

Northwood Residents' Association

Newsletter 141



June 2008

From the Committee

We the people of Northwood have expectations of our Local Authority; that they should be mindful of our wellbeing; diligent to meet our needs and effective in the discharge of their duties.

However, we the Northwood Residents' Association Committee have seen at first hand how these expectations are lost in a sea of bureaucratic muddle, delay and indecision.

We are watching the gardens and trees of Northwood being laid to tarmac to provide parking for new flats; the traffic is evolving into tidal waves of new 'rat-runs' to respond to poor traffic planning for the ever-increasing urban density from these flats and developments.

But every development is argued on its own merits – the collective impact is poorly considered in complex and theoretical consultative documents that have not anticipated the economics of the 'free market' that fails to value gardens but values plots highly.

Perhaps the legacy of Northern Rock and the credit crunch will be a few more trees spared in Northwood – unless, of course, the Council continues the chainsaw-based beautification plan.

We can see from example that the first, and only outcome of the Northwood Improvement Plan has been to chop down the tree outside Barclays Bank, in part because "it obscured the view of the CCTV camera".

That the 'Safe Route to School' initiative has delivered - nothing - and only this week a child was struck by a car in Kewferry Road despite three years of 'consultation' with the designated Council Officer; followed by the advice, informally, that the only way to get anything done is to sponsor a petition of parents.

The speed of traffic in Rickmansworth Road is either at a snail's pace or far too fast; the solution – a speed camera in the only place where it is impossible to speed; and as a masterstroke a 'hidden' speed advisory sign opposite the south gate of Mount Vernon Hospital. Despite many years of discussion with Mr Webster of Hillingdon Council and the Police, we are faced with ping-pong of who can decide what - result: – no result. But at least Mr Knowles of Hillingdon Council has recently responded promptly to some of our questions so perhaps we may see some progress. (See Page 6)

We wrote to the Police about the consultation process on the proposals for Northwood Police Station – no reply, not even an acknowledgement – did they even take down our particulars?

So why are we ignored and misled? In part because Hillingdon Council is badly managed, unfocussed and driven by a mass of political and procedural no-go areas. But also because we are not seen as authoritative representatives of the community.

Our Chairman will be writing to the Leader of the Council to assert the need for improved performance by Hillingdon Council Officers and to recognise that we represent a membership of nearly 50% of the households of Northwood.

But importantly, if you agree with all or even some of these concerns – join the Northwood Residents' Association

– look at our website
[www.northwoodresidents.co.uk]
and give us your point of view
– it is time we put some shot in our powder when dealing with your Council.

CONTENTS

Page 1
• From the Committee

Page 2
• Chairman's Report
• Membership

Page 3
• Health
• Planning

Page 4
• Environment
• Police

Page 5
• BT Kiosks
• Pollution in Woods
• Website
• New Benches
• Déjà Vu

Page 6
• Met Line
• Traffic & LBH

Page 7
• Northwood SNT
• NLAH scheme
• Craft Market

Page 8
• Lions
• Age Concern
• Community Ass'n

Page 9
• Councillors' Corner
• Post Office

Page 10
• Adverts
• What's On
• Contacts

Chairman's Report

The Reindeer public house has been sold, and demolished. As yet there has been no planning application for the site. However, informed opinion seems to be that with the purchasers mainly dealing with luxury flat development further flats in Northwood seem most likely.

The Ducks Hill Farm Appeal hearing on the 15/16th January resulted in a victory for the London Borough of Hillingdon (LBH) and NRA with The Inspectorate turning down the appeal to build 12 properties on what is rightly considered by LBH to be a Green Belt site.

Our AGM, held on March 18th at St John's Church Hall was very well attended with well over 100 members present plus two of our elected Ward Councillors. Nick Hurd spoke on the future of Mount Vernon Hospital following the presentation to the Minister of Health of the petition to 'Save Cancer Services at Mount Vernon' signed by 77,780 people. He was optimistic for future prospects for the Cancer Centre. He also warned us to be prepared for further development of the site, possibly including some housing.

Up to date news is that the campaign has been successful and the Cancer Centre is now safe. Further MVH news involves Hillingdon Hospital transferring some 80% of its elective surgery to newly built premises at Mount Vernon Hospital later this year.

David Knowles, LBH Service Manager for Improvement Projects and Denis Chamberlin, Engineering Manager gave an illustrated presentation on the possibilities for Improving Green Lane, Northwood using the £200K grant which has been allocated for that purpose.

NRA Vice-Chairman Miles Gillman manfully dealt with your tirade of questions. My personal thanks go to Miles for deputising for me.

Encouraged by the AGM turnout, we are considering the idea of having **another open forum meeting** in the Autumn. We'll keep you informed of progress.

Committee members. Since our last newsletter we have welcomed onto the Executive Committee Tony Ellis and Malcolm Ruddock. In addition, David Peppett now represents the Dene Road Residents' Association on the committee. There still exists a space or two for interested members – don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to be involved.

New Position for Lisa Maclay. Lisa has served the NRA in a number of capacities over the last 20 years, most recently as Chairman of the Environment sub-committee. Following the AGM, she handed that responsibility over to Barry Crowe so that she could take on the job of NRA Press and Public Relations Officer.

Unfortunately, due to personal circumstances, our **Planning officer**, Alan Klein, is now unable to deal with this very important aspect of our organisation. Past officer, Alan Prue, has agreed to "sub" as much as his limited time will allow until NRA can find a permanent replacement. [See ad on Page 3] Finally, a resignation. Dr Keith Baker with the assistance of his wife instigated the "Improving Northwood Scheme" some three years ago. Keith has relentlessly pursued a lethargic LBH, only recently beginning to see some positive reward for his efforts. With Keith spending less and less time in Northwood, he has decided to leave the committee and it is with regret, but sincere thanks we bid him adieu.

Colin Harris

Membership

It's good to talk

In an age of ever-increasing reliance on technology – and yes, you can read your newsletter on our website – the newsletter can reach the whole household if it is delivered through the door. It could also provide an opportunity to share ideas with someone who lives in your road – why not lighten the load of your road steward by offering to deliver to members in part of your road?



The envelope scheme can make the job of collecting subscriptions almost painless! If you do receive a request for your subscription by envelope please remember that you CANNOT post the envelopes - they do need to be returned by hand - Road Stewards normally live only a few houses away.

We are still short of road stewards in the Ducks Hill Road area: nos 9-61 and 20-24, The Avenue, Chelwood Close, Eaton Gate, Wedgewood Close, and Manor House Drive. Also for the Green Lane end of Dene Road. If you can help, please do contact me.

*Sue Boulton
Chief Road Steward*

And a plea from Treasurer, David Wilson: It would be really helpful if road stewards could try to collect subscriptions earlier in the year, say by the end of August. Thank you.



Health Matters

Bowel Cancer Screening: About one in 20 people in the UK will develop bowel cancer during their lifetime. It is the third most common cancer in the UK and, sadly, over 16,000 people die from it each year. However, early detection can often lead to a cure for this cancer. The Government will be inviting everyone aged 60-69 to be screened for bowel cancer. The test is free and can be carried out in the privacy of your own home with a kit supplied by the NHS. Anyone aged 70 or over, who would like to request a screening kit, should call Freephone 0800 707 6060. If you would like a leaflet giving further information about Bowel Cancer Screening, telephone 08701 555455, or email dh@prolog.uk.com, quoting 273372/Bowel Cancer The Facts.

The Mount Vernon Treatment Centre is due to open in January 2009 with 4 operating theatres, 14 day case beds, 12 short stay beds and 24 inpatient beds. The Centre is to be integrated into the Princess Christian Unit, which will avoid having to wheel patients outside between the two centres.

The Paul Strickland Scanner Centre is the first UK site to install a Siemens Syngo Suite. This is an integrated Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS) and a Radiology Information System (RIS). PACS provides computerised storage and retrieval of scan film records which means that reports can be quickly disseminated to colleagues. RIS integrates fully with the PACS and provides a more modern and robust approach to holding and managing important patient and examination details and supporting the crucial diagnostic reporting of the radiologists.

The Scanner Centre has installed the latest Siemens SOMATON Definition 64-slice CT scanner. With double power and double speed, whole body images can be completed in seconds. In addition, the latest GE PET/CT scanner of advanced design is being installed in the Centre. To house these new scanners, a new building has been erected on the existing site. The Paul Strickland Scanner Centre relies on support from the public. To make a contribution, contact the Centre on 01923 844290.

The Mount Vernon Radiotherapy Centre has now been officially opened.

Hospital Transport. The Hillingdon and Royal Free Hospitals can be accessed from Mount Vernon Hospital by a Minibus service. Ten minibuses a day go to Hillingdon Hospital. Five a day go to the Royal Free Hospital. For timetable information, contact Patient Affairs at Mount Vernon on 01923 844292. There is no minibus service between Mount Vernon Hospital and Watford Hospital.

Hillingdon Hospital and Northwick Park Hospital now have **Urgent Care Centres** attached to their Accident and Emergency Departments, providing walk-in GP consultations. The West Herts PCT is planning a similar Centre for Watford Hospital.

Choose and Book. From 1 April 2008, patients can, in theory, choose any hospital for treatment. However, the hospital has to be approved by the Hillingdon PCT. If the waiting list is over 18 weeks, for example, approval will not be given.

Valerie Mellor and Lesley Davis

Planning

Result: The Ducks Hill Farm application referred to in the February newsletter was turned down on appeal. The proposal was to build 12 properties on Green Belt land.

Other recent planning applications to which the NRA has objected:

- 36 – 38 Rickmansworth Road. To replace 2 detached houses with 6 flats. Turned down on appeal – congratulations to Greenheys Close residents on their tenacity in fighting this development.
- 42 – 46 Ducks Hill Road. To replace 3 detached houses with 14 houses. Refused by LBH.
- Green Lane/Rickmansworth Road junction. To demolish 3 houses & build a 3-4 storey block of 14 flats.

If you would like to **view planning applications online**, here's how

1. Go to the LBH Home page at www.hillingdon.gov.uk
2. Click on the Quick Link to Planning on the right hand side
3. Click on Planning Application Search (on left hand side)
4. Enter an application reference if known, or a road name & Northwood Ward.
5. This will open a window of relevant applications; click on the blue reference for details of any particular application.



URGENT!!

Do you have an architectural, engineering or estate agency background?
Can you read a set of plans?

If you can answer 'yes' to any of the above we have just the job for you!

We need a Planning Officer to look at Planning Applications that affect Northwood, and to submit our objections in appropriate cases.

Please contact our Secretary or myself if you feel you can serve NRA in this capacity.

Colin Harris

Environment

Estate Agents' Boards

Some local (and not-so-local) estate agents are contravening the Town & Country Planning (Control of Advertising) Regulations. Boards are being erected in totally inappropriate places, it would seem solely as a means of gaining free advertising. The main regulations are:

- Only one sign per property. (*Although this can be two different Agents back-to-back*)
- Before displaying any advertisement the permission of the owner of the land must be obtained.
- A board must not be erected unless you have been instructed to sell that property.
- Boards must not be fixed to street furniture.
- Boards must be removed within 14 days of completion of the sale.
- If a For Sale board relates to part of a building in multiple occupation (eg flats) it should indicate the part to which it relates.

There are several areas in Northwood where groups of signs have been erected with no indication whatsoever of the properties they relate to, if any. Adjacent to the Iron Bridge on the Rickmansworth Road is an example of this.

Hillingdon Council is aware of these practices and any such contraventions should be reported to the Contact Centre on 01895 556000.

We shouldn't have to suffer unnecessary visual clutter like this



The more reports received the more likely the Council is to take action against the culprits.

Safer Routes to School / Kewferry Road

After 4 years of delays and several abortive schemes, the LBH official responsible for the "Safer Journeys to School Scheme" is to hold meetings with Holy Trinity School and local residents to finalise plans. Sentiment seems to be moving away from a pedestrian crossing and traffic calming in Kewferry Road, towards a pedestrian crossing on Rickmansworth Road (outside the school) and a reduction in the current 40mph limit.

Rickmansworth Road

We are keeping up the pressure for a reduction in the 40mph limit from the Herts boundary down to the start of the 30mph zone just past Murray Road. We now know that the local police are more than happy to support this. (See also *Safer Routes to School*)

Barry Crowe

Police



Low crime rate. The Ruislip & Northwood Gazette recently published an article with the striking headline, "Crime Rate Hits an all-time high".* It is not only

Borough Commander Carl Bussey who was confused but our Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) as well. Crime is low in Northwood – figures show an overall fall of 24% on the previous year; an increase in burglary suffered earlier this year was due to offenders travelling from other parts of the Borough. Tackling residential burglary is high priority and measures are in place to stem the increase in the longer term.

Vigilance is the watchword. Outdoor furniture is attractive to thieves and summer is nigh; the world demand for scrap metal, particularly lead and copper, is alive in Northwood – thieves have a ready market for their loot. **Be watchful** not only for your own property but generally, and wherever building works are in progress take active precautions to secure plant and equipment.

Consultation. The NRA made a strong representation regarding the Police Asset Management Plan and Northwood police station in particular, but

no reply or comment has been received. No decision is expected for a few years but we will keep the views of Northwood residents alive.

Our Team. We welcome PC Jesse Antonelli who has joined the SNT together with PCSO Leeanne Parke. PCSO James Andrews will be leaving us soon to train as a PC and he will be much missed.

The Police sub-committee meets quarterly at the Safer Neighbourhood Panel, which comprises the local police team and members of the community drawn from Northwood organisations. The panel is on the look out for new members as it is important for the views of the general public to be made known to the panel, which is the body responsible for defining local concerns and agreeing Police priorities. Please contact the SNT if you would like to be involved – details on Page 7.

* *The Gazette subsequently published an apology for the inaccuracies in this article.*

Ann Bailey

**Northwood Police Station is open
Mon - Fri 11am to 1pm**

Phone Kiosks in Green Lane

The movement to remove these eyesores from the centre of Northwood is gathering pace. LBH and BT have been left in no doubt about how much the kiosks are disliked by the residents. In the light of the proposed improvement of the town centre it is more important than ever that they should be removed or relocated to a less controversial position away from the War Memorial.



Please sign our petition

We are currently planning to organise a petition to present to BT and would like as many people to sign it as possible. We will be collecting signatures during June, so if you see us around the town centre, please come and add yours to the petition. Alternatively, you will be able to sign it in one of several of the local shops.

Lisa Maclay

Pollution in the Woods

For several years now the pond at the back of Copse Wood has been regularly polluted with domestic waste from an unknown source. It has always been suspected that 'cowboy' builders were responsible by linking household exit pipes to underground streams; but the problem has been identification.

Hillingdon Council's Environmental Agency has been working together with Thames Water to solve the mystery. They have been testing each household along Copse Wood Way with traceable chemicals and one source has been found already.

The offending pipe has been redirected with the agreement of the unsuspecting new house owners.



This is good news for the health of our woods and for those who use them. The tests are continuing to ensure all possible outlets are found.

Miles Gillman

It's Your Website

Our website at www.northwoodresidents.co.uk is a useful source of information about the NRA and its activities on behalf of the local community, with past and current newsletters and extracts from the minutes of Executive Committee meetings available to read online. We also include local news items and information about Northwood events and organisations.

Some web surfers must be finding us interesting as we have had visits to the site from all over the world – including Finland, Brazil, Australia, Columbia and Portugal. Maybe they all have relatives living in Northwood!

If you run a local voluntary organisation we will be happy to post your details - with over 700 visitors to the site each month it is a useful place to spread the word. Just send an email with information about your group to webmaster@northwoodresidents.co.uk. (No commercial advertising, sorry!)

The site is updated at least once a month. If you would like to be notified whenever updates take place just drop a line to the webmaster and you will be added to our email list – your address will be used only for notifying you of updates and will not be disclosed to anyone else.

Cathy Kim, Webmaster

New Benches



Many of you will have noticed new benches in various parts of Northwood. This follows a walk around the town with LBH representatives

last Spring, identifying places where new benches might be useful, particularly for the older members of the population and those walking in from the outskirts of the town.

Our thanks go to Councillor Seaman-Digby and council officers for their help in achieving this. We are still hoping that the bus company can be persuaded to install small seats at two of the bus stops in Green Lane between the London College of Theology and The Misty Moon where people currently have to stand to wait for buses.

Lisa Maclay

Déjà Vu? An extract from the NRA Newsletter dated Autumn 1969

"Complaints of excessive speed and dangerous overtaking in the Rickmansworth Road have been discussed with the Metropolitan Police who are keeping special observation on this road"



Metropolitan Line

Upgrades fall behind.

The usual problems of signal and points failures continue. Despite the enormous disruption to weekend and Christmas

services, upgrading will not be completed until around 2018.

The collapse of Metronet has caused more problems. No further station upgrades will take place if they have not already started, as resources will be concentrated on signals, track and trains. Therefore Moor Park, for example, will now not be improved for the foreseeable future, but the upgrade of Northwood is being completed, albeit behind schedule. Metronet is due to come out of administration shortly, to become a subsidiary of TfL.

Seating capacity. The first of the new “S” stock trains will appear around May 2010. These have substantially less seating than the current stock. The aim is to increase the frequency of the service so that there will eventually be the same number of seats per hour but, since this may not happen until 2018, there will be a good many years of reduced capacity.

Complaints to Met Line management, which are supposedly being addressed, include the poor ratio of Watford trains to Uxbridge ones, and the lack of communication between station staff and passengers.

Croxley Link. It appears that the long proposed Croxley Link is likely to become a reality at last. This would mean a revised line going from Croxley to Watford High Street (rendering the current station at Cassiobury Park redundant). If all goes according to plan, it could be completed by Summer of 2014.

Be sure to get your refund. Just in case there are any residents who are still unaware of the provision of refunds under the customer charter, it is perhaps worth reiterating that you are entitled to a single fare refund each time your train is more than 15 minutes late for reasons within TfL’s control. You can pick up forms at any station, or claim your refund via the TfL website as follows:

www.tfl.gov.uk/tfl/tickets/refunds/tuberefund/default.asp

We should all claim refunds whenever we’re entitled to have them – you never know, it might concentrate the minds of TfL management to ensure trains run on time!

Lisa Maclay

Traffic: LBH responds to NRA questions

In our leading article we refer to the fact that David Knowles (Service Manager at the London Borough of Hillingdon) has assumed responsibility for traffic management in Northwood. The first few weeks of his tenure have proved promising as he has stated that Northwood is very much on LBH's agenda and he has answered promptly, and in detail, a long list of questions I have put to him.

Most of the improvements that we have requested involve Transport for London (TfL).

These include

- the reduction of the speed limit on Rickmansworth Road - *LBH is to look at this afresh by conducting a speed survey and securing the support of TfL*
- improvements to the junction of Ducks Hill Road and Rickmansworth Road - *TfL is due to programme improvement work*
- and the introduction of 20mph speed limits in residential roads - *LBH has no hard and fast policy for introducing 20mph limits but will introduce traffic calming measures where there would be clear road safety benefits.*



I also raised concerns about the effects of the extra traffic that will be generated by the opening of the new Treatment Centre at Mount Vernon - *LBH planners are working on this at the moment;* and the constant road works created by the various utility companies - *more on this and other progress in our next newsletter.*



Why do we have constant road works?

If you have any concerns about road safety please do let us know.

There is also a Road Safety Programme Suggestion Form that can be downloaded and submitted to LBH from **www.hillingdon.gov.uk** Just follow the links: Transport & Streets > Road Safety > Road Safety – your suggestions

Tony Ellis

tellis@home8.fsnet.co.uk

Northwood Safer Neighbourhood Team

Safer Neighbourhoods is about local policing; Police and partners working with you to identify and tackle issues of concern in your neighbourhood.

The Northwood team is made up of six Police and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs). Their aim is to listen and talk to you, and find out what affects your daily life and feelings of security. These might be issues such as anti-social behaviour, graffiti, noisy neighbourhoods, crime or vandalism. Then, they work in partnership with you and other agencies to find a lasting solution.

The Northwood Safer Neighbourhood Team is dedicated to your community and is additional to other policing teams and units in London. If you have concerns about day-to-day crime and disorder issues, or if you would like to get involved, please contact your Team.

The Team meets with representatives of Northwood on a quarterly basis and discusses the policing of the Ward. The Panel sets specific objectives based upon concerns the Residents have and crime trends. The Team's activity around these objectives is then monitored centrally and reviewed at the next meeting. Although these objectives are the Team's core business all other aspects of Policing are dealt with.



Sgt Paul Ratcliffe

It is important to stress that the Team does not give 24-hour response. **Emergencies** are dealt with by the general Police Response Teams who are contacted by ringing **999**. Please do not use the contact numbers below in emergencies; the Team works to a shift pattern and consequently may not be on duty. However if anything is reported to the Police that concerns Northwood we will be sure to find out about it.

Sgt Paul Ratcliffe
Northwood SNT

<p>Team Members: Sgt Paul Ratcliffe PC Jesse Antonelli PC David Woods PCSO James Andrews PCSO Ricky Soler De Los Rios PCSO Leeanne Parke</p>	<p>Address: Northwood Team Northwood Station 2, Murray Road, Northwood, Middlesex. HA6 2YW</p>	<p>Contact: Phone: 020 8721 2545 07909 872377 Northwood.snt@met.police.uk</p>
---	---	---

Social Support for the Elderly in Northwood



Northwood Live at Home Scheme provides support to elderly people in Northwood who wish to continue living in their own homes.

The support includes: befriending and regular visiting; supported shopping; regular trips and outings, including lunches; personal advocacy – someone to speak on their behalf; and information – pointing our members to the services they need.

We are able to take on more members at present so if you are someone, or know of anyone, who could benefit from this help, please contact us by ringing our office on 01923-842494.

And we always welcome new volunteers, so if you have a few spare hours in a week or fortnight, and would like to help your elderly neighbours, please contact us.

Live at Home is part of Methodist Homes for the Aged, registered charity no. 1083995.

Northwood Craft Market

is a non profit-making organisation, supporting local artists and crafters. Markets are held monthly at the Northwood Methodist Church Hall, with many varied crafts being exhibited.

Please visit our website at www.northwoodcraftmarket.co.uk to view some of the wonderful crafts on display and to see future market dates, or call 01923 450740 for further information. If you do not have access to the internet and would like to know when future markets will be held, please call us or look out for our posters and banner at Waitrose in Northwood. We look forward to seeing you at one of our future markets.

Cheryl Lamb

Northwood Lions



First, the bad news:

Regrettably we have had to cease organising the Northwood Carnival, which has traditionally taken place during the August Bank Holiday. Over the past few years the number of stall-holders attending has declined, with charities facing increasing difficulty in getting volunteers to run the stalls. Our club was also experiencing similar problems, which, coupled with increasing costs of additional entertainment etc, made it difficult to continue with this event.

Now, the good news:

However, on the bright side, we were approached by the volunteers who ran the Red Cross Saturday market asking if we would take over as their nominated charity as the Red Cross Organisation was withdrawing its support. The site is being referred to as "The Lions' Den", but from personal observation I would suggest that it is more like an Aladdin's Cave. There is a wide variety of donated goods for sale, plus light refreshments.

The market is in the brick building next to the Sorting

Office in Pinner Road, Northwood and is open 9.45am to 11.45am on most Saturdays. All profits from this operation will continue to go to charity. We would like to thank all the volunteers who continue to give freely of their time to run this venture.

Northwood Lions continue to seek new members and fresh ideas for raising both the profile of Lions and support for charities. We meet at Haste Hill Golf Club at 8pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays in the month.

For more information, please call 0845 833 7853.

Age Concern, Hillingdon

The Hillingdon branch of Age Concern provides many varied services including:

The Handyperson Service can help with small jobs around the home. Free service for over 65s.

Tidy Gardens Service: for those aged 60+ and needing someone to help with general garden maintenance.
Charge of £10 per hour.

Helping Hands Service provides a 'home help' type service. Free to over 65s.

Hospital and Home Support to support you when you come home from hospital.

Information & Advice, Welfare Benefits and Advocacy Service.

Groups, clubs & Drop-ins.

Getting organised: we offer Home & Contents Insurance, Travel Insurance, and Funeral Plans.

Latest news: Age Concern's Holiday Service. Conducted holidays and tours in conjunction with Travelscope.

Just call 01895 431331 for information on any of these services.

Northwood & District Community Association

Since our last report in the October 2007 edition we have had a good response and our membership is now in the region of 308 people.

In recent months we have had two ploughman's lunches, and a quiz supper with prizes of wine and Christmas nuts & fruits. So that takes care of our nourishment needs!

To take care of our educational and recreational needs we have had Community Evening talks on topics including Trains in the Himalayas, Wildlife in Kenya, Flying the Royal Family Around, Harrow School and Life at Heathrow. We have already got the programmes set up for September 2008 to August 2009 covering a vast range of interests including Frost Fairs, Paramedics, and the Canadian Rockies to name a few.

Sections that would most welcome new members are the Sunday Rambling, Whist, Bridge, Scrabble, Keep Fit and Tennis sections.

So if you are interested in joining this friendly local association please contact the secretary, **Pat Dunhill on 01923 836346** - I look forward to hearing from you.

Councillors' Corner

Welcome to the first of a series of regular contributions from our local elected councillors. Each edition of the newsletter will carry our Councillors' response to question(s) put to them by members of the committee.

Our three councillors send their warm regards to all Northwood residents and invite you to contact them with any local issues or problems you may be having. See contact details below.

Question: What is Section 106 (s.106) money?

Answer:

- s.106 monies are provided by building development companies to provide local facilities or amenities to support a new development. For example the Council seeks s.106 contributions so that the children moving into new housing schemes have a place at a local school. Other measures could include open space improvements, health facilities and transport. The percentage of the development value paid by the developer varies depending on the issues that are to be addressed or mitigated. For school places there is a precise formula based on number of dwellings and anticipated number of children.
- The measures or facilities that would be required and the s.106 contributions towards them are determined at the time the Council considers the planning application for a development proposal.
- The s.106 monies are legally secured through agreements made between the Council and the developer, and are paid after the building work commences.
- The time in which the Council has to spend the contribution generally varies from 3 to 7 years.
- The money has to be spent on the items for which they were sought, generally within the area of the development. For example with respect to s.106 monies for school places the monies must be spent on providing additional classroom space to accommodate the new children from the housing scheme that paid the money. It would not be appropriate to spend monies on a school that these new children could not attend because they live too far away.
- The Government has proposed a new Community Infrastructure Levy which, if adopted, will change the way monies can be sought from developers. This levy will potentially give the Council a greater ability to set standard charges so that it can secure contributions on a more consistent basis.

To contact your councillors:

Cllr Scott Seaman-Digby sseaman-digby@hillingdon.gov.uk
Cllr Richard Lewis rlewis@hillingdon.gov.uk
Cllr Ian Oakley ioakley@hillingdon.gov.uk
All on 01895 2502316 (Civic Centre Office)
or 01923 822876 (Northwood Ward Office)
Email us all at northwoodward@hillingdon.gov.uk or individually as above



Hillingdon Civic Centre

Your Post Office – use it or lose it



Despite strong objections from both residents and Hillingdon Council, our High Street Post Office is to close. Local Post Offices are not just businesses but are part of the heart of the community. However, such sentiments are out of fashion with the powers that be, as the Post Office must make a profit.

The Government and major public bodies are threatening the viability of local Post Offices by taking away or trying to take away much of their regular business.

Whether it is vehicle licences, passports, pensions or television licences that you used only to get from a Post Office, now they positively encourage every alternative method. Just look at any form and see how payment at a Post Office is nearly always in the small print.

We are lucky still to have a Post Office in Green Lane. Please do as much business at the Post Office as possible. Together we can keep our Post Office thriving and there to serve us well into the future.

Keith Baker

MILLWAY CLEANING SERVICES

FOR A FRIENDLY RELIABLE WINDOW CLEANER. COMMERCIAL AND DOMESTIC WORK UNDERTAKEN.

Every pane is a pleasure!

Paul ■ 01923 262849 ■ 07960 324290

1 Belsize Cottages, Belsize, Sarratt WD3 4NP



We are a small Private practice established 40yrs, providing a full range of dental treatment including cosmetic and implant options.

Your dental care is provided in comfortable surroundings at a price structure that represents value for money.

For a Practice brochure and a price list please call Tina on 01923 824230
2 Dene Road, Northwood

E-mail: contact@denedental.com www.denedental.com

Northwood Live at Home Scheme & Harrow Opera

invite you to an Evening of Opera with al fresco buffet

Saturday 21st June
6.30pm

Holy Trinity Church Hall

- **Champagne Reception and buffet**
- **Opera extracts sung by Harrow Opera**

Tickets £35
Please call 01923 827409 or 821530

SINCLAIR'S EXECUTIVE BED & BREAKFAST

All rooms en-suite, including family accommodation
Highly recommended Discounts possible
Five minutes walk to underground
Kitchen & laundry facilities
TV/DVD/ Internet access

Singles from £40, doubles from £55
Tel/fax 01923 822047 Mobile 07958 397022

NORTHWOOD Town Crier

- Community Website
- Website Design
- Online Business

www.northwood.tc

Northwood Golf Club

£1m has been spent in making our club the finest in the area.

Come and join us either as a member or if you are new to golf try our popular new Golf Academy

Full details on www.northwoodgolf.co.uk
Or ring Jenny, Claire or Trevor on 01923 821384

Manches Moor Park 10k & Junior Fun Runs

Sunday 21st September 2008
Merchant Taylors' School



This popular annual race, now in its seventh year, raises money for the **Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre** for cancer support & information at the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre.



If you'd like to be involved in the LJMC's largest annual fundraising event, please contact John Hambleton on 020 8950 6586 or go to www.moorpark10k.org.uk

To advertise here and reach 3,000 homes, contact the editor at nraeditor@blueyonder.co.uk or call 01923 827409

Ruislip/Northwood Flower Arrangement Society

Tues 1 July: Demonstration by Robin White; 'From Monochromatic to Polychromatic'.
St John's URC, Hallowell Rd, Northwood
7pm for 7.30pm start.

All are welcome. Contact: 01923-826266

Holy Trinity Church



28 July - 1 August: Holiday Club

For primary aged children, activities in the Church hall.
For information, call the Parish Office on 01923 822990

There's more about Holy Trinity at
www.htnorthwood.co.uk

NRA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President:	Tony Goom	
Vice President:	Leonard Hall	
Chairman:	Colin Harris	823897
Vice Chairman:	Miles Gillman	825599
Treasurer:	David Wilson	827298
Secretary:	Ros Plume	827409
Chief Road Steward:	Sue Boulton	825564
Committee Members:	Ann Bailey	
	Barry Crowe	
	Lesley Davis	
	Tony Ellis	
	Alan Klein	
	Gareth Hunt	824411
	Lisa Maclay	
	Valerie Mellor	
	Jayesh Patel	
	Alan Prue (Temp)	821541
	Malcolm Ruddock	

Website: webmaster@northwoodresidents.co.uk
Editor: nraeditor@blueyonder.co.uk

Ruislip, Northwood & Eastcote Local History Society

15 Sep Kew Palace: bringing a small Royal Residence back to life.
Lee Prosser, Curator (Historic Buildings), Hampton Court Palace

20 Oct AGM and Ruislip: An Early 20th Century Garden Suburb
Eileen M. Bowlt, Chairman RNELHS

Meetings are held in St Martin's Church Hall, High Street, Ruislip at 8.15pm.
For information, please call 01895 673299 or go to www.rnelhs.flyer.co.uk



Michael Sobell House

Sunday 27 July Would you like 2 Challenges in 1?

A tandem skydive freefalling 10,000 feet, plus one extra feat to raise as much money as possible in sponsorship for your hospice, MSH. Venue: **Oxford Airfield Centre**.

Make a family day of it and get friends and family to support you at the airfield. Alternative jump dates are available.

Call Ophelia on 01923 844829 for an information pack.

More MSH news at www.michaelsobellhouse.co.uk