



Northwood

Residents' Association

Newsletter 165, July 2016



The Polka Dots

We did it!
We proved that the community can join together to enjoy an open-air music event - in spite of an awful weather forecast. In the event we had a wonderful sunny afternoon. We hope that those who came to Music & Picnic in the Park enjoyed it as much as we did.



Land of Hope & Glory



Ebony Steel Band



Yiewsley & West Drayton Brass Band



Mayor & Mayoress of Hillingdon, Cllr John Hensley and Mrs Diane Hensley



More photos on Page 8



We survived! Ann, Miles, Tony, Leo and Richard

From the NRA Chairman

INTRODUCTION

As you will have heard at the Annual General Meeting, my succession plans were thwarted as Fiona Blackwell has had to resign for personal reasons. It is absolutely essential to the wellbeing of the NRA that my replacement is found very soon as I am not able to continue as Chairman for a ninth year. Is there a member who is prepared to understudy me for the rest of the year and then take over?

We are also in need of new Road Stewards. We are indebted to these residents who are the arteries of the NRA. Will you **volunteer? The task is not onerous. (See Paul Barker's report on page 4)**

On to a lighter note:-

HM THE QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION Music & Picnic in the Park on 12th June was a resounding **success. Mother Nature was kind to us and the morning's** torrential rain cleared by 2pm and the sun burst through the clouds. Taking the decision to press on with the event was not easy, but it paid off. The Rev. Johnny Douglas of Emmanuel Church said that he had been praying all morning for the rain to stop and his prayers were answered.

The music programme, arranged by Ann Purcell, was extremely good and some of our residents obviously took their picnics very seriously. The children were well entertained by Mr Marvel.

Events such as this take a tremendous amount of planning and involved the organising committee (Leo Mindel & Andrew Riley of Northwood Hills and Richard & Ros Plume, Ann Purcell, Miles Gillman and yours truly of Northwood), the local Scouts stalwarts who provided both manpower and equipment and many others who turned up on the day to help erect and clear the site and act as marshals during the day. Special mention must go to the Northwood Hills Councillor Jonathan Bianco and his ex-colleague Andrew Retter who were on site from early morning to late evening. Thank you ALL for making the event so memorable.

We are very grateful to our sponsors, especially the London Borough of Hillingdon, who contributed £5000 through Ward Funds as well as Sharmans, Ross & Carter pharmacies, Darwin Wellness and Robsons.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our 50th AGM was held on 14th April and approximately 65 members attended in addition to guests and committee members. The minutes can be found on our website. After much discussion, members gave the committee authority to purchase a clock (cost around £4,500) to mark our 50th anniversary. Pictures were shown of the type of pillar clock to be purchased. There was then further discussion as to where to site it and the majority decision was near Robsons on the corner of Green Lane and Maxwell Road. Hillingdon Council has agreed to erect the clock for us, free of charge, and I am now in technical discussion with them. Hopefully it will be in place by the autumn.

The new noticeboard, which was approved, is now in place outside Carters Chemist in High Street.

TFL DEVELOPMENT

As reported at the AGM, the planning application was not heard in April. I have heard several reasons/rumours as to why the hearing did not take place but have been unable to substantiate any of them. When some concrete news is available I will circulate it on the NRA website and noticeboards.

SPEED HUMPS (AKA SPEED TABLES)

There is a lot of resentment against speed tables in Hillingdon. Northwood has particularly intrusive ones in Green Lane and **Kewferry Road. Recently, Imperial College's Centre for** Traffic Studies found that they caused excessive pollution, particularly with diesel vehicles, and that there are much better methods of traffic calming available. *I would very much like to hear your views.*

COMMITTEE AND ROAD STEWARDS

As previously reported, Fiona Blackwell has resigned and I thank her for valuable contribution. We have been fortunate in recruiting Andrew Egan in her place as Environment member. The Committee members continue to work extremely hard on your behalf and I am grateful to them. I would also welcome residents to join us; please contact me if you are interested.

FINALLY

I hope you enjoy the summer and come back refreshed from your holidays!

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

Environment

With spring heading towards summer garden growth is considerable. That means many hedges, trees and low down side shoots from trees bordering our pavements are spilling onto the walkways. It would be really nice if more homeowners and the garden contractors of property maintenance companies could keep the grass verges outside their properties mown, and the over-grown hedges and foliage cut back to give clear passage to **walkers. Your council can't be expected to do everything** and as residents, civic pride and responsibility should be something in which we all can participate.

As a new member of the NRA committee and as a dog owner, I tend to do an amount of walking in the area covered by the NRA, so I notice clean pavements and

streets that look tidy and add to the ambience of the area, just as I notice those that do the opposite. Can you give a few minutes of your time to keep the area in front of your property smart, if you are not doing that already? Thank you.

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

Traffic and Highways

RICKMANSWORTH ROAD AND DUCKS HILL ROAD JUNCTION

At the end of March I heard that “some wire had been embedded in Ducks Hill Road, about 15m short of the traffic lights at this junction”. It was thought at the time that the aim was to reduce the frequency of lights changing when the traffic count of vehicles exiting Ducks Hill Road was low. Having followed this up, I am informed by the council that the work, carried out by TfL, was in fact to repair a control loop, which hopefully will correct the poor phasing of recent times. This appears to have been achieved.

PROPOSED NORTHWOOD DEVELOPMENT BY TfL - TRAFFIC

The council

will again consult with us about improvement proposals.

GREEN LANE

There are signs of the carriageway breaking up in a number of places. A specific problem adjacent to the pedestrian crossing close to The Glen has been identified and reported to the council. Two temporary patches have appeared.

FLOODING

Over the winter and spring there has been significant flooding in parts of Green Lane and Copse Wood Way causing problems, particularly for pedestrians. Some drainage work has been carried out and most problems appear to have been resolved.

LINKSWAY

In April, National Grid Gas began pipe replacement work in Linksway from the junction with Copse Wood Way to outside no.33 (i.e. the whole of Linksway). This is scheduled to continue until 15th August.

traffichighways@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Peter Lansdown

From the Treasurer

SPORT V NUMBERS. It has been suggested that lots of numbers should appear in my Treasurer's report. At the time of writing, we approach Euro 2016 (A football tournament in FIFA's definition of Europe) and a referendum as to whether or not the UK should remain in the EU (A grouping of European Countries as defined by the EU), either of which could be much more interesting subjects. Anyway, both of those are out of bounds (is Golf OK?) for my report, that's just not cricket. English is full of sporting influences, but to keep on track, I mean to stay on a level playing field, I mean to remain focussed (not archery origins I hope), let me return to numbers.

SUBS PEGGED AGAIN. The AGM confirmed our subscriptions remain as a *minimum* of £2 per household. I must stress the word minimum since most of our members pay more, much more in some cases, than that minimum. This means we can sustain the low minimum subscription which has remained the same for a very long time. It is important we are a vibrant organisation with a very high membership as that gives us a greater mandate and voice.

WELL DONE YOU ROAD STEWARDS! It is also important that members views are known so communications with the road stewards or committee members is paramount. I have stated frequently what a good job the road stewards do. They deliver the newsletters and collect the subs all on a voluntary basis so our cost of subs collection is zero. We always investigate new or alternative ways of collecting subs. Some

carry a hefty premium, but one member recently recommended GoCardless which does sound interesting and incurs only a 1% charge. It does require members to have an email address and to register on their secure site, but would provide an alternative means of payment that reduces **the hardest part of the road steward's role, that is collecting subs.** We will investigate if there is interest in such a scheme. It will not be suitable or achievable for all, but one step is to ensure your email address is included on our database with your permission that it can be used for NRA communications. For members who do not have an email address, there is no need to worry, we are happy to collect subs in cash. Similarly, we have no intentions to make newsletters digital only. The important thing is that collecting subs must be as simple for members and road stewards as possible.

HOW SHALL WE SPEND YOUR MONEY? Our largest item of expenditure is in the production of the newsletters. I do believe the full colour version we now produce is a fine product and well worth the additional expense. We are always looking for ways to improve Northwood, so if you have ideas, please do make them known. We would not pay to repair pavements for example, the council should do that and we would suggest they do. But ideas that require funding that is outside of the scope of public bodies would be considered.

treasurer@northwoodresidents.co.uk

David Blowers

NRA Membership

On 29th April this year, the Road Stewards' Reception was held at St Mathews Church Hall, Hallowell Road, and a very enjoyable evening with hot and cold canapes, drinks and chat was had by the 60+ attendees. Why don't you join the fun next year? We are always looking for road stewards to deliver the newsletter three times a year – presently we could use more help for the following roads, so please volunteer:

- ⇒ Buttsmead, Northgate
- ⇒ Halland Way, Clive Parade, Green Lane, Wilford Close, Vantage Mews
- ⇒ Copse Close, Copsewood Way, Lowswood Close
- ⇒ Elgood Avenue, Gatehill Road, Ravenswood Park, Wieland Road, Woodside Road, Shefton Rise, Willow End, Gate End

- ⇒ Maxwell Road, Falcon Close, Hawksworth Close, Dormans Close, Leaf Close, Grangedale Close
- ⇒ Mallard Way, Manor House Drive, Glynswood Place
- ⇒ Reginald Road
- ⇒ Hill Road, Woodgate Cres, Glenshee Court

I look forward to hearing from you!

chiefroadsteward@northwoodresidents.co.uk
or direct email: Paul.barker@bbmc.uk.com

Home Tel: 01923 821036 Mobile: 07946 385 474

Paul I. F. Barker

From our Safer Neighbourhoods Police

NORTHWOOD RESIDENTS, PLEASE TAKE HEED: high value cars are being stolen from your area. Whilst the numbers are very low, the loss of an expensive car can really hurt. It would appear the thieves are using an over-ride device to unlock the car and even start it without the alarm activating. Another method is to steal the car keys from within the house if they are clearly on display. ADVICE - get a crook lock and use it and never leave your keys where they can be taken easily.

Burglaries are not high in your area, but because of your geographical location, thieves will always have an eye looking in your direction. If you have a UPVC door, always double lock it when going out or going to bed. If you **simply lift the handle but don't lock it, your door can be popped open in seconds**. Also, review the security at the back of your house - if you can move around in your garden and not be noticed so can a burglar. Look at your walls, hedges and gates and make them an effective barrier, not a climbing aid.

SGT ALISON FANTON REPORTS: The team has been working towards their promises set by the Ward Panel in March. We have an emphasis on trying to create more engagement opportunities in Northwood between the residents and the local police. In particular we are interested in linking with youth groups. Do you have links to a youth group who would relish the opportunity to meet up with us and talk about personal safety and current issues affecting young people and crime?

The Northwood Ward Panel is always seeking more members too; by joining you can have your say about local policing. Contact me for more details on how to become a member.

So what crimes have been dealt with by the team in Northwood recently?

- A man who took **somebody's** wallet from the counter at Nationwide Bank and stole the money from it before playing the Good Samaritan and **handing it in ... £600 court costs and fines.** He was not such a Good Samaritan and was served up some justice for blatant dishonesty.
- A shoplifter who decided to steal 150 Easter Eggs **from a shop and sell them on ... he was identified by CCTV**, found, arrested, charged. We are still waiting to see what penalty he gets.
- An alcohol shoplifter in Waitrose identified and caught. Just a few of many.



Inspector Rob Bryan

We will be out under the gazebo on Green Lane on various occasions throughout the summer, do come and see us. Tell us about the things you see going on, and we will act on that information. We will continue to keep Northwood a safe and pleasant place to live.

You can now follow Sgt Fanton and her team on Twitter @MPSNorthwood
You can always follow me too @MPShillingNorth and I can always be reached at
rob.bryan@met.police.uk or on 07500 097182

Inspector Rob Bryan

The Jubilee Sports Field

NORTHWOOD COMMUNITY SPORTS FOR ALL was formed as charity in 2003 to promote sport in the local community through use of the Jubilee Sports Field located between the Northwood Cricket Club ground and the Riverside Club, Northwood. The Field was purchased by Fields in Trust (formerly the National Playing Fields Association) using a donation from a local resident and was developed with help from a lottery grant. The field has been used since 2006 by Holy Trinity School and youth groups from Holy Trinity Church.

The field is suitable for outdoor games including junior football, netball and other sports and is available for letting to local community groups through the Holy Trinity Church Office, tel: 01923 822990.

Chris Boulton
Chairman, Northwood Community Sports for All Trustees

TREE PLANTING AT THE JUBILEE FIELD. On a very chilly April day, in between rain showers, Cedar Class from Holy Trinity School went to the Jubilee Field to plant 60 young trees, 50 of which were donated by the Earth Restoration Service and 10 by an ex-parent. As you can see from the photos, the trees have been planted along the fencing on the pond side of the field. We have also applied to the Woodland Trust as we need another 60 trees to finish the job. Many thanks to Mr. Hancock, our school keeper, for organising the acquisition of the trees and making the holes for the trees to go into. **More photos can be viewed in the Gallery section of the school's website:** www.holytrinitynorthwood.org



Mair Henton
Deputy Headteacher, Holy Trinity School

Health Matters

MOUNT VERNON CANCER CENTRE. The most recent Care Quality Commission report was published in 2015 and rated as inadequate the safety of "Medical Care" and "End of Life Care". Two other areas are rated as "Requires Improvement". However Chemotherapy Care is "Outstanding" and Radiotherapy is "Good". The concerns were immediately addressed and remedied and accepted as "Satisfactory". There remain concerns about the state of the old buildings, poor cancer wards and lack of a covered way to the treatment centre.

THE HILLINGDON HOSPITALS NHS FT. The strike by Junior doctors in March led to cancellation of 300 outpatient appointments out of the 3000 planned. Six day case operations were rescheduled. The full impact will be assessed at the forthcoming board meeting.

A&E target is to treat, admit or discharge 95% of patients within four hours. Only 85% was achieved in February bringing the Year-to-Date figure to 92.78%. Hillingdon has 14 major cubicles in A&E, making it the smallest department in NW London. Doctors may be available but no cubicles, so an extension is being planned.

Car parking at the hospital is being extended with 48 additional spaces. Cars will be allowed through the barrier to reduce queuing on the main road.

SEVEN-DAY SERVICES. NW London acute trusts are "early adopters" for four clinical standards to be delivered by April 2017. They have agreed to deliver

- 24/7 access to specific interventions including critical care, emergency general surgery, thrombolysis, urgent radiotherapy, and other services.
- Radiology/diagnostics. Imaging in-patients within 24 hours, and other services.
- Discharge improvement. Use of a single NW London-wide discharge assessment form and other improvements.
- Inpatient model of care. Development of evidence based models of care including consultant requirements. Increased weekend access in primary care has previously proved to be of low value.

health@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Richard Field

Local Policing

Thanks, as always, to Inspector Rob Bryan and Sgt Alison Fanton for their contributions in this newsletter.

Northwood is still a low crime area. As such we have fewer resources allocated to us than other parts of Hillingdon and London generally. This is why it is so important that we as a community ensure that we can help our local Police to maintain the low crime numbers.

Our SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS TEAM (SNT) is dealing **with a range of "minor" crime. As with most public services** the vast majority of local residents do not require police help on a daily basis. A small minority, however, take up a **huge amount of time and resources; if you don't see a police officer on the streets of Northwood it's probably because** they are dealing with an incident of some kind. Trust me, they are there for you when required.

Summer is a great time to reconsider the security of your property and person. There is a vast amount of safety information on the Police website and our local officers are happy to discuss security with you in person, they can even make an appointment to visit you. Or see PC David Bell and PCSO John Usher at our Police surgeries. The June Newsletter of Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch carries some excellent advice about going away and summertime security. See www.hillingdonnhw.co.uk

NORTHWOOD POLICE WARD PANEL. We are continuing to consider local matters alongside the SNT. We are grateful to Cllr Carol Melvin who sits on the panel; please feel free to discuss any concerns with her.

- * The No Turn into Northgate from Ducks Hill Road rule that is frequently ignored is now with Cllr Burrows at Hillingdon and we hope to have a positive resolution shortly. Watch out if you are breaking the law.
- * New parking restrictions will soon be in place (no exact date yet) near the Virgin Active (Riverside) club.
- * Minutes of our meetings are held at Northwood Library.

GET CONNECTED. By joining our joint database Police issues affecting you and the community can be addressed quickly and efficiently. This is the easiest and quickest way to find out what is happening in Northwood and our SNT is keen to keep you informed of current issues via your inbox.

By my calculations fewer than 5% of residents are registered. Whilst we know that a significant number of you may not be online there are opportunities to meet the Police either at Waitrose or under the gazebo on Green Lane outside Costa. Our website and information boards give details of dates and times.

SCHOOLS AND YOUTH CLUBS. Our SNT gives various talks to all age groups at local schools and youth groups. If you are involved in a PTA or a local club and would like them to give a presentation please get in touch.

HILLINGDON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (HNW). A reminder that residents who are members of an active HNW scheme can purchase SmartWater at a cost of £25, a saving of £50 on the normal price; the offer is exclusive to Watch members. Further information about the product and how to obtain it is available via HNW's website www.hillingdonnhw.co.uk

The Police, in collaboration with HNW, have been setting up some new Watches but Northwood is still not covered satisfactorily. Nor can we continue to rely on the older generation of volunteers to keep the momentum going. We have only 37 active watches. The process of setting up or reviving a watch is not complicated. Full details are also available from the above website or by E-mailing HNW's office - all@hillingdonnhw.co.uk.

We are lucky to have local resident Lynette Bridger working so hard to maintain not only Northwood NW but she is also a significant member of the Hillingdon Neighbourhood **Watch board. As if that isn't enough Lynette also sits on the Hillingdon Safer Neighbourhood Board.** She adds huge input on the Northwood Ward panel and I want to thank her for **her commitment. Let's do what we can to help her.**

NORTHWOOD POLICE STATION does exist! **It's on the** corner of Maxwell and Murray Roads. Volunteers man the front desk at time shown below. Here too the number of volunteers has reduced so please think about volunteering to help out. For details contact Reepu Ubi, Uxbridge Police Station, 1 Warwick Place, Uxbridge UB8 1PG
Mobile: 07769 643504

You can contact the Northwood Safer Neighbourhoods Team on Tel: 020 8721 2545 or email: northwood.snt@met.police.uk
web: met.police.uk/Team/Hillingdon/NorthwoodTeam

Chairman, Northwood Police Ward Panel
nwdpolicepanel@gmail.com

Philip Green

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

*Northwood Police Station is open to the public:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 11.00 to 13.00 when the
volunteers will do their best to deal with your issues.*



Cattle return to graze on Poor's Field

It must be summer, the cattle are lying down! Ten cattle have settled down in their summer pasture in Ruislip Woods where they help to maintain the level of the vegetation. This year there are several different breeds.

John Chapman, exceptional cabinet maker of Northwood

At the tender age of seven John was given a set of tools by his old headmaster at Holy Trinity School in Northwood, a visionary man it would now appear. **"I didn't like school much except for the woodwork class. I remember making a shed out of old fish boxes and I would spend hours just planing pieces of wood for practice", John says.**

When he was eight John was asked by the teacher to **take a wooden bench to Green's workshop for repair.** Once he had set foot inside and caught that heady aroma of freshly planed wood he was hooked and knew his destiny. Just seven years later he started his five year apprenticeship with G & J Waterman, a good old fashioned Watford firm, where he learnt his craft from tobacco-chewing bench craftsmen in their sixties and seventies. In 1961 John and his brother **Jeffrey moved in to 77 Hilliard Road or 'The Yard' as it is** affectionately known. From there, the two of them specialised in the restoration of old buildings. Jeffrey on bricks, John on wood. They made quite a team.



In 1985 John was quoted as **saying "I like to think of myself as a traditional village carpenter, who you go to for a cradle, then your furniture and eventually your coffin."** He has achieved all of that and more. Ask St Paul's Cathedral, talk to Holy Trinity Church, walk through the doors of The Gray Laboratory, sit on the tree seat near Northwood's War Memorial, say a simple prayer in the chapel at Mount Vernon Hospital, or just come around to our house.

54 years on, John is still 'down the yard', working solidly at his own gentle pace, his thumbprint firmly embedded on every grain of sawdust; "Mornings only, unless I'm down the allotment". Without fail he always makes it home for a cosy lunch by the Aga, with his wife.

Hugh A. C. Harkness

Hugh has produced an award-winning photo book about John Chapman entitled **"A Chap and His Craft"** which you can view online at: www.bobbooks.co.uk/bookshop/photobook/a-chap-his-craft-3

NEW PLAQUES ON NRA BENCHES.



In December 2015 we noticed that the brass plaques had been removed from both of our circular benches in the town centre, a petty crime that shows no

respect for public property. The bench round the oak

tree was made for the NRA by John Chapman in 1991 and bore a plaque to that effect.

The second bench circles the tree on the corner of Rowland Place; this one was presented by the NRA in memory of committee member, Malcolm Ruddock who died in 2011. Both plaques have now been replaced.



NRA Business Members

The NRA would like to extend a warm welcome to new Business Members:

The Billion Dollar Barbers	32 High Street	Barber
Caff� Casa Mia	36 Green Lane	Caf�
Owl Caf�	13 Station Approach	Caf�

Residents are encouraged to support our many and varied local businesses. For a complete list of Business Members, see the NRA website.

business@northwoodresidents.co.uk

NRA website

www.northwoodresidents.co.uk

Would you like to have a hands-on role keeping our website up-to date? The role includes posting new items, updating existing information, ensuring links to other websites are accurate and keeping a general eye on the website. The work comes in peaks and troughs, but will average about an hour a week. Full training will of course be given. Please contact us if you are interested: info@northwoodresidents.co.uk



Stardust Big Band



North London Military Wives Choir



MCs Mr B and Sharon



Liz from the Coffee Shop
at Emmanuel



Mr Marvel



... and thank you all for turning out in your hundreds

Northwood Residents Love to Party!



GATEHILL'S STREET PARTY. To our delight our evening street party was greeted with sunshine throughout and the hard work of the organising team and volunteers paid off. We had 265 attendees ranging in age from 9 months to 90+ years. Residents brought dishes of food to share, savoury and sweet, and there was a terrific selection of cuisines on offer - mouth-watering stuff and I suspect that I am one of many who ate far more than is good for me. We benefitted from the skills of our residents, enjoying the services of a toastmaster and live music from a local band. There were plentiful raffle prizes and proceeds will be split amongst the charities nominated in advance by attendees. Activities to keep the younger ones occupied included Beat the Goalie, Duck Fishing, an Egg & Spoon Race and Table Tennis; whilst the adults took the opportunity to chat with residents and friends, old and new.

Michael Kaltz

Sunday morning came and so did the rain, but it didn't dampen spirits in the set up for what would be a brilliant day, a few awkward moments putting up the gazebos, but once the band arrived and gazebos were up, the rain became unnoticeable.

Residents came out, enjoyed and danced in the street to amazing live music from band "Any buddy out there" and Katie Stronell. Pimms was flowing, scones with jam were a delight, and toasting giant marshmallows on the BBQ was very sticky.

The children made the most of the road being closed, racing up and down the hill with water pistols.

The party carried on into the evening, finishing with wonderful karaoke singing from the neighbours.

A wonderful day was had by all.

Jennifer Croft



THIRLMERE GARDENS



Residents of GREENHEYS CLOSE were in party mood when they turned out on Sunday 12th June, for their first ever street party, to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday.

Undeterred by the wet start to the day residents of all ages enjoyed activities including crazy golf, Connect 4, musical chairs and a Street Quiz. The sun came out and a great time was had by all!

Paula Neil



HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL celebrated the Queen's 90th birthday at a spectacular event on the school playground. Fortunately the sun shone as children dressed in red, white and blue were able to have their faces painted, eat ice lollies and frozen mango, have a go at knocking down piles of cans, win a book in the book tombola or take part in a penalty shoot out. Their parents and other family members were able to enjoy refreshments while basking in the glorious sunshine. On display were many different artistic interpretations of the Queen created by children and their families using different media including Lego! Entertainment was provided by our newly-formed Street Dance Group and the School Choir. Many thanks to the Parents, Teachers and Friends Association for organising the event.

Mair Henton, deputy Headteacher

Know Your Ward Councillors

Northwood Ward has three elected councillors. Here are their contact details and the positions they hold on Hillingdon Council.

Do you have a question that you would like your councillors to answer in the next NRA newsletter? If so, please send it to info@northwoodresidents.co.uk.



Cllr Scott Seaman-Digby

- ◆ Chairman of the Corporate Services & Partnerships Policy Overview Committee
- ◆ Audit Committee (Vice-Chairman)
- ◆ Registration & Appeals Committee

scott@seaman-digby.com



Cllr Carol Melvin

- ◆ Deputy Mayor of Hillingdon
- ◆ Hillingdon Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

CMelvin@hillington.gov.uk



Cllr Richard Lewis

- ◆ Cabinet Member for Central Services, Culture and Heritage
- ◆ Health and Wellbeing Board
- ◆ Registration & Appeals Committee (Reserve)

RLewis@hillington.gov.uk

01895 250316 - Civic Centre office (9am - 5pm weekdays)
01923 822876 - Northwood Office

Eastbury (and Northwood) Horticultural Society

We are just a small organisation run entirely by volunteers with 130 or so members, but we organise a number of functions each year.

We have one of two bring and buy plant sales held each year. Like stamp collectors, gardeners enjoy swapping plants and the modest amount of money we raise helps to keep our finances buoyant. Those with a penchant for anything horticultural like **nothing better than a day outing to another person's garden whether it be in the hands of the National Trust or some other** equally respected owner. We usually have three such visits each Summer.

An annual week's holiday takes us further afield and whilst some may describe it as a busman's holiday it remains very popular with many members.

No year would be fully complete unless a Flower Show took place and ours is alternated between Spring and Autumn. Umpteen categories have been selected for floral arrangements, fruit and vegetables, homemade preserves and even miniature gardens created by pupils who attend the venue of the show – Eastbury Farm School in Bishops Avenue. From September to March speakers visit to give talks on specialised subjects.

Our members are kept up to date with all of our activities through our newsletter, published several times a year and distributed by a team of Road Stewards. We offer gardening advice to members. All of this for just a £5 annual subscription.

If you would like to find out more please do not hesitate to contact our Secretary, Paul Akers

Tel: 01923 821115 or email: paul1945ginkgo@aol.co.uk



Cllr Lewis demonstrates how it's done!

Northwood Bowling Clubs



We held our Open Day on Sunday 12th June at the club in Chestnut Avenue. Several visitors came along to try their hand at bowling despite the bad weather, and we hope to have gained a few new members. The match between the Northwood and Northwood Hills ward councillors was again won by the Northwood Hills team; the teams have suggested that this becomes an annual event.



Nothing quite says 'English Summer' like the sound of cricket ball on willow... with the possible exception of thunderous downpours. Dodgy weather aside, Northwood Town Cricket Club has proudly represented the local community for many decades now, surviving the same threats that have sadly caused many similar

establishments to fold or merge in recent years.

Thanks to a lot of hard work and perseverance from the volunteers who run the club, we've even managed to expand - resurrecting the Colts Section and putting out three sides to compete in the Hertfordshire Cricket League every Saturday. But it's not enough. That's very much where you come in.

Based in Northwood Recreation Ground we lie very much at the geographical heart of the community we represent and would dearly love more folks to become involved. Whether it be on or off the pitch, and regardless of age, gender or the ability to pick a googly from 22 yards, your support can play a vital part in helping the area to thrive.

On Bank Holiday Monday 29th August, **we're going to** stage a special Open Day at the club from midday onwards and



look forward to meeting and welcoming local residents. The bar will be open, the BBQ will be sizzling and there will be plenty of cricket-themed fun and games, so it's the ideal time to find out more about us.

Here's hoping the sun has his floppy cricket hat on that day!

Web: www.northwoodtowncc.co.uk

Twitter: @NorthwoodTownCC

Email: northwoodtown@gmail.com

Ben Rawson-Jones
Chairman NTCC

What's happening at Northwood Library?

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2016

This year's theme is the **BIG FRIENDLY READ** and celebrates 100 years since Roald Dahl's birth. It will start on Saturday 16th July and is aimed at children aged 4 to 11 years. Children can collect cards, gifts and Starborgs each time they visit the library over the summer.



Children who complete the challenge will receive a medal and certificate. Northwood Library will be holding special children's events throughout the summer, such as making dream jars with the BFG, or discovering the terrible teachers at Matilda's school.

Children who join the challenge will also get free entry to the Roald Dahl museum.

IT. Free IT group sessions for beginners are run every Monday from 10 -11am. Topics covered include email, internet, Word, Excel, Powerpoint, iPad and iPhone. Individual sessions can also be booked for people interested in finding out more about specific topics. Please contact Northwood Library if you would like to join a session.

READING GROUPS. Our two reading groups meet monthly in the library. For August our books will be *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr and *The Shock of the Fall* by Nathan Filer, both highly moving books which explore some of the most challenging difficulties humans can face. Please contact Northwood Library if you would like to join one of the groups.

STORYTIME. Storytime, running during term time at 10am on Wednesdays, is the perfect way to entertain children under five. Sessions include stories, singing and crafts, and are a great place to meet other parents, grandparents and carers.

NEW COLLECTIONS

- ◆ **'Pictures to Share'** - beautiful books full of photos, poems and uplifting words for people with dementia. These books are designed to be read together to encourage communication and reminiscence and help reduce boredom, isolation and difficult behaviour.
- ◆ **'Reading Well'** - a range of self-help books to help you understand and manage your health and well-being. The books are endorsed by health professionals and topics include dementia, and a range of common mental health issues such as depression, anxiety and OCD. A teen collection has recently been added covering subjects such as bullying, anxiety, self-esteem, autism and eating disorders.
- ◆ **LGBT** - a new collection of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender books is planned for the autumn.

Northwood Library
Oaklands Gate, Green Lane, Northwood, HA6 3AA
Tel: 01895 558262
Email: northwood-library@hillingdon.gov.uk
<http://hillingdon.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 Craft Market and Plant Stall

VENUE: Methodist Church Hall, Oaklands Gate,
Northwood HA6 3AA
FORTHCOMING DATES: Saturdays 13th August, 3rd
September, 1st October
TIME: 10am-2pm FREE ADMISSION

THE PLANT STALL - complete with handmade scarecrows! - has proved extremely popular again this year and there will continue to be a selection of seasonal plants at the Market.



FOR CHILDREN, we always have some hands-on crafts for little fingers to make something to take home and there is often face painting too.



We have had several new crafters in recent months at the Craft Market. Their crafts have included various types **of jewellery, knitted dolls' clothes, beautifully painted candles,** silk scarves, 3D framed pictures and more. In addition, our regular crafters are always coming up with new ideas of beautiful items to make, whether it be fabric bags, crocheted **toys, watercolours, children's clothing, knitting, soaps or other** home accessories.

Call in and see us – there are great ideas for beautiful, original gifts, or a treat for yourself. You can take a break in the church coffee shop during the morning for tea, coffee and delicious homemade cakes.

Love your local market!

www.northwoodcraftmarket.co.uk
Like us on Facebook
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Email: northwoodcraftmarket@hotmail.co.uk
Telephone Susan on 07780 601842



Northwood and District U3A

We now have 727 members and at our June meeting we had 227 attendees. We are no longer able to welcome visitors due to the constraint on space. This was a very difficult decision to make but we hope that people will understand the reasons behind it.

We have had some excellent speakers recently but Bill Hamilton's talk entitled **"Man on the Spot"** was wonderful. Bill was a roving news reporter for the BBC and he educated us, made us cry and still made us laugh. What a combination! The queue to buy his books at the end was a testament to the quality of his talk. The money he earns from speaking goes to build schools in deprived countries. Several new groups have been formed. We now have Beginners Bridge, and an additional French Group (for any level). The Card Games

group will play Solo to start with and Canasta later on. The newest group is on The American Elections. This will take us from the past right up to the current fascinating and **somewhat scary happenings of this year's election campaign.**

I will not list all of the other outings, holidays, visits and theatre trips but there should be something there for everybody. If not, your suggestions please!!

I usually end by inviting you all along as visitors to our meetings on the 1st Wednesday of the month at Fairfield church; now you will be obliged to join as we are limited by hall space. Hopefully, this may change slightly in the near future. Watch this space!

u3asites.org.uk/northwood

Maureen Crimmins



Paul Strickland Scanner Centre

We are delighted to report that the Paul Strickland Scanner Centre has been chosen by The Mayor of Hillingdon as one of his charities for the year. The Mayor will be supporting four different charities throughout the year to represent a Journey Through Life.

FORTHCOMING EVENT: On Sunday 11th September, Paul Strickland Scanner Centre will be holding Garden Jazz with Tea in Chorleywood from 2.00pm to 4.30pm, and the ticket price includes a fantastic afternoon tea, with music by BSV Jazz Band, all in a beautiful garden setting. Tickets are £15 for adults, £10 for under 12s and entry is by ticket only. There is plenty of parking available.

Paul Strickland Scanner Centre,
Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood HA6 2RN
Tel: 01923 844290

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @scannercentre
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Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre

... supporting people affected by cancer ...

STEWARTS LAW MOOR PARK 10K
& JUNIOR FUN RUNS

Sunday 25 September 2016

Merchant Taylors' School

Come and join us as we celebrate fifteen years of running to raise money for the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre at Mount Vernon Cancer Centre.

This popular event includes races for all ages and everyone who finishes gets a medal, with trophies for the winning teams. The coveted 2012 Shield will be awarded to the school that enters the most young people in the junior events – the **current holder is St Helen's School.**

As well as the races, this family-friendly day includes a fun fair, bouncy castles and other activities. Every penny that is raised **will go towards the provision of the LJMC's service of support** and information for people affected by cancer.

See you on 25th September!



For more information visit www.moorpark10k.org.uk
or call us on 07779 458285
For more information about LJMC visit www.ljmc.org

Northwood Live at Home Scheme - Calling all musicians!

NORTHWOOD LIVE AT HOME SCHEME exists to support older local people who still live independently, but find it increasingly difficult to get around and may be feeling isolated. Our staff and volunteers organise a range of regular activities to enable our members to socialise, exercise, share healthy meals, participate in outings and generally improve their wellbeing and enjoyment of life. For those unable to get out, we offer a befriending service.

A NEW INITIATIVE for those who are mainly house-bound is to have volunteers with a musical talent visit and entertain our members in their own homes. We are seeking new volunteers who would enjoy doing this; all ages from 16+ are **welcome and training will be given. You don't need to be an expert musician, just sufficiently competent to create enjoyment.**

In April we took a group of members and volunteers away for a short seaside holiday to Eastbourne. The sun shone and a great time was had by all. For one participant it was her first seaside holiday for many years.

On 15th May over thirty members enjoyed a tea party with **music to celebrate the Queen's birthday.**

We now have an activity on every day of the week except Sunday. The recently introduced monthly gentle Lido walk on a Saturday with lunch afterwards is enjoyed by many. In addition to weekly Wednesday lunches, we offer a lighter soup and sandwich meal on alternate Tuesdays, now with a light-hearted singing session after the meal. Those who attend our Music for Health sessions have found them extremely helpful and enjoyable. iPad training and our two exercise classes continue to prove very popular.



Enjoying a Fish & Chip Lunch on Brighton Pier

Our membership is at its highest level to date and so new volunteers are needed for driving, befriending and/or helping with activities and outings. Please contact the office if you are interested.

NEW MEMBERS are always very welcome. Anyone in the Northwood area age 60+ is eligible. Membership is free, but a small charge is made for activities to help cover costs. Transport is provided free of charge for those with mobility problems. If you are interested in joining either as a member or volunteer, our staff would be delighted hear from you.

To find out more about us, please contact the office on 01923 842494.
Email: Northwood.LiveatHome@mha.org.uk
And visit www.mha.org.uk/community-support/live-home/northwood

Jo Wild, Chairman

Mount Vernon Cancer Centre is one of the top Cancer Centres in the country serving a population of 2 million. It supports patients and their carers at every stage of their cancer journey and has over 300 volunteers helping to **improve patients' experiences. This might be meeting and greeting visitors or serving meals on our wards or helping in our Day Centre.**



Angie Jones, former MVCC volunteer

Volunteers range in age from 16 to nearly 90. They are from all different walks of life and each has a reason for helping. People who have taken time out of the workplace to raise a family but now have time on their hands often come to Open Days to see how they can get involved. Volunteering can help them by equipping them with new skills, offering different experiences and building

confidence. This can help them when the time comes to look for paid work.

Angie Jones has just left the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre at Mount Vernon to start a job in marketing at Macmillan Cancer Research. She says: **"MVCC is such a warm and friendly place, and it's wonderful to join such a varied and interesting team. Patients seem to really appreciate that you are giving your time for free - some commented to me that it made them feel more cared for, that people were running these services out of kindness to them.**

"I was able to get involved in all kinds of aspects at MVCC, from helping people prepare for their chemotherapy to how to adapt back to normality once treatment had finished. I learnt skills that I was able to apply in my own life, such as stress management and goal setting. When it came to returning to work, instead of having a 7 year gap on my CV, I actually had 7 years of transferable skills to discuss at interview.

"I definitely would not have had the courage to apply for such a senior role for my first foray back into the world of work, after such a long gap, if it hadn't been for my volunteering. It gave me 7 years of enormous pleasure and satisfaction, and has now paved the way for a whole new chapter in my life. Thank you MVCC"

To find out more, please contact the Volunteer Coordinators:
Tel: 020 3826 2515
Email: volunteeringmvcc.enh-tr@nhs.net

Northwood Lions Club

2016 continues to be a busy year for Northwood Lions Club. We held another store collection at Waitrose in Northwood, and we had a stall at Eastcote House Garden Summer Picnic - which was a very busy and enjoyable event.



In April, we had the first of our twice yearly cheque presentations. The beneficiaries this time were: Admiral Nurses, Michael Sobell Hospice, Harrow Community Transport, CMSS and Sunshine School for the Blind. We donate around £25,000 a year to our chosen charities and have done for the past eight or nine years. This latest event was attended by the Mayor and Mayoress, Councillors George and Judith Cooper, who were kind enough to present the cheques on our behalf, and who also received a £500 donation to this year's Mayor's Chosen Charities.

NORTHWOOD COMMUNITY ARTS will run its annual Circus Skills event in the first week of August. Contact David Hill at ArtReach:

Tel: 01628 675800

Email: david@artreach.biz

We anticipate that a Samba drumming workshop will take place this coming month.

Find out about all of our activities at:

www.northwoodcommunityarts.co.uk

Prior to this, we received a visit at the Saturday Market from Bronwen Jones (pictured left) who runs a charity called "Children of Fire" to which we gave £2,000. Bronwen does fantastic work supporting children who have suffered from severe burns. She gave us a most interesting talk and also made an appeal for fingerless gloves which can be donated to her, care of the Market.

Look out for our stall at Uxbridge Auto Show (July), Eastcote Cricket Club (August) and Pinner Village Show (September), where we not only sell books, DVDs, plants and Lions Tombola, but also enjoy meeting the public and explaining what Lions Clubs do - which is to provide services to the local community, and to raise money and then give it away to local good causes!

Our Saturday Market, the Lion's Den, is open every Saturday morning 9.45 till 11.45 at 195 Pinner Road, Northwood HA6 1DB, near the Iron Bridge, where we raise the vast bulk of our funds.

We're always in need of goods to sell; membership enquiries are always welcome.

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

News from St John's United Reformed Church, Hallowell Road



St John's continues to enjoy the new possibilities opened up by the fabulous refurbishment. A band of dedicated volunteers has also been busy transforming the garden into a colourful haven which all are welcome to drop by and enjoy. Since we last wrote, **St John's and Friends had a successful Golf Day** at which the 'Sinners' beat the 'Saints', just. A few days later, the church was filled with words both written and spoken when around 20 local authors came to share their books and stories with us at the *Meet the Authors* day. Thanks to all those who participated in both events.

Tuesdays @ St John's has had a small but steady attendance, especially at the concerts every third Tuesday of the month.

The programme for the forthcoming six months has been planned as follows:

All events take place in The Well, St John's URC, Hallowell Road between 10am and 12.00pm.

1st Tuesday: Live at Home drop-in for coffee and chat.

2nd Tuesday: Sew and Sew (Northwood Community Arts) - bring your knitting, sewing, crocheting or tapestry along. An

ideal opportunity for those wanting to learn some new techniques whilst socialising with others. All are welcome, with or without needlework. Coffee/tea is 50p.

2nd Tuesdays: July, October and January the sessions led by Community Learning Partnership will include making Summer bunting with die cutters and craft papers and art journaling. The cost of these sessions, including refreshments and materials is £5.00.

3rd Tuesday: **St John's Friends; coffee & chat (£1.00 for drink and biscuits)** including music performance between 11.30am and 12.00pm (free).

The **Reading Group @ St John's** continues to meet on Fridays between 2.15pm and 3.45pm every 6 weeks.

Keep an eye on our notice boards for other events.

Telephone: 01923 829166

Website: www.urnorthwood.org

Email: stjohnsnorthwood@btconnect.com

Email for event info: thesamsonsed@gmail.com

Friends of Michael Sobell Hospice - Events



Michael Sobell Hospice Charity (MSHC) is gearing up for summer and early Autumn, with a variety of fundraising events and challenges to get involved in.

Michael Sobell Hospice Sponsored Walk, Sunday 18th September. The annual Hospice 7-mile walk returns to Moor Park. Take in the breath-taking countryside and canal views along the route with family and friends; walkers of all ages and abilities are welcome to take part. Pooches can even join in too!

Ben Nevis Summit Walk, Friday 12th – Sunday 14th August. Put your body to the test with a team of family and friends, or simply set your own personal challenge in support of the Hospice. Entry fee is

£99pp with a minimum fundraising target of £200. To book your place, or to find out more about this trip, please visit: www.michaelsobellhospice.co.uk/events/186/ben-nevis-summit-walk

Jail & Bail, Friday 7th **October**. **Fancy spending the night in a cell? The charity's popular 'lock-in' event returns, with support from Ruislip Police Station.** You will be locked up for the night and in order to be let out, you need to raise £500 in

sponsorship. An authentic 'locked up' meal will also be provided on the night.

For details, contact Trish Mule on 020 3826 2357 or email tmule@michaelsobellhospice.co.uk

MSHC needs to raise over £1.6 million pounds each year towards local hospice care for patients facing life-limiting illness and their families.

For more details on Michael Sobell Hospice and any of our fundraising events visit www.michaelsobellhospice.co.uk or call the Fundraising Office on 0203 826 2367.

Northwood & District Community Association

How times change! Years ago when we played tennis three times a week at St Mary's School (now Haydon) we had about 40 players, now we play once a week and at most have eight players. New activities take over and a lot of younger people go to gyms on the way home from work. Similarly, I had to join a waiting list for the Sunday Rambling group - when there were about 30 people, now we are reduced to 14 and the walks have got shorter! We hold monthly afternoon strolls on a Wednesday with 30 names on the list, and usually have about 15 walking.

We still have over 280 members enjoying 16 different sections including Yoga, Keep Fit, Table Tennis, Board and Card games and more.

We held a Ploughman's Lunch in June with a royal theme celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday and will hold another one in October and a Quiz in November.

Membership is £5 per annum and the section costs range from 50p to £5 per session depending on hall hire and tutoring costs.

For more information please call 01923 836346
I look forward to hearing from you!

Pat Dunhill

Northwood charity shop celebrates Queen's 90th birthday with cake!

In celebration of The Queen's 90th Birthday, the Michael Sobell Hospice shop in Green Lane, received a special cake for its window display in June, kindly donated by local bakery, Wenzels.





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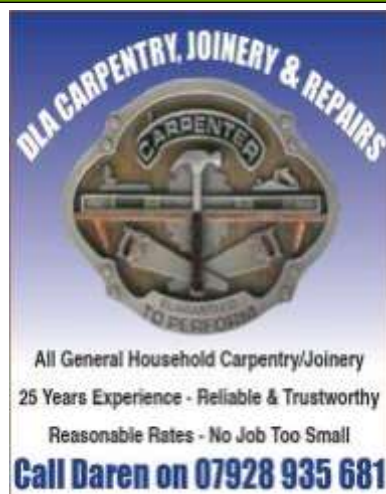
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