensive leaflet drops in Northwood, most residents will be aware of the newly-launched On-line Watch Link, **OWL**, which allows them to be alerted quickly to crimes in their immediate area by both the Police and Neighbourhood Watch. At the time of writing (early October) take-up of OWL in Northwood has been somewhat disappointing, in comparison with most other wards in the borough. The fact that Northwood is seen by some as being a low crime area may well be contributing to this, however, residents should not be complacent as this situation could easily change for the worse. Visit <https://www.owl.co.uk> to sign up.



Thanks to the efforts of our excellent Safer Neighbourhood Team, we have been able to register several new Neighbourhood Watches, but at the same time have lost a few due to the co-ordinators, for one reason or another, being unable to continue in their role. A clue as to when a watch has lapsed lies in the non-delivery of our regular bi-monthly newsletter through letterboxes or into Inboxes.

If YOU are able to take on a lapsed watch, please look at our website

www.hillingdonnhw.co.uk in the first instance and

then contact us by email: all@hillingdonnhw.co.uk or telephone 020 8246 1869

*Lynette Bridger
Secretary, HNW Steering Group*

Crime Prevention Stalls

A one-to-one consultation session in conjunction with crime prevention advice. The next scheduled sessions:

Wednesday 7th November, 1pm - 2pm at Waitrose

Saturday 24th November, 12pm - 1pm at Waitrose

*Northwood Police Station is open to the public,
manned by volunteers
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 11.00 to 13.00*

Drop-in Surgeries at Northwood Police Station

Monday 12th November, 5pm - 6pm

Thursday 15th November, 3pm - 4pm

Tuesday 20th November, 5pm - 6pm



I hope you enjoyed the poppies flowering at the Gravel Pits and in Rowland Place this summer. They struggled a bit with the drought, but still good to see.

Ros Plume

Local Policing from the NRA Police Liaison Officer

The local Northwood Ward Police Panel met recently and along with the police determined that our Safer Neighbourhood Team should focus on the following three priorities:

SPEEDING - this comes up as the most frequent issue for local residents yet most of the speeding is by local residents! Please be aware of your speed and environment. The police do carry out random speed checks and we also have a keen Community Roadwatch team run by Stephanie Lindley. We thank her and other volunteers for their time and effort. Contact me if you want to join in.

OWL RECRUITMENT - the number of residents signing up has been low locally yet the system is really useful in not only providing prevention advice but also keeping you informed of local issues. ***Please note Hillingdon police has ceased to use its database to communicate with you. If you would like to continue to receive messages from Hillingdon police then please register yourself for free at www.owl.co.uk You will then be able to receive regular police updates including Northwood SNT newsletters and crime prevention advice.***

SEASONAL CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE - as the nights draw in the advice provided by our local team via the OWL system, on Twitter, online and at the local contact sessions is invaluable. Please try to stay ahead of the burglars.

Should you want to get more involved in establishing the local priorities you can take part in our Virtual Ward Panel Survey. Contact me at nwdpolicepanel@gmail.com for more information. Or better still, join us on the actual Ward Panel.

STORY FROM OWL. Here is an example of an OWL message posted in the summer.

Dear Watch Member,

Firstly thank you all for the fantastic response to this. [Previous OWL reports of catalytic converter thefts]. I now have some important information from a Northwood Resident 87yrs young who caught them stealing his converter and tried to get the key out of the bandits' car.

The thieves were 4 in number, eastern European, as there was a verbal exchange, all about 30yrs of age, they had an angle grinder and his car was jacked up in his Drive. The bandits' car was part registration WB11 and something like W13Z ie it's a foreign registration. It was Grey, small and MAY have been an Italian model his wife noted the registration.

We now have something to look for.

Hats off to this victim for taking them on but THINK TWICE please; this could have been a very different outcome. I salute you sir nevertheless and thank you for contacting OWL.

LATEST CRIME STATS

The most up to date crime figures can now be found on the website <https://www.met.police.uk/>

Chairman, Northwood Police Ward Panel
nwdpolicepanel@gmail.com

and NRA Police Liaison
police@northwoodresidents.co.uk
H: 01923 450497 M: 07831 116570

Philip Green

What's happening at Northwood Library?

Congratulations to all the children that completed the **Mischief Makers Summer Reading Challenge** this year. 470 children signed up to the challenge at Northwood Library, with a massive 9000 taking part across Hillingdon as a whole. Children collected prizes and took part in fun events during the summer holidays and read thousands of books.

At the time of writing, **Culture Bite**, Hillingdon's annual arts and literary festival is well under way with lots of talks and events celebrating arts and crafts, drama and performing arts, history, literature, poetry and lots more. Over 90 events are taking place in libraries and theatres throughout Hillingdon. At Northwood Library we hosted a talk entitled 'In the Footsteps of the Invisible Witch' delivered by The Folklore Podcast.



Our Poetry Group delivered a special session on the theme of 'change' for National Poetry Day. Valerie Jackson-Harris of The Ephemera Society gave a talk on some of the more unusual characters and events from London's past. And we are running a play-reading workshop for drama lovers to try their hand at reading a part from the hit West End play, The

Ferryman.

Looking ahead our popular **Storytime** sessions for young children continue to take place every Wednesday and Friday during term-time at 10am. The sessions include stories, rhymes and simple crafts for babies, toddlers and pre-school children. Always fun, they are also a great place to meet other parents and carers.

The **Chess Club** is back! Mondays 4.30pm and Fridays 4pm. For children aged 7 to 16, it's a great opportunity to learn how to play the world's most popular game of strategy.

Coming soon: a weekly coffee morning for dementia sufferers and their carers. Aimed at people under the age of 65 who have been diagnosed with early onset dementia, we aim to hold reminiscence, singing and arts and crafts sessions as well as facilitating a social group where people can meet to swap information and experiences. Look out for details or contact the library for more information.

Northwood Library, Oaklands Gate, Northwood, HA6 3AB
Tel: 01895 558262

Email: northwood-library@hilligdon.gov.uk

Web: <http://hilligdon.gov.uk/libraries>

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/Hill_libraries](https://twitter.com/Hill_libraries)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/HillingdonLibraries

Opening hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9am-6pm,
Tuesday 9am-7pm, Saturday 9am-4pm.

Janet Clements

Northwood College School for Girls: Then and Now – by New Head, Zara Hubble

Northwood College School for Girls (NWC) is an independent day school for approximately 850 young women aged 3-18. The original school was founded in 1878 in central London. It moved to its present site in Northwood in 1893. Since 2013, NWC has been part of the Girls Day School Trust (GDST), the UK's largest education charity. It is a family of 23 independent schools and two academies. NWC offers first-class facilities for learning, providing an environment that enables girls to develop their interests and strengths both inside and outside the classroom. My aim is that our pupils should excel not only academically but also in sport, music, art and drama.

I am very mindful that NWC is both a community in itself and part of a wider community. At its broadest, all of us at NWC have a responsibility as citizens of a world that is more connected, but sadly more at odds, than ever before. Alongside that, NWC has an important role to play in our local community. Our relationship with the local community is deep-rooted and has a number of aspects.

First and foremost, I am proud that our student body is very diverse and reflects the cosmopolitan nature of our local area. In addition, our girls typically come from local families. I have lived in Northwood for over a decade. We regard ourselves as part of our local community.

We provide work experience placements for staff from local schools. We offer academic events and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) activity days, hosted by our staff and girls, to local students. Our young women volunteer in local business as part of their DoE training and obtain other valuable experience of the working world. We encourage the local community to use our site and facilities.



Zara Hubble

Head | Northwood College for Girls

Address: Maxwell Road | Northwood | Middlesex | HA6 2YE

Tel: 01923 825 446 headmistress@nwc.gdst.net

www.northwoodcollege.gdst.net

Our young women spend time assisting local charities. Our Year 11 – 13 students participate in the Northwood Live at Home Scheme, which is aimed at helping older people remain living in their own homes. We also raise funds for and support a host of national and local charities.

We are keen to engage, so please do take advantage of the events that we have to come and see us.



Northwood and Pinner

Liberal Synagogue (NPLS) is the second largest Liberal Synagogue in the UK and a thriving centre of Jewish life. We are a non-judgmental Jewish

Community that welcomes Jews, non-Jewish partners and their families. We are a Congregation and have religious services AND we are a community. There are many cultural, social, and learning events. We are also activity partners in social action / social justice work believing passionately that we want to leave the world just a little better than we found it. Importantly, we are also known as a Caring Community. We have an award-winning Care Team and Bereavement Support Group.

Our Etz Chayim Gallery is open to all; the next exhibition features Michelle Karpus with her Surreal and Fantasy Art and runs from 12th November to 7th January. You can meet the artist at the gallery on 18th November, 3 to 6pm.



We, our rabbis and cantor would love to meet you soon.

For more information on joining NPLS, speak to Carole on 01923 537224 or newmembership@npls.org.uk

18-24 Oaklands Gate
Northwood, HA6 3AA
Web: www.npls.org.uk
Tel: 01923 822592

Ruislip Woods Trust invites you to a New Year's Day walk

Tuesday 1st January 2019 at 11am

Meet outside the Woodlands Centre by the beach at Ruislip Lido. The walk takes about 2 hours and there will be a stop in one of the woods for hot mince pies and mulled wine or soft drinks. Adults £2, Children £1

For more about Ruislip Woods Trust visit:
www.ruislipwoodstrust.org.uk

Scouts Christmas Post - Thank you for your support ... Unfortunately, we won't be running the Christmas Post service this year but would like to say thank you very much to all the people who supported it over the last 9 years. Hundreds of Explorer Scouts have benefited from the funds raised, taking part in camps and activities in the UK and overseas. If you'd like to volunteer to help with Scouting locally, please see our website at <http://www.renscouts.org.uk/volunteer>

GETTING IN THE FESTIVE SPIRIT

Each year, the team at the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre has great fun choosing the range of Christmas cards that will be sold to raise funds for the support centre at Mount Vernon Cancer Centre. Selection starts early in the new year and the team pore over a large number of catalogues and samples, whittling down their choices to the final few.

LJMC Fundraiser, Fiona Hussey, said "Trying to choose a broad selection to meet everyone's tastes is a challenge and we do bite our fingernails as we wait for the verdict from our supporters! Fortunately, we've already had good feedback that they like our choices this year."

Every penny raised from the cards will go directly towards the provision of the LJMC's services to support people affected by cancer. These services include a drop-in centre, telephone helpline, counselling, complementary therapy and benefits advice.

2018 HAS BEEN A SPECIAL YEAR for the LJMC as the centre celebrated its 25th anniversary. The centre has

received a number of national awards and accolades over the past 25 years for its innovative and pioneering approach to supporting cancer patients and everyone is enormously proud of these achievements.

With a significant reduction in NHS funding of the LJMC over the past few years, fundraising has become increasingly important to the centre.

If you'd like to support these vital services at your local cancer centre, we'd love to hear from you. You can check out our Christmas cards online at www.ljmc.org or give our Appeals team a call on 020 3826 2550. We can send samples for you to view or, if you're holding an event, can provide packs on a 'sale or return' basis.

Thank you for your support.



Michael Sobell Hospice - events

Saturday 17th November, Festive Coffee Morning with the Northwood Headquarters Royal Naval Volunteer Band, Michael Sobell Hospice Charity Lecture Hall

Join the Charity team for a little pre-Christmas cheer and music, 9.30am – 2pm. Hot and cold refreshments, homemade cards and goodies, a raffle, tombola and a Charity Christmas gifts pop-up shop, plus much more!

Band performances: 11.30am-Midday & 1pm-1.30pm.

Sunday 2nd December, Light up a Life Remembrance Ceremonies, Michael Sobell Hospice Charity Lecture Hall, Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood. 4pm & 6.30pm.

Remember the life of someone you love by dedicating a light in their memory. Join us in remembering loved ones and friends in ceremonies of music and readings. Each light is a poignant reminder of the joy and brightness that people have brought into our lives. Light is symbolic and central to many cultures and brings particular comfort during the darker months. There will also be a time for quiet reflection and after each ceremony, light refreshments will be served. Local choir, Jubilate will be performing.

If you would like to dedicate a light in memory of someone, to celebrate a birth or just to say 'thank you' or 'hello' to an absent loved one, please get in touch, details in box.

Santa's Little Helpers Needed!

Can you help by donating an hour or two of your time for our in-store fundraising collections taking place in November and December in Northwood (Waitrose), Pinner Green (Tesco) and Ruislip (Waitrose). If you would like to volunteer, please call Ophelia Chambers-Henry on 020 3826 2362 or email ochambers-henry@michaelsobellhospice.co.uk for details of available dates and times. Thank you in advance for your support!

For more details on MSH and our fundraising events visit www.michaelsobellhospice.co.uk

or call the Fundraising Office on **020 3826 2367**

Email: mshevents@michaelsobellhospice.co.uk

Facebook: /michaelsobellhospice

Twitter: @MSobellHospice



Northwood Nostalgia - responses

In response to Paul Barker's reminiscences of the Waitrose site, Stuart Johnson wrote,

"Paul Barker's memory has got things a little jumbled in the summer newsletter.

"Colliver-Fisher was Northwood's long-established car dealer. Their showrooms were in the building on the corner of Green Lane and Eastbury Road that was latterly Blockbuster and most recently Hard 8. Their garages and workshops were where Waitrose is now, on what was known during the pre-Waitrose planning battle as the Downside site. The coal yard, though, was on the up (east) side of the railway, where the station car park is now. Although coal ceased to arrive by rail in 1966, the coal merchants (latterly Charringtons and WG Charles & Co) continued to be based there for many years, using the offices in Station Approach now occupied by the barbers and Ace cars.

"The Greengrocers at the bottom of the hill in Green Lane was

Allens - I think there was a bigger one higher up, where Cook is now, but I too can't remember what it was called. There was also Northwood Fruiterers on the north side of the road at number 63, now Regal Kebab.

"I don't claim to have a photographic memory - I have in front of me the 1975 edition of Kemp's Directory of Ruislip-Northwood! At that time the mystery Green Lane shop, between MacFisheries and Sketchleys, was occupied by Wests (Butchers), but I think it became a greengrocers later."

And Jean Macfarlane's memories go back further:

"Paul asked the name of the Greengrocer's in Green Lane; the family of Arthur Holmes ran that, also a shop in Northwood Hills. Arthur and his wife were long-term friends of my parents. They all belonged to an old-time dancing club in Hallowell Road and all grew prize chrysanthemums in their front gardens!! That was from 1948."

Any more memories of the old days? Contributions always welcome! Editor

We usually publish news from Northwood and District U3A; this time we learn more fully what U3A is all about.

U3A STANDS FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE.

Founded over 35 years ago, the U3A movement aims to encourage groups of older people to come together to enjoy life-long learning in subjects of interest to them. Each U3A pays a membership fee to the national coordinating body, The Third Age Trust. Most importantly, each U3A is an absolutely autonomous entity, self-financing and self-managing, and there are now over 1000 U3As in the UK.

The U3A is not the sort of University you might expect; there are no qualifications or degrees required or awarded, rather, each U3A is a group of people in their third age who enjoy learning for its own sake, covering a wide range of topics and activities as chosen by their members.

THE 'THIRD AGE' is defined as a time in your life where you can undertake learning for its own sake. There is no minimum age but there is a focus on people who are no longer in full-time employment.

Because retired people have a lifetime of experience and, collectively, a vast amount of knowledge, each U3A can arrange a programme of subjects where each meeting is normally led by a member of the group with a strong interest or specialist knowledge. There is no distinction between the learners and the teachers – everyone could take a turn at being both if they wished.

NORTHWOOD AND DISTRICT U3A currently has over 700 members, and has around 50 interest groups, covering a wide range of subjects including languages, theatre and museum visits, current affairs, art and photography, walking, sports and many more. If an interest group becomes oversubscribed, a spin-off group is encouraged to form under a new leader, and similarly, members who are looking for a subject not currently available are helped to form their own interest group.

There is a monthly meeting, usually with an invited speaker, at Fairfield Hall in Northwood Hills, and each group meets either at Fairfield Hall, members' homes or other suitable locations, as frequently as the leaders decide.

u3asites.org.uk/northwood

Alan Lester

1st Northwood New Scouting Centre

Our builders have been very fortunate with the weather and have made great progress through the summer with our new foundations. All the piles have been sunk, and all the ground beams have been cast – these are the horizontal concrete beams that sit on top of the piles to make a lattice. They are now half way through the block and brick work to bring all the ground beams up to the same level, on which they will place the floor slab.

Completion of the foundations is forecast for mid-November, and the new hut structure should be assembled on site by Christmas.

We are broadly on target with spending against our budget, but there are many areas of work for fitting out and external groundwork still to be specified and costed. We are therefore continuing with our fundraising efforts to ensure we can finish the job to a high standard.



To see more pictures of the progress of the work, or to make a donation, please visit our website at:

<https://www.1stnorthwoodscouts.org.uk/>

Richard Plume
Scouting Centre Project Manager



News From Your Local Horticultural Society

EASTBURY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

held its annual show on June 30th at Eastbury Farm School. Its hall brimmed with a riot of beauty and colour from flowers, fruits, veg, cacti etc. while the

Homecraft table was laden with produce. As ever, we are indebted to our wonderful judges, Gerry Edwards, Aurie Anderson and Carole Hamwijk. Thanks also go to County Councillor Frances Button who gave out the prizes and to the Headmistress of Eastbury Farm School, Miss Workman, for encouraging the school children to enter their fantastic Cress Heads and mini farm gardens. Well done to Manil Vaja in Year 1 who won the Children's Cup. Congratulations also to Stephen Lee who won the Banksian medal and to Safia Khan, Carole Scott & Peter Leppert, Kathy Tooley, Wyn Kudish, Hilary Comber, Asmita Hynes for their super winning entries.

A display of stunning veg grown in the school's bio-dome by the Eco Council of Greenfields School in Oxhey also wowed. Altogether a wonderful afternoon celebrating the delights of gardening and home cooking!

The autumn/winter programme started with a very successful Plant Sale in September and two enjoyable speaker evenings: we heard about the seamier side of life at Sissinghurst and, more recently about bats in our very own gardens!

We have another Gardening Quiz, on 29th January and a visit from Rosy Hardy of Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants on 25th March.

We welcome new members; please contact Tim Ellison
email: ehs.members@gmail.com or
Tel: 01923 822162



Christmas Fair will raise money to fight cancer

Paul Strickland Scanner Centre is an independent medical charity at Mount Vernon Hospital which carries out monitoring and diagnosis of people with mainly cancer, but also other serious conditions using CT, MRI and PET/CT scanners as well as medical research. The charity has to raise money in order to update its scanning equipment continually and help make sure that patients receive the best possible treatment and care.

Volunteers are putting on a Christmas Fair in aid of the Paul Strickland Scanner Centre. The event will feature crafts,

painted gifts, a tombola, jewellery, cards, mince pies, refreshments and more.

Date: Sunday 25th November

Time: 1.30pm to 5pm

Venue: Kate Fassnidge Community Hall, 76 High Street, Northwood, HA6 1BJ. Free admission.

For more information about PSSC
appeals@stricklandscanner.org.uk
 or call: 01923 844290

www.stricklandscanner.org.uk

Northwood Live at Home Scheme

It has been a busy summer for the Scheme as it continues its 21st year of supporting older local residents to reduce isolation and enhance their enjoyment of life. In addition to the many regular activities, there were outings to Margate, a canal boat trip with lunch, a shopping trip to Dunelm Mills and a visit to Woburn Safari Park. This outing was open to members' and volunteers' families to enable the different generations to enjoy each other's company. The Scheme is keen to promote events with intergenerational interaction which is beneficial to all concerned.



Tony Ellis presents NRA cheque to Jo Wild

A DAY AT THE SEASIDE. On 5th September 37 members, staff and volunteers enjoyed a day out in Margate. The charity is grateful to the **Northwood Residents' Association** who kindly donated £500 towards the cost of the coach for this

outing; the coach was brand new and extremely comfortable. Sadly, the weather wasn't perfect but everyone made the most of their visit. A fish & chip lunch was the favourite choice on arrival. Those with good mobility were able to visit Margate's mysterious Shell Grotto and most people took

advantage of the proximity of the Turner Contemporary Gallery on the seafront to view the current exhibition.

Outings such as this give older local residents the opportunity for a beneficial and safe day trip they might otherwise find difficult to manage. The two oldest Live at Home participants are in their 99th year and the youngest volunteers were two Northwood College leavers.

"It was good to get out of my four walls and have a whole day out with friends"

"Thank you for a very enjoyable day. It was very relaxing with no stress and it breaks the routine!"

Comments from members

Thank you, Northwood Residents, for supporting your older community in this way. It is very much appreciated.

Our **Wednesday Lunch Club** has a new caterer and the menus are proving extremely popular. For a full list of our regular activities or a copy of our newsletter, please contact the office – details below.

We have several new members, some of whom would love a befriender. Membership is free and open to anyone in our community over 60 still living independently.

To find out more about us and to get involved, please contact the office: Tel: 01923 842494

Email: Northwood.LiveatHome@mha.org.uk

www.mha.org.uk/community-support/live-home/northwood

Jo Wild, Chairman

Northwood Lawn Tennis Club recently held a party to celebrate a successful Summer season in the Watford and District League. Our ladies' and men's first teams both won their divisions and next season will be playing in division 1 and division 2 respectively. The mixed first team came second and as a result will be promoted to division 2.

THE CLUB TOURNAMENT FINALS were held on 10th September. The girls' singles was won by Hannah Ghosh and the runner-up was Hermione Peart. The boys' singles winner was Harry Williamson who overcame Alex Andelkovic in a close match.

The ladies singles title went to Cathy Pilborough and the runner-up was Angela Ghosh. In the ladies doubles Angela joined forces with Alita Davern to overcome her daughter, Hannah and partner, Anisha Shah. The men's singles was a real roller coaster with Duncan Chorley scraping through by the skin of his teeth against Lazar Andelkovic. The men's doubles went to Fergal Davern and John Ghosh who beat Lazar and his partner, Guiseppe Messina.

The mixed doubles final was won by Alita Davern and Duncan Chorley against Angela and John Ghosh. The veteran's mixed doubles winners were Alison Cameron and Roddy Ward who triumphed against Sue Jones and Andy Smith.

The presentations were followed by a BBQ attended by around 60 members and friends.

Play continues through the Winter months with a tournament and matches and also several social events.



Duncan Chorley



Cathy Pilborough

If you would like any information about the club please email:
david-cameron5@sky.com

Mount Vernon Hospital Comforts Fund

Would you like to help your local hospital by volunteering for a charity dedicated to raising money which goes directly to supporting patient care at Mount Vernon? We have been established for over 80 years and all of the profits raised from our shops, trolley and tea bar are available to wards and departments to help them continue to provide patient care to the highest possible standard.

We are now planning a positive future for our areas and would like your help if you have a few hours to spare. Our existing volunteers enjoy their time here and full training and support will be given to those who may be able to commit some time to help. There are immediate opportunities within our tea bar and sweet shop, but if you feel that the charity shop, book shop or trolley service would be of more interest to you, we would be pleased to talk to you.

We endeavour to help all areas of the hospital involved in patient care and over the course of the year, we are able to support the purchase of £80,000 to £100,000's worth of equipment not readily funded through NHS budgets. Please do consider joining us, make some new friends and support the patients and staff at Mount Vernon.

Please leave your details on 01923 844629 and we will contact you or email: lesley.almond1@nhs.net

Jan Sutton BEM
Chairman, Comforts Fund

Northwood Lions Club



NORTHWOOD LIONS CLUB

is having another busy year! We had stalls at four summer Fêtes - Eastcote House Gardens, Uxbridge Auto Show, Eastcote Cricket Club and Pinner Village Show.

This October we held another of our popular Quiz Nights, kindly hosted by David Lloyd Club in Northwood - the event was very enjoyable, and we're hoping it will become a regular Autumn fixture in our fundraising calendar.

Our main source of income is the Saturday Market at **195 Pinner Road** (near the Iron Bridge), which is as much a regular social occasion as a weekly sale - do pay us a visit on any **Saturday morning** - you'll be amazed at what we do there! With the funds we raise from the Saturday Market, we have been delighted to be able to give £2,000 each to: Acorn Youth Club, Centrepoint, Halo Childrens' Foundation, The Peter Pan and Wendy Ward at Hillingdon Hospital, Grangewood School and the Hillingdon Brain Tumour Group. We usually donate money in this way twice a year, and it's



Happy Beneficiaries!

always very humbling to hear of the good work done by all the charities we support.

Like Lions Clubs all over the world, Northwood Lions Club exists to raise money (and have fun doing it), which we then give away to local good causes. We also try to benefit our local community in any way we can - do let us know if you'd like to get involved.

Robert can be contacted on **07860 324395**
www.northwoodlions.org.uk

Robert Green



Advent & Christmas at Holy Trinity

Thursday Evenings through December, 8-9pm, **Journey to Bethlehem** - an hour of guided meditation and prayer.

Sat 1 December, 2-4pm Christmas-themed Messy Church for children and parents, Church Hall

Sunday 2 December, 10am - Christingle (supporting Children's Society)

Sunday 9 December - Advent 2 (supporting Tearfund)

Thursday 13 December - Carols@Costa (6.00-7.30 pm). Costa Coffee

Sunday 17 December - Advent 3 (supporting Michael Sobell)

Carol Service by Candlelight at 6.00 pm

Sunday 23 December - Advent 4 (supporting United Society Partners in the Gospel)

Blue Christmas Service at 4pm

Monday 24 December - Christmas Eve

Children's Nativity at 4.00 pm

Midnight Communion at 11.00 pm

Christmas Day - Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion at 8.00 am

Christmas Day - Community Eucharist at 10.00 am

Holy Trinity Church
Gateway Close, Northwood HA6 2RP
Tel: 01923 822990
Web: www.htnorthwood.co.uk



Northwood United Synagogue moves into the Autumn with a full and varied programme of activities aimed at the entire community, all religions and none. Under the umbrella name of the '**Northwood Hub**' there is regular Table Tennis (every Tuesday), Bridge (every Thursday at 7pm) and a number of lunchtime music recitals by students of the Guildhall School of Music. Their lecture programme for 2019 includes a 10-part lecture series by the WEA (Workers Educational Authority) on the History of Jews in England from 1066 (2pm on Wednesday from 9th Jan)

For more information:

Tel: 01923 820004

Web: www.northwoodus.org

21-23 Murray Road, Northwood, HA6 2YP



Northwood Methodist Church

At the end of August, we said goodbye to our minister, Rev. Roger Dunlop and welcomed our new minister, Rev. Andrew Pottage at the beginning of September. He is also the superintendent of the Harrow and Hillingdon Methodist circuit.

On Sunday 16th September we held our harvest festival when the

church was beautifully decorated, and gifts were brought for the Hillingdon food bank. Then on 'Silver Sunday', celebrating the lives of older people, October 7th, we invited members of Northwood Live at Home scheme to our morning service followed by lunch.

CHRISTMAS AT NMC

Christmas Messy Church is on Saturday 1st December at 5pm when children between the ages of 3 and 11, accompanied by an adult, are invited to come for a craft session and a short service followed by a meal.

December 16th at 4pm is our Candlelight Carol service, everybody is welcome to come.

We will be having community carols on Christmas Eve at 4pm when all are invited to come and sing favourite carols.

At 11pm on Christmas Eve we will hold our Midnight communion service. Our Christmas Day service is at 10.30am which will be family orientated. Everyone is welcome to come to either or both of these services.

Fancy a 'cuppa' while shopping in Northwood? Why not pop into our Oasis Lounge café, with free WiFi. We are open from 10am to 12noon Wednesdays to Saturdays, the friendly volunteers would love to see you.

For details of hiring our premises please contact our church administrator.

We wish you all a happy and blessed Christmas.

Oaklands Gate, Northwood HA6 3AA

Tel: 01923 840633

email nmc@totalise.co.uk

www.northwoodmethodistchurch.org

News from St John's URC

THE TUESDAY CONCERTS continue to bring music and fellowship to Hallowell Road every third Tuesday of the month between 11.30am and 12.00. Come along at 10.30am to enjoy a coffee or tea and chat beforehand. The line up from November to March is as follows:

20 November: Giacomo Banella, ensemble

18 December: Christmas carols

15 Jan: David Banbury, bass & Geoffrey Whitworth, piano

19 February: Geoffrey Whitworth, piano

19 March: Deborah Holden, Mezzo soprano & Graham Wheeler, piano

Are you a **budding actor**, aged 16 years and older, looking to practise your skill or enhance your CV? Then we've got just the event for you. A group of local playwrights has started a group to trial out unpublished and newly published plays in public readings to see how they work on stage. If you are interested in reading scripts in front of an audience, please email David Stroud, davidstroud07@gmail.com, also if you would like to submit a play or monologue.

Fancy being a **theatre critic**? The first script-reading event will take place on Saturday 9 February 2019 from 3.30pm to 5.30pm. Tickets will be £5 (£3 concession) including

refreshments. This will be immediately followed by a free **local author celebration**.

Following their successful exhibition in July, **Art for Everyone**, will be displaying their latest creations from Monday 18 to Saturday 23 February, 10am to 5pm (Thurs 10am to 12.45pm).



Other activities during the month, which you can drop in on:

Poetry Appreciation – first Monday of the month, 2pm - 3.30pm

Sew & Sew – every Tuesday afternoon, 1pm - 3pm

Art for Everyone – first and third Wednesday of the month, 9.30am - 11.00am

Reading Group – 6-weekly on Friday afternoons between 2.15pm and 3.30pm

For further information about any of the above:

Telephone: 01923 829166

Website: www.urcnorthwood.org

or email Anne: thesamsonsed@outlook.com

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Moor Park Decorative & Fine Arts Society

Forthcoming talks, open to all

Wednesday 21 November 'A Cornucopia of Christmas Customs' by Jane Tapley

Just a Victorian invention? Many traditions have much earlier origins. This light hearted lecture reveals all.

Venue: The Great Barn, Manor Farm Site, Ruislip, HA4 7SU

Time: 10:50am; coffee/tea available from 10:15am

Wednesday 16 January 2019 'Let there be Light' by Alexandra Drysdale

How artists have painted temporal and spiritual light through the Ages. Science and Art move forward together in their quest to understand light.

Wednesday 20 February 2019 'Aqua Triumphalis Pageantry and the River Thames' by Peter Warwick

The Thames has inspired artists, architects and even Royalty. This lecture is a riverscape of history from the Tudor age to the present day.

Venue for Jan and Feb: Winston Churchill Theatre, Ruislip, HA4 7QL at 10:50am; complimentary coffee/tea available from 10:15am; Free car parking available

Cost: donation on the door of £5.00 each is invited; Contact: moorparkdfas.com



SOUTH OXHEY CHOIR of BBC TV fame is celebrating its 10th Anniversary with many events taking



place. In the hot summer we performed on the Bandstand in Cassiobury Park in Watford and had a very successful Gala in July at St Matthews Church, Bushey. We performed in Kingston-upon-Thames in October, and our Christmas Concert, at St Michaels and All Angels, Mildred Avenue, Watford is on 8th December.

For more details call Ann Cox on 07852 369 935

Email: southoxheychoirs@gmail.com

<https://sochoirs.wordpress.com/>

We are also hoping to be in the Northwood Area in 2019. So do look out for news.

Wishing you all good health and a Happy Christmas from South Oxhey Choirs.



Sobell Bridge Club Northwood - Beginner's Bridge Course

If you can name the four suits in a deck of playing cards then you have the ability to play bridge. The surprise is that you don't need to be a genius to play and enjoy bridge, and the prize is social evenings at home with friends, playing at a friendly bridge club at various levels, and bridge weekends away in UK or abroad, all of which enhance your social circle.

This course is for absolute beginners or those "rusty returners" who have played bridge a long time ago and wish to learn again. Consisting of ten two hour lessons, each lesson has two parts, the first direct teaching, helping you to understand particular aspects of the game and the second part playing hands to put what you have learned into practice.

The course is based on the English Bridge Union's book "Beginning Bridge", which is included in the course price of £120, and is run by our friendly English Bridge Union qualified tutor, Theresa Murray-Bates, with other club members assisting to ensure that support and tuition is also given in small groups. **There is a free taster lesson on 11th January.**

If you are interested in enrolling on this course, or want further details, please contact Theresa by email: theresa.murraybates@gmail.com, or see our website www.sobell-bridge.org.uk

Venue: The Michael Sobell Centre, Mount Vernon Hospital, HA6 2RN.

Art and Craft Activity Club

Mother toddler club
Ages 1-4yrs

After-school club
Ages 5-11 yrs

St. Luke's Pinner Parish Hall
Pinner (Term-time and holidays)

Northwood Methodist Church
Northwood (Term-time and holidays)

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"The aim of every profession should be its own extinction."



A brave statement made by a former president of the British Dental Association. Such is the human instinct for self-preservation that I suspect the poor bloke never got re-elected. Legal colleagues deny the possibility of their extinction on the grounds of eternal presence of good and evil. The painful evil of dental disease is a little easier to overcome with a small injection of will power. It is a simple matter of locking up your sugar, regular wielding of your toothbrush and a daily potion of appropriate mouth wash. Not forgetting the six-monthly counsel of your Dental Surgeon and the Hygienist.

The above statement has never been more true about the dental profession, than now. Advances in electric tooth brushes, fluoride as well as minerals to repair enamel included in modern tooth pastes mean that your six-monthly dental check-ups should be uneventful.

I thoroughly enjoy the creative aspect of my work but at times of soul searching, I feel like a charlatan deriving a living from a human affliction that can so easily be eradicated. However, that is the state of play as it stands unless we start giving the health of our mouths as much importance as our major organs.**Vik Shah, Dental Surgeon**



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Northwood Live at Home Scheme

invites you to their fundraising Musical Evening.
 Saturday 24th November, from 7.15pm
 Holy Trinity Church hall.
 Tickets £40 to include champagne reception, two course meal and dancing to **Big Bill & the Write-Offs**. (60s Rock etc)
 Contact: 01923 829939 - hurry, we sold out last year!



Want to know what's on in Northwood?
 Just head to the NRA website:

www.northwoodresidents.co.uk

To advertise in the NRA newsletter, please contact the advertising manager:

ads@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Ruislip, Northwood & Eastcote Local History Society

19 Nov: **From Blackwall to Bishop Rock -**

Britain's historic lighthouses; Tom Nancollas

21 Jan: **West House, Heath Robinson and the HR museum;** Cynthia Wells

Meetings are held on Mondays in St Martin's Church Hall, High Street, Ruislip at 8.15pm.

For more information, please contact **The Programme Secretary** on **01895 673299**.
rnelhs.org.uk



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