



Northwood Residents' Association

Newsletter 164, March 2016

From the NRA Chairman

INTRODUCTION

This is the end of my 7th year as Chairman. Sometimes it seems like only last year when I took over from Colin Harris, other times it seems like a decade – especially when I am writing my report for the newsletter. I feel that every organisation needs periodic renewal, and a change of chairman is the right catalyst for this. Therefore I have actively been seeking a successor and, at last, I have found one. Subject to your agreement, Fiona Blackwell will be appointed as Vice-Chairman at the April AGM, and I will continue for one more year before handing over to her.

Fiona is currently the committee member responsible for Environment. She is very active in the community and will, **I'm sure, be a great successor.**

HM THE QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Plans for the celebration at Chestnut Avenue recreation ground on 12th June are now well developed. The bands and **children's entertainment have been booked and** arrangements made with the council. Unlike the official party in The Mall, where tickets are £150, our event is FREE. So do come and join us and make it a day to remember. The event starts at 2pm and there will be plenty of space for picnics and car parking. More details are on page 9.

TfL PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The final planning application will be heard by the council on 12th April. See report from Catherine Greig on page 5.

Whilst the plans are not perfect, members of the committee are broadly in support of the proposed development. There is a great need for more affordable housing in Northwood and the area around the station needs substantial improvement. We have reservations about the height of the proposed building between Waitrose and Station Approach and its design, and have told the council so. We have also **listened to the concerns expressed by Northwood's Voice.** However, on balance, we feel that the development should go ahead.

We have been told that the council will listen to residents' opinions until a few days before the planning hearing.

50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE NRA

At last year's AGM I asked for ideas as to how we should commemorate our 50th anniversary. The best suggestion was

for a clock so we have explored that proposal and hope to show you some ideas at the AGM.

POST-CHRISTMAS RUBBISH

In her Environment report on page 3, Fiona Blackwell writes about being a good neighbour. Unfortunately, many households did not read the notes on post-Christmas rubbish collection and put their sacks out on the Tuesday when there was no collection. Most of the sacks and other detritus were left out for the whole week and much of Northwood looked like a dump within a few days. Surely a good neighbour would have realised that there was no collection that week and taken the rubbish back in until the following week??

NORTHWOOD AND PINNER HOSPITAL

Nick Hurd MP is still coordinating meetings with local **doctors, residents' associations and the NHS to find a way** of keeping the site for local use as a health centre.

COMMITTEE

Following Fiona's appointment as Vice-Chairman, Miles Gillman will step down and assume responsibility for Open Spaces and Events. There will also be a vacancy for the important portfolio of Environment. This is a vital role and needs a member who is outgoing and, at times, forceful as it involves dealing with the Council as well as residents. We also need someone to look after our business members. Additional members are always needed to provide succession.

Please contact me if you are interested.

CONCLUSION

Thanks as ever to committee members for their hard work and loyalty, to Ros Plume, our secretary for keeping us in order and producing the newsletter, to Nick Hurd and our councillors for their support.

Finally I cannot close without thanking Tina Williams who has tended the station flower beds for the last seven years. They certainly add life to a dull station platform.

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

NRA's 50th AGM

Thursday 14th April. Page 15

Whose Anniversary is it? Page 7

Music & Picnic in the Park
Sunday 12th June. Page 9

Traffic and Highways

FLOODING. After heavy rain the pedestrian crossing in Green Lane, close to The Glen, had been unusable for several days at a time and a few residents had a good soaking, courtesy of passing traffic. This was reported towards the end of 2015 and it was thought that tree roots were at least part of the problem. The flooding was particularly bad early this year. A resident sent photos to the council highlighting the problem and hopefully this



problem has now been solved.

ROAD REPAIRS. A number of urgent road repairs have been carried out, notably on Rickmansworth Road and

Copse Wood Way. The deep pothole at the Rickmansworth Road and Green Lane junction traffic lights has been filled in – several times. It seems to be caused by buses, as they accelerate from a standing start and a more permanent solution is needed.

RICKMANSWORTH ROAD / COPSE WOOD WAY
The road surface problem on the south east corner of this T-junction was caused by a sewer collapse. The repair was delayed for several weeks and the temporary barriers and placement of cones created a dangerous traffic situation. Apparently Hillingdon Council and Thames Water could not agree on who should take responsibility for the repair work. When this difficulty was resolved the work was speedily completed. The sewer is old and fragile – I expect that there will be more problems in the future.

DUCKS HILL ROAD
There is a proposal to add double yellow lines on the west side from Cygnet Close to the entrance to the fitness club. I understand that consultation is underway, for a second time. I am awaiting a report on progress.

MOOR PARK ROAD

traffichighways@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Peter Lansdown

From the Treasurer

Another financial year ends and the NRA enters its 50th anniversary year with a large membership and those same original objectives to maintain Northwood as a desirable place to live. The NRA financial year is the calendar year so ideally all subs for a particular financial year should be received in that calendar year. The accounts are audited by our volunteer independent accountant and accepted at the AGM. Every year the AGM is asked to confirm the subscriptions. For many years they have remained at a minimum of £2 per household and £10 for business members. Many of our members pay much more than the minimum and by so doing ensure we can keep that minimum very low. It is certainly true that membership subs should not be a deterrent to joining. The more members we have, the stronger our collective voice.

SUBS ARE GREAT VALUE FOR MONEY. **The residents'** subs for 2015 were just over £7000 and in line with the **previous year's.** **Business members contributed another** £675. The total income was just over £9000; our expenditure was around £8000 so there was a slight increase in our reserves and therefore no requirement to increase subs. I often receive emails or comments asking why are the subs so low. It is a valid point since £2 does not buy a great deal in most situations, whereas here it **gains a year's membership of the NRA which includes the** three full colour newsletters, the website and the services of the committee of an organisation dedicated to keeping Northwood the way we want. There are also queries about the payment methodology. At present the Road

Stewards deliver the newsletters and collect the subs. The main benefit of this is that it provides a conduit for views to and from the NRA to members. Of course collecting subs can be very time consuming, windows of opportunity are limited, many people may be out during the day, less willing to be interrupted early evening when they may be having dinner, too late and it is not good for anyone. The Road Stewards are all volunteers and perform this no-cost activity in their own time. Other subs collection methods may gain more traction with time, some carry significant costs and I would rather not spend the subs on just collecting them!

HOW WOULD YOU SPEND THE FUNDS? I have mentioned reserves. We do require some so we can act when required, but otherwise we should spend the money to benefit the residents who contributed to those reserves. At every AGM we seek ideas from members as to where they believe we can enhance Northwood. We do pay for the flower borders on the Station and we installed the bench around the tree on Green Lane. If you have any ideas please do let us know, the AGM can approve spend on worthwhile ideas. We would not spend our funds on work the council should be doing e.g. pavement repairs; we work with the councillors to resolve **those sorts of issues.** **So let's enjoy an anniversary year** maintaining our high membership levels and sustaining Northwood as a gem within Hillingdon.

treasurer@northwoodresidents.co.uk

David Blowers

Environment

“Putting our residents first” is Hillingdon Council’s strap line on its website.

Do you think about putting your neighbours first? Or do you not think about your neighbours in Northwood at all? We can all do our bit in helping to reduce nuisance and to become good neighbours. Anti-social issues can have a **huge effect on residents’ lives.**

- ◆ When your rubbish bag has been split open and the contents are strewn around by foxes do you think about your neighbours or do you leave the mess and hope it will clear itself up?
- ◆ When you or the gardener blows leaves into someone **else’s garden or into the middle of the road do you go** and rake them back and put them into your garden waste bag?
- ◆ When you start that small bonfire in your back garden that then smoulders for hours do you think of your neighbours with their doors open and their washing out to dry?
- ◆ When you take your dog out for a walk and you have forgotten your Poo Bag, do you think about your **neighbours’ shoes?**
- ◆ Are you mindful of your neighbours when you are creating unnecessary noise, carrying out DIY, car

repairs or gardening? Do you keep these activities to reasonable hours?

- ◆ Does the music you enjoy playing loudly reverberate in the houses next door?
- ◆ Does your house or car alarm go off regularly but you do not get it fixed?
- ◆ When you drive around Northwood too fast, on the telephone and drive through the numerous huge puddles do you put Hillingdon residents first?

Do you have the tolerance and mutual respect to be a **good neighbour in Northwood? I’m sure you do, but if your neighbours are being anti-social and a friendly word in their ear doesn’t resolve the issue, you can report the problem** by contacting the council:

Email: contactcentre1@hillingdon.gov.uk

Tel: 01895 556000

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

environment@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Fiona Blackwell

New Sign for the Gravel Pits

The Northwood Gravel Pits Open Space can now boast a beautiful carved oak sign. It was installed on 21st December 2015.

A number of Hillingdon Borough’s Open Spaces have carved signs at their entrance, now Northwood Gravel Pits area at the corner of Copse Wood Way and Rickmansworth Road has one too. Designed by NRA members and carved by Mike Shadbolt, the sign depicts the history of Northwood Gravel Pits from being the source of an essential material for road repairs to a public amenity open space.

To read more about the history of the Gravel Pits and the NRA’s involvement, visit www.northwoodresidents.co.uk and click on the **Woodland** button.

NRA website

Where do you look if you want to know what is happening locally or if you need the contact details for a local organisation? Look no further than www.northwoodresidents.co.uk

For example, suppose you want to find the Mount Vernon Shuttle Bus timetable, just click on the Health button then on the Contacts link to find a list of useful links and telephone numbers.

The website also has a handy search box in the top right hand corner; try **typing “kate fassnidge” in the box and you will be directed to the article** about the Kate Fassnidge Community Hall.

The website is only as useful as the information we receive, so do please **send us your news, photos and event notices. We’ll do our best to accommodate them.** Do also let us know of any errors that need addressing, links do go out of date!

Perhaps you would like a hands-on role in helping us keep the website up to date - if so, please get in touch.

webmaster@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Cathy Kim, webmaster



Is that ‘abandoned’ vehicle taxed?

Now that the DVLA no longer issues paper tax discs you can check if a vehicle has up-to-date vehicle tax or has been declared SORN (off the road) simply by typing the registration number into this website:

www.gov.uk/check-vehicle-tax

A Message from Nick Hurd MP ...

HOME AND ABROAD. Before Christmas, I got a call from the PM inviting me back into Government to be a Minister in the Department for International Development. In my book, if you are asked to serve your country then you say “yes” - which is what I did.

As you may know, Britain is one of very few countries that has delivered on a commitment to invest 0.7% of our national income on overseas development. Some people **disagree with that, saying that “charity” should begin at home.** I disagree. For me this commitment says a lot about what kind of country we are: outward looking and generous. A large proportion of the world lives in extreme poverty and we can help lift them out of it. Far too many people are not protected from horrible diseases that we know how to treat; for example I consider it unacceptable that a child dies of malaria every minute. This is not just a moral issue; I firmly believe that this investment is in our national interest, helping to reduce the amount of instability in the world. By 2050, one in four people in the world will be African – how could it not be in our long term interest to help that troubled continent on the road to more prosperity and security? Failure will only lead to more migration, more extremism and less security in Britain.

Having two jobs is challenging, not least as I will have to travel more to Africa. However I am well aware that many constituents have to work just as hard. In this message I just want to reassure you that I will continue to

fulfill my primary duty, which is to serve my constituency to the best of my ability.

In Northwood the big issues remain the same. TfL’s proposed redevelopment of the station and town centre represents a profound change. My sense of the local view is that the new plans are a significant improvement on the wholly misguided first proposal, which we opposed successfully. However we will need reassurance on a number of points, not least traffic. I continue to push hard that redevelopment of Northwood and Pinner Hospital delivers better community health facilities on the site and not just more flats. I am staying close to developments at Mount Vernon where I am encouraging Hillingdon and East Herts NHS Trusts to agree a better plan for this historic but messy site that would include an upgrade of the cancer wards.

Ultimately I am accountable to you: so please feel free to contact me with any comments or queries.



To contact Northwood MP, Nick Hurd:

Email: nick.hurd.mp@parliament.uk

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

Tel: 0207 219 1053

Twitter: @nickhurdmp

... and from our Police Safer Neighbourhoods Inspector

Good News: Last year across Hillingdon, working hard with our partners and community we have achieved some good results that are worth sharing.

In the last four years crimes in the borough have reduced by 26.5%. This is the fourth best reduction across all 32 London Boroughs. During our recent Operation Bumblebee, burglary was reduced by over 42%. This is the biggest reduction in London and with a 21% reduction in residential burglary across the whole of 2015, not only do we have some of the best reductions in crime we also have the best conviction rate at Crown Court across the whole of London.

Although violence is up we have one of the lowest increases in London at just over 9%. Enhanced licensing activity, anti-violence initiatives, good initial investigations and relentless secondary investigation has made a real difference. We have delivered 5,000 MetTrace kits across the borough, making our community safer. The kits contain forensically traceable liquid, visible only under UV light, for marking valuable property. During an uncertain time our PCSOs have kept smiling and done their job well. The threat of redundancies for PCSOs has now been lifted. The borough will be a better place for their continued support.

Our war on drug dealers across the borough has had an impact. In two operations, over 40 dealers were arrested and charged; most have pleaded guilty. This is an activity that very few London boroughs attempt. Our cadets were recognised by the Home Secretary when she presented them with the Lord Ferrers award for volunteer team of

the year - an outstanding achievement by some astonishing and highly committed young people. We have one of the highest numbers of volunteers in London, who support us on a daily basis by providing a front counter service at Ruislip and Northwood, supporting our outstanding public access officers with a triage service at Uxbridge and now assisting in the CID and Counter Terrorism offices.

Burglary: House break-ins, although down across the borough remain an issue in your area. We have extra patrols and our Burglary Squad is working hard to arrest the offenders. Please review your home security so you are less likely to fall victim. In Northwood, break-ins are generally via the rear. The burglars jump low fences or the side gate and then either force the back door or climb a flat roof and enter through unlocked windows. Please review your boundary and make it hard for burglars to get in. Put prickly strips on your fences and ensure all windows are locked when you are out. A lot of back doors are old and can be forced open easily. How long have you had your back door? Check it now to see how safe it is.



Contact me at rob.bryan@met.police.uk or on 07500 097182

Inspector Rob Bryan

Northwood Futures - the Latest Developments



Following Northwood Futures' 15-month programme of public engagement Transport for London (TfL) submitted a planning application to London Borough of Hillingdon in October 2015 for their land holdings in Northwood. Hillingdon ran a period of statutory public consultation after which TfL reviewed all representation made by local people and have prepared additional/revised information in response with particular reference to:

- ◆ Conservation. A new design for the front of the building over the bridge (next to Waitrose) which references the buildings along Maxwell Road, and existing shop front treatments.
- ◆ Heights and scale of proposed buildings. Building heights have been reduced on average 1m across the development by reducing individual floor to ceiling heights.
- ◆ Loss of local businesses. Responding to concerns around loss of existing businesses and the retail mix in the proposed scheme an addendum to the mix of use has

been submitted which would place a cap on restaurants, small grocers, and excluding pubs and hot food takeaways.

The detailed information prepared is **available on Hillingdon's website** (www.hillingdon.gov.uk) under the reference 71083/APP/2015/4037. You can also view a summary of information on Northwood Futures website.

Some of the representations received by Hillingdon were in support of the scheme and whilst the additional information produced may not satisfy all the concerns raised, TfL has continued to make every effort to respond to comments while retaining a viable scheme.

Following additional surveys further traffic modelling and air quality monitoring will also supplement the planning application in early March.

catherine@make-good.com
www.northwoodfutures.com

Catherine Greig

Planning

FACTS ABOUT TFL REAL ESTATE. Everyone knows that Transport for London (TfL) has submitted a major planning application to regenerate the station area in Northwood town centre. Less well known are some interesting facts, extracted from a recent article in Property Week, about **this 'sleeping real estate behemoth' that has finally woken up.** TfL owns around 5,700 acres of land within Greater London; to place that in perspective, the Duke of Westminster and the Crown Estate own 'a mere' 300 acres and 265 acres respectively.

RETAINING FREEHOLDS. To raise funds, TfL has previously sold land to developers, who have followed their **own agendas. The new 'grand plan' is to adopt a development role, in partnership with a panel of 13 developers** (including Stanhope, British Land, Land Securities, Berkeley and Taylor Wimpey). They plan to build 10,000 homes as well as 10m sq. ft. of commercial space initially on 75 sites covering 300 acres across the capital. TfL will put its land into joint ventures, on a site-by-site basis, with the developer providing the bulk of the investment. The development risk will reside with the developer! TfL is now taking a long-term view, to retain freeholds and re-invest revenue streams from build-to-rent, commercial, retail or residential units.

Northwood is the first site to come forward, with Nine Elms, Parsons Green and South Kensington currently in the pipeline. Together, these schemes will comprise more than 600 homes and more than 130,000 sq. ft. of commercial space. **'As part of its long-term strategy, TfL is likely to**

become the landlord to a significant proportion of the new homes that are built on its sites.'

WHAT NEXT? TfL is also undertaking a recruitment process that will expand its five-strong estate team to 29 to help deliver the first 75 sites. For the future, they do not **plan to stop with the 75 sites thus far identified; 'that is just the first wave' and the potential is vast.**

A PLANNING ADVISOR'S WORK IS NEVER DONE! As NRA planning adviser I look at every planning application to London Borough of Hillingdon (LBH) for the Northwood Ward regarding residential development and examine all filed documents. Where appropriate, objections are made on behalf of NRA and we sometimes add our weight in conjunction with neighbours or other concerned individuals. It is not our function to support individual planning applications; LBH will decide each case on its merits.

It may be of interest to note, that since taking over the planning portfolio in mid-March 2015, **I've examined 210** planning applications and lodged objections with LBH on 34 of them!

I also attend the regular Residents Planning Forum meetings, held at the Civic Centre, at which all of the **Residents' Associations in the borough have an opportunity** to question the chief planning officer and his senior staff on all current planning matters of concern (e.g. the proposed extra runway at Heathrow, HS2, etc.).

planning@northwoodresidents.co.uk

David Goodman

Dropped Kerb Obstruction. Do you ever find your driveway partially blocked by an inconsiderate driver? There is a simple solution - register your dropped kerb with the council (online or call 01895 556408) then when you find it blocked just call the council's parking enforcement hotline on 01895 271 418, between the following hours: 6am to 10pm (Monday to Saturday), 10am to 4pm (Sundays and bank holidays). They will then arrange for a Civil Enforcement Officer to visit the location and carry out appropriate enforcement. *[In my experience, this really works, the parking officer usually arrives within 30 mins. Editor]*

Local Policing

As we approach spring and summer this is a great time to reconsider the security of your property and person. There is a huge amount of safety information on the Police website and our local officers are happy to discuss security with you. You are welcome to call the Police on 101 and they can give advice, or see PC David Bell and PCSO John Usher at our Police surgeries, all times and details can be found at the NRA website or at one of our NRA noticeboards. Northwood remains a low crime area and Hillingdon has improved its overall crime statistics, see the article by Inspector Rob Bryan on Page 4.

PCSOs

I am sure we were all pleased to see that the budgetary cuts for Police were not as significant as we expected. We are therefore very pleased that PCSO John Usher remains with us. He does invaluable work in policing the community.

NORTHWOOD POLICE WARD PANEL

Whilst we have a small dedicated panel we would welcome anyone who wishes to ensure that Policing in Northwood is relevant and ensuring that the whole community is involved. The panel represents the views of local residents and businesses at quarterly meetings with our local Police. We are also keen to hear of anything you may wish us to discuss with the Police. Feel free to email or call me.

GET CONNECTED

The Police database is growing by the day so if you want to get up to date information about Police issues affecting you and the community please ask to join the database.

SPEEDING

Transport for London is working in partnership with the Metropolitan Police Service and City of London Police to run Community Roadwatch - a road safety initiative which aims to reduce speeding in residential areas. Community Roadwatch will give local residents the opportunity to work side by side with their local police teams, and use speed detection equipment to identify speeding vehicles in their communities. Warning letters will be issued where appropriate, and the information captured may help to inform the future activity of local police teams.

If you would like to take part in Community Roadwatch, or wish to suggest a residential area where there are community concerns around speeding, please contact me initially. Training to use a speed gun is not difficult and is undertaken on location, with practice it gets easier. The scheme will take place when we have two volunteers who live near a particular location. There is no queue to get on the scheme; even if we have more volunteers, there will always be other roads of concern in your area.

HILLINGDON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Residents who are members of an active Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch scheme will already be aware of the current offer whereby SmartWater can be purchased at a cost of £25. This represents a £50 reduction on the normal sale price and 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

There are a number of roads in Northwood where watches have become dormant and others where watches have never existed. The process of setting up or reviving a watch is not complicated if there is a volunteer available to do it. Full details are also available from the above website or by emailing HNW's office: all@hillingdonnhw.co.uk

Please feel free to contact me with any information or concerns.

Chairman, Northwood Police Ward Panel
nwdpolicepanel@gmail.com

Philip Green

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

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

*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.*

Metropolitan Line

It has not been a great start to the year for Met line users. We are subjected to a number of weekend **closedowns for engineering works (I've lost count of the number of years these have been going on for)**. We then seem to be getting more and more signal failures which these closedowns are meant to be solving! And it seems oddly coincidental that the problems tend to be bang in the middle of the rush hour on a Monday morning.

We seem to be getting more and more faulty trains, despite them being top of the range new models whilst even when **there are delays the driver can't tell us because the speaker system is crackly at best**. Meanwhile the threat of strikes **hangs over us for a service (night tube) that won't benefit us**. Living in Northwood has its leafy benefits but trying to explain at work that delays and tube strikes cripple our access into town becomes somewhat repetitive. To

compound possible future misery I am told that there may be a long period of time when the lines are closed from Kings Cross to Aldgate. As you can imagine I am somewhat of a champion in promoting flexible working at work!

A resident has reported details of an annoying practice of work going on in the Northwood sidings for a seemingly unknown purpose and at unseemly times of the morning – I am on the case trying to find out what this is about.

On the positive side (honest!) we finally have electronic boards on the platforms and they are pretty useful. Though the 3-minute mark does seem to stick for a good few minutes. Do they really stop at Moor Park that long? Answers on a **postcard**

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

Gerry Pimm

2016, a Year of Anniversaries

- ◆ April 23rd, the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death
- ◆ July 30th, 50 years since England beat Germany in the FA World Cup
- ◆ October 14th, 950th anniversary of the Battle of Hastings
- ◆ September 2nd, 350th anniversary of the start of the Great Fire of London
- ◆ December 22nd, 150th birthday of Beatrix Potter

and many more besides. However, there is one more anniversary we must not forget: the Northwood Residents' Association was founded on 9th February 1966 by a group of local residents who were concerned at the gathering pace of change in Northwood, in particular with respect to in-fill developments. In his newsletter editorial of Autumn 1967, Chairman Sir Christopher Cowan said "Operation Neptune was launched a few years ago in order to protect, as far as possible, the coast line of England from further unsightly development. Unless strenuous efforts are made now there is a grave danger that the development of our urban areas by indiscriminate 'infilling' will soon be beyond any rescue operation."

Over the past 50 years the NRA has evolved into a thriving association whose interests and concerns cover all aspects of life in Northwood, with Planning still high up on the priorities list. The overall aims of the association have remained the same i.e. "To maintain and develop a high standard of amenities and community spirit in Northwood."

The NRA magazine was started in Spring 1967 and was free to members, 6d to non-members. *[Now, there's an idea! Editor]* The first AGM was held on 21st February 1967 at which time there were 839 members; the 50th AGM will be held on 14th April and membership is well over 2,000 households.

Happy 50th Anniversary NRA!

Ward Budget & other LBH Grants available to Northwood Groups

In local government, as in so many other aspects of political and indeed mainstream life, there is always a mismatch between the demand for and supply of funding for all sorts of local groups and causes. In Northwood we are lucky that there are so many varied and fantastic organisations and it's a pleasure when as councillors we are able to assist with certain requests for funding.

The main outlet that your councillors control is the excellent Ward Budget, an idea that started back in 2011 as the brainchild of Cllr Puddifoot. It gave each ward £15,000 to give to local causes and a further £10,000 was given in 2014; there is a process for application and you should first contact your Ward Councillors. Details about the budgets can be found at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/wardbudgets. The key criterion is that you should be delivering services in or supporting residents of the Ward.

Other opportunities for accessing funding for large and small groups include the Chrysalis Fund provided by LBH which gives seed funding to support one off investment (not ongoing costs) and has been used in Northwood for things like the planting scene in Eastbury Road. You can make a suggestion to this fund at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/chrysalis

For those working with Young People there is a Hillingdon Young People's Fund that can be accessed here: young.hillingdon.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=14278

It aims to help replace some of the funding that was withdrawn by Central Government since 2010.

There are also a host of sport aligned grants and funds available to access for groups in Northwood. These can be found here: www.hillingdon.gov.uk/clubfunding and include bursaries to help support Hillingdon athletes.

Businesses can access information and be signposted to schemes on the Hillingdon website too. There is also an active Chamber of Commerce across the Borough which can advise and direct them to help and possible funding: www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/25416/Business-support-and-funding

The Corporate Grant scheme is one that has reached out to and supported a range of organisations, in Northwood both Michael Sobell Hospice and the Northwood Live at Home Scheme have benefited from corporate support grants. Your group can find out more and access these here: www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/29812/Corporate-grant-scheme

Finally, but by no means the least, Hillingdon has also set up a Leader's Initiative Fund to support older people across the borough. This aims to support projects that help keep older people safe, independent and active. See www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/16196/Leaders-Initiative

As ever, if local groups need any help or support in accessing council services please let your local councillors know!



Cllr Scott Seaman-Digby

Elected councillors for Northwood ward are:
Richard Lewis, Carol Melvin and Scott Seaman-Digby.

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

01923 822876 - Northwood Office

Email: councillors@northwoodconservatives.org
scott@northwoodconservatives.org



And on the same day,
at the neighbouring
venue, there's MORE

Northwood in 1966

What was Northwood like when the NRA came into existence? Simon Morgan gives us an insight.

Northwood was such a different place in 1966, but the change has crept up on us almost imperceptibly over the past 50 years. Then we had no blocks of flats (just flats above shops), but there was instead a massive contrast between the small houses of the **Hallowell Road and High Street area**, the **'gentlemen's houses' mostly in Maxwell and Murray Roads**, and the large Edwardian mansions set back from the road each in an acre or more of grounds to the west and north of the centre. One of many such houses was Langland at the junction of Green Lane and Rickmansworth Road, replaced by the 21 flats in Langland Court in the 1970s. Its garden of 1.2 acres included two large glasshouses and a walled garden. The 147 properties of Myrtle Side Close, many also dating to the 1970s, were built in the grounds of just seven houses – an identical increase in density to Langland Court, and similar to that repeated in many parts of Northwood.



In 1966 we had recently lost an historic pub and town centre landmark – The Northwood Hotel, behind the war memorial – but now the True Lovers Knot in Rickmansworth Road has also been replaced. Two schools have gone: the large Pinner Road School closed in 1975, but the small infant school behind Emmanuel Church survived until 1978. Also in Pinner Road two other sites have become housing: the Express Dairy depot and the premises of Harry Neal Ltd., responsible for constructing many houses and prominent buildings both locally and throughout London. Back then we were just getting used to local government being based in Uxbridge, but rate demands were still despatched from our own local council offices in Oaklands Gate, signed at the bottom by the appropriately named Borough Treasurer, B. Quick.

Driving in Northwood is now a different experience. In 1966 there were no yellow lines, traffic signals or 20 mph zones – just a few parking restrictions in the centre indicated by circular signs on yellow and black striped poles. Car sales and maintenance were catered for at the several premises of Colliver Fisher Ltd, notably an impressive car showroom at the corner of Green Lane and Eastbury Road (the art deco building survives much altered – it was Blockbuster until recently, but is now Hard 8 burger bar) and a large workshop on the site of the Waitrose car park. Along Rickmansworth Road drivers had the choice of three filling stations, where now there are none, and could drive at 40 mph for most of its length.

There are now so many more homes as a result of the last 50 years' developments, allowing the population to rise by approximately 40% from 15,800 to 22,500. This comparison is not exact, because the 1960s wards of Oaklands and St Vincent's do not precisely coincide with the current Northwood and Northwood Hills ones. Northwood remains spacious and with room to breathe, but a little less so than in 1966 when the town was still much as it had been in Edwardian times.

Simon Morgan
Committee member,
Ruislip, Northwood & Eastcote Local History Society
rnelhs.org.uk

Northwood & Northwood Hills Residents' Associations present

MUSIC & PICNIC IN THE PARK



Celebrating HM The Queen's 90th Birthday

Sunday 12th June, 2 to 6pm

Northwood Recreation Ground, Chestnut Avenue, HA6 1HR

Once again the NRA and NHRA are joining forces to bring you a community afternoon of entertainment - remember the Jubilee in 2012? This time we are planning a more low-key, relaxed event with musical performances on a stage and **a children's entertainer in a marquee in a separate area.** We hope that you will come along for the afternoon and bring a picnic to enjoy either sitting on the grass or you are welcome to bring your own chairs. There will be some light refreshments on sale. FREE admission. Ample FREE off-road parking.

Enjoy performances by:

- * Stardust Big Band
- * North London Military Wives Choir
- * Steel Pan orchestra
- * The Polka Dots vocal trio
- * Local Junior School Choirs

- * Yiewsley & West Drayton Brass Band
- * Mr Marvel

Check the NRA website for final details and keep in touch with Facebook:

www.facebook.com/NorthwoodQueens90thEvent/

What's been happening at Northwood Library?

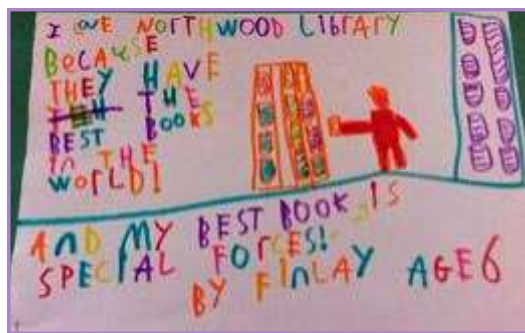
During February we have held several successful events including a Harry Potter Wizarding Workshop and a half-term children's event featuring activities on the theme of healthy eating. Looking forward to the Easter holidays we will be welcoming Explore Learning, who will be running several of their fun and educational workshops in the library. We also have our regular facilities including newspapers, coffee area, study area, children's library with puzzles and games, computers and of course books! It's free and easy to join, just pop into the library with either a Hillingdon First Card or ID that shows your name and address, such as a Driver's License, Bank Statement or Utility bill.

READING GROUP

This month we will be discussing the bestselling *Elizabeth is Missing* by Emma Healey, a crime story told through the eyes of an elderly dementia sufferer. Due to the reading group's popularity we have temporarily suspended new membership. However we are taking names for our waiting list, and will inform you when a space becomes available, or if there is sufficient interest we will create a new group. The current group meets on the last Thursday of every month at 2pm to discuss that month's chosen book and any other books we have enjoyed. We read a wide variety of fiction and are open to suggestions and recommendations.

BIZZY BEES STORYTIME

Stories, rhymes and simple crafts for the under 5's every Wednesday at 10am (term-time only). These sessions are very popular so please arrive early.



ICT TASTER SESSIONS

Are you a complete beginner? Looking for help with email or the internet? Or do you have some basic ICT questions you want answering? Northwood Library can offer you a free one hour session where we will do our best to help you.

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/HillingdonLibraries

Opening hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9am-6pm,

Tuesday 9am-7pm, Saturday 9am-4pm.

Janet Clements

Radio Mount Vernon has been broadcasting to the patients on the wards of the hospital since 1969 from our on-site Fellowship Studio. We aim to lift the mood and relieve the boredom of being an in-patient! Research last year has shown that music selected by the listener is even more likely to speed recovery, so we feature three regular weekly request shows.

Our volunteers visit in-patients for a chat, and to jot down the chosen song or piece of music which is then played by our presenters a short while later. We also have novelty shows, a quiz show, a comedy hour and an interview programme of local interest.

We take requests from the wards, and also online at www.radiomountvernon.org.uk or call 01923 844532. Please remember to give us the patient's name and the ward.

Last autumn we were successful in our bid for a Ward Budget Grant and we are now able to move forward and develop our technology by installing the Myriad System, which will increase the range and reach of our broadcasting. We intend to broadcast on more days each week, and we hope to reach the



Presenters John Thomson & Martin Hill entertain Mayor, Cllr George Cooper

wards in the Cancer Unit, which are currently out of our range. We have also received funding from Waitrose and Northwood Lions, so now we are also able to fit air conditioning in our studio, which will preserve our technology and bring comfort to our volunteers!

Our volunteers help in many ways; from student to pensioner, **we value everyone's skills and provide training when needed.**

If you would be interested in helping us by volunteering, please call 01932 844755 or email personnel.rmv@gmail.com

The Pinner & Northwood Business Club

It's been a hectic but enjoyable last couple of months for members of the Pinner and Northwood Business Club.

At our January meeting we had the pleasure of hosting the first ever winner of the popular TV show The Apprentice, Tim Campbell. Tim was joined by young entrepreneur Derin Cag and they talked about a fantastic charity called The Bright Ideas Trust. The trust is the brainchild of Tim and it provides support and mentorship programmes for 16 – 30 year olds starting up their first businesses.

We're planning social events for 2016 such as our annual golf day and trip to the Windsor Races in the summer; it's fair to say it will be another busy and entertaining year.

The club meets the last Wednesday of the month at the Northwood Golf Club and is a perfect place to network among local business people while enjoying a nice meal in comfortable surroundings. Each month we have a guest speaker, usually a business expert or local person of interest. Previous guests include authors and the local MP Nick Hurd. If you are thinking about becoming a member why not come **along as a guest first of all? This way you'll see what the club is about, how friendly the members are and what business opportunities potentially await you.**

www.pinner-northwoodbusclub.org.uk

Les Conway, Chairman P&NBC



Northwood and District U3A

MEMBERSHIP IS BOOMING. We are now rapidly approaching a membership of 700 and usually have over 200 attending our monthly meeting. This is very gratifying but can be somewhat of a problem finding a seat; to help ease this we now have a group of volunteers who can show members to vacant places. They will also be there to help new members, from first greeting to explaining the procedures, even down to getting coffee and biscuits afterwards. More volunteers for this role and various others are always needed; any help is gratefully received.

Our speakers **have been well received but December's talk** was a real highlight. One of our members, Andy Willis, gave us a talk on Harefield Hospital where they have just celebrated their centenary. Andy is himself the recipient of a double lung transplant so he was well placed to have a very good knowledge of the excellent service that Harefield provides. His talk was interspersed with photographs and taped interviews of various people who had connections with the hospital. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all those present.

The Ukulele Group has now grown to around 20 and we have played at several venues and have, I must say, been very well received. On 29th December we played at a party arranged for older people at St Martin's Church in Ruislip. We nearly all had colds but we must have sounded OK as we have been booked again for this December!

Groups continue to thrive under Ann Smith's excellent and enthusiastic guidance: Architecture, Opera, Badminton, Singing for Fun, Bridge, Mahjong, History, Current Affairs, French, Mathematics, Spanish Conversation, Gardening, and more. Apologies to those not mentioned, the list is too long; there are even more new groups in the pipeline. Oh for a day in to watch Afternoon TV!

You are, as always, very welcome to come along and "dip your toe in the water" on the first Wednesday of each month at Fairfield Church, Northwood Hills. Please note that the April meeting will be on the 13th due to a church function.

u3asites.org.uk/northwood

Maureen Crimmins

NRA Business Members

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

HARD 8	1 Eastbury Road	Restaurant
RUSH	5-7 Maxwell Road	Hairdresser

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

Vacancy - it could be YOU!

Northwood Craft Market and Plant Stall

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

FORTHCOMING DATES: Saturdays 2nd April, 7th May, 4th June
TIME: 10am-2pm FREE ADMISSION

The Northwood Craft Market, together with a Plant Stall, is continuing on the first Saturday of each month. All crafts for sale are handmade by local craftspeople and it is a perfect place to find beautiful original gifts, or something to enjoy for

yourself. Crafts for sale vary each month and include jewellery, fabric bags & purses, watercolours, greetings cards, **knitting and crochet, soaps, children's clothing, household accessories** and much more. Two of our crafters who are keen gardeners will also have a variety of cuttings and seedlings on their Plant Stall.

There are hands-on crafts for children to make something to take home, and teas, coffees and delicious homemade cakes are available in the church coffee shop during the morning. We are in need of help in setting up tables the evening before a market and when packing up afterwards. If you could give about half an hour on a Friday evening once a month and likewise after the market on a Saturday, do please get in touch. Even if there were one or two people that we could call on from time to time, it would help.



www.northwoodcraftmarket.co.uk

Like us on Facebook

Follow us on Twitter @CraftNorthwood

Email: northwoodcraftmarket@hotmail.co.uk

Telephone Susan on 07780 601842

WRAP comes to Northwood

Watford Recycling Arts Project, usually known as WRAP, is a registered charity and a member of the Reuseful UK national network of scrapstores. In October 2015 WRAP moved to Units 2-6 Ryefield Crescent behind Northwood Hills station. Here you will find the random collection of commercial and industrial bi-product donations that over 4,000 schools, small groups and families have discovered in **WRAP's 20 year history**.

WRAP is run almost entirely by volunteers, a loyal bunch who turn out week after week to prepare the pick-ups and brought-in donations for presentation. For an annual membership fee WRAP offers its members a more or less unlimited supply of materials – foam, cardboard, fabric, tiles, leather off-cuts to name a few, and also run site-specific and theme-based workshops for groups, which can be booked on application. Items made by volunteers and members are displayed throughout the building to give inspiration, and volunteers pride themselves on being able to root out suitable materials for proposed



makes. When going to WRAP it is always best to arrive with an idea rather than a shopping list, as what is available may not always be an obvious fit but can sometimes be a better one!

Do get in touch if you have any queries or have items to offer for donation. Donations are vetted and volunteers may turn down items they are not permitted to store or know will not be used readily. Keep an eye on the website for up-to-date details. Come and

visit; we may be what you are looking for!

Opening hours currently are Tuesday 14.00-16.00,
Wednesday 10.00-12.00, Thursday 14.00-18.00,
Saturday 10.00-12.00.

web: watfordscrap.wix.com/wrap

Facebook: Watford Scrapstore

Email: watfordscrap@btconnect.com

No telephone yet.

Helen Burt

Mount Vernon Cancer Centre - Volunteers needed!



Have you, or someone you know been affected by cancer? Did you know:

- There are more than 200 different types of cancer.
- 1 in 2 people in the UK will get cancer in their lifetime.
- Thanks to research many people are cured and more than half live for more than 10 years (Cancer Research UK)

We are fortunate to have the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre (MVCC) virtually on our doorstep. The centre serves an area from North Herts to West London and a population of 2 million people. It is one of the top five regional cancer centres in the country with over 5,000 new patients registering with them each year.

MVCC provides a variety of services to support patients and their families. This might be information and support from the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre, chemotherapy or radiotherapy treatment in the main centre or palliative care services at Michael Sobell House.

Whatever a patient's need and wherever they are within the centre, there is often a volunteer close by to assist and support them. MVCC has 300 volunteers undertaking a variety of roles, from meeting and greeting people as they arrive to serving meals on the wards, from offering patients a complementary therapy to helping nurses with their admin.

Terry Harding from Northwood helps in a variety of ways. He says: "I help on the men's ward at weekends serving meals but also spend a week day in the Michael Sobell House Day Centre chatting to visitors who are patients living with their cancer. I make them a cup of tea and talk about what's going on in the world, maybe run a quiz. For some of them, this is the main social point of their week and I get a real buzz out of making it special."

There are so many voluntary roles at MVCC during the week and at weekends, during the day and in the evenings; there really is something for everyone. Why not come and see the Volunteer Coordinators and talk about how you could get involved? They run Open Days on the first of each month which gives you a chance to have a coffee and chat and take a look around the centre. Not only will you make a difference to their patients and visitors but also to yourself with the personal satisfaction you will gain.

The next Open Day is on 1st April between 10am and 3pm.



Terry Harding, volunteer

To find out more, please contact the Volunteer Coordinators:

Tel: 020 3826 2515

Email: lynne.pritchard3@nhs.net or victoria.hussey@nhs.net

St John's United Reformed Church, Hallowell Road



Addressing the haggis

January 24th saw St John's host a Burns' Night, reinstating a tradition which had lapsed over the last 10 years or so. This was one of a number of events held at St John's over the past few months to fundraise for various charities. Our sincere thanks go to all who

attended the Chelys Concert and tea, the Advent Lunch and Christmas Concert helping us raise around £2,000 for Christian Aid, Crisis at Christmas, London Churches Refugee Fund, Live at Home and ScotsCare.

In March, St John's will be starting Tuesdays @ St John's. Initially these will be on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of every month between 10am and 12pm. Come along and join us in The Well (entrance to St John's) for tea, coffee and a chat. On the 3rd Tuesday of every month, there will also be a lunch time concert between 12pm and 12.30. Please come along and

enjoy. Why not use the opportunity of popping in for tea and coffee to make a donation to the Salvation Army's Operation Safely Home project? A list of what they're looking for is in The Well.

MORE EVENTS TO COME!

Thursday 26th May. Golf Day followed by Tea at Northwood Golf Club, £45 including tea. £5 for tea only.

Saturday 28th May. Book Festival with local authors talking about and selling their books. Events throughout the day related to books and reading (11am-3.30pm); community concert with poetry, prose and song (4.00-5.30pm). If you are a local author or performer and want to participate, please get in touch.

Saturday 30th July. Garden party celebrating both the summer and our lovely new garden.

REGULARS.

◇ **Book Group @ St John's every six weeks on Fridays** between 2.15 and 3.45pm in The Well.

◇ Prayer Group every 1st Wednesday morning (11.15-12.15) and every 3rd Wednesday evening (8.00-9.00).



Telephone: 01923 829166

Website: www.urcnorthwood.org

Email: stjohnsnorthwood@btconnect.com

Email for event info: thesamsoned@gmail.com



Paul Strickland Scanner Centre

Based at Mount Vernon Hospital, our charity provides scanning services for the early diagnosis, monitoring and research into cancer and other life-limiting diseases. We need your help to fund new state-of-the-art scanners because we receive no government funding. Help raise funds by taking part in any of these events:

Chenies Spring Walk, Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May start 11am, Chenies Manor. Advance entry £8, or £10 on the day (under 14s free) includes free entry into Chenies Manor Tulip Gardens. An 8km circular walk with three shortcuts available. This year there will also be an owl hunt for children taking part in the walk.

Plant & Cake Sale, Monday 16th May 9am to 2pm, Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood. Delicious home-made cakes and an array of beautiful plants. This is a very popular event, make sure you come early **so you don't miss out**. The Head Gardener from Royal Ascot will be available on the day to give great gardening tips.

Charity Golf Day, Tuesday 7th June 11am to 8pm, Denham Golf Club, Denham. Entry fee £100 per golfer.

British 10k London Run, Sunday 12th July at 9.35am at Piccadilly. If you would like to be in our team of 24 runners, contact us to secure your place.

The sponsorship you raise will go towards the Paul Strickland Scanner Appeal.

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

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @scannercentre
website www.stricklandscanner.org.uk
email appeals@stricklandscanner.org.uk

What Every Man and Woman Should Know

I am an official awareness volunteer speaker and stand holder for Prostate Cancer UK. Why? Because having had the cancer I care passionately about awareness – better tested than permanently rested! I had no symptoms: a random test caught it in time, a not uncommon occurrence for the lucky ones.

The facts:

- Only 46% of people even know what the prostate is! 12% what it does!
- 1 in 8 men will get the cancer (1 in 4 if a black man). About 11,000 men die every year in the UK from the illness and 43,000 diagnosed.
- It is already the most common cancer in men and will be the most common cancer of all by 2030 - startling as women, 50% of the population, cannot physically get it.
- those at high risk are: over 50 years old; if **it's in the family; Afro-Caribbean men**.

So if you belong to or know of a group that may benefit from a talk please just let me know and I will be there – have memory stick, will travel! If an article, just posters or a promotional stand would suit better, again just ask.

Trevor Walker

Tel: 07768 966128
trevorewalker@aol.com

Northwood Live at Home Scheme – Volunteer Drivers Needed

Northwood Live at Home Scheme exists to support older 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 members to socialise, exercise, share healthy meals, participate in outings and generally improve their wellbeing and enjoyment of life.

The Scheme is expanding and consequently we need extra volunteers, particularly drivers. This service is vital as we cannot use taxis for our more vulnerable members and without transport, they are unable to attend activities. If you have some spare time and would consider becoming a volunteer driver, please let us know. It involves only a few hours a week and even occasional availability is a great help. New volunteers willing to befriend and/or help with activities and outings are also very welcome.

In addition to Wednesday lunches, we offer a lighter soup and sandwich meal on alternate Tuesdays. Those who attend our new Music Therapy sessions have found them extremely rewarding. We are the first Live at Home Scheme to offer music therapy and would love to see more people benefit from this enjoyable experience. Another new activity, iPad



Volunteers' Christmas Get-together

training, has proved extremely popular. In the spring we will be taking a group of members and volunteers away for a short seaside holiday, which we hope to make an annual event. A complete list of current activities is available from our office at St

John's URC Church in Hallowell Road.

Our fundraising musical evening on 21st November was a great success, with around eighty attendees enjoying a champagne reception with canapés generously supplied by COOK and our local councillors, a sit down meal and dancing to Stardust Big Band. Our event including a charity auction raised over £5,000 for the Scheme. A few weeks later we hosted a Christmas Lunch for our members which was kindly supported by our local Waitrose green token scheme.

New members are always very welcome; anyone in the Northwood area aged 60+ is eligible. Membership is free, but there is a small charge for activities to help cover costs. Transport is provided free of charge for those with mobility problems. If you are interested in joining us either as a member or volunteer, we would love to hear from you.

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

Jo Wild, Chairman

Friends of Michael Sobell Hospice - Events



On Your Bike - Sunday 24th April
Registration 7.30am, ride starts 8am
Join us for a challenging 33 mile route which will start and finish at the hospice and takes riders through Amersham, Bovingdon and Hemel Hempstead. Entry fee in advance for individual adults is £20 and £10 for children aged 11-16.

Entry on the day will be £30. The route will be signposted and marshalled where possible with a water stop and comfort break en route. We ask riders to raise a minimum of £50 sponsorship to help the work of the hospice.

Plant Sale - Saturday 7th May 10am – 12.00pm

at Michael Sobell Hospice, Northwood

This annual horticultural event is once again being organised by the award-winning team of MSH volunteer gardeners. Come and buy your bedding plants, flowers and **fruit 'n'** veg. Entry is FREE and refreshments will be available. We welcome any donations of plants for this event.

Ladies in the Night Walk - Friday 10 June
Registration at 8.30pm Walk starts at 10.00pm
Join us for this very special community event and walk through the night to support your local hospice. Last year over 1,100 of our supporters took part and raised over £126,000 - **help us to make this year's event even bigger and better.** Entry costs £20 for adults in advance or £25 on the night and includes a t-shirt, fundraising pack and breakfast. The event starts and finishes at Michael Sobell Hospice in Northwood. The route follows well-lit local roads, with ample marshals in place. Walkers can choose from either a 5½ or 9 mile route. All under 16s must be accompanied by an adult. Dogs are welcome too! Parking is free on the night.

Vintage Affair - Sunday 10th July

At Michael Sobell Hospice, Northwood

Step back in time and join us for all things vintage at our Vintage Affair event. There will be live music, classic cars and vintage stalls. Full afternoon tea will be served all day in our enchanting vintage tea rooms. Entry £2.

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 Lions Club



Northwood Lions Club has had another busy year. We held store collections ('Tinsakes') at Sainsbury's Pinner, and Waitrose Northwood. We were featured as one of Waitrose 'Community Matters' charities, and we had stalls at three summer fêtes - Uxbridge Auto Show, Eastcote Cricket Club and Pinner Village Show, where we not only sold books, DVDs, plants and ran a Lions Tombola, but also enjoyed meeting the public and explaining what Lions Clubs do - which is raise money and then donate it to local good causes.

Apart from these money-raising ventures, our main fund-raising activity is the Saturday Market, the Lions Den, held every Saturday morning from 9.45 to **11.45** at 195 Pinner Road, Northwood, near the Iron Bridge. This is where we raise the bulk of our funds, and the Market (chosen by Sainsbury's Pinner as their Local Charity of the Year), is well worth a visit. The Lions Den is run by Olive Fairclough and her dedicated band of volunteers and offers a huge variety of goods for sale, as well as tea, coffee and homemade cakes - one visit and you'll be hooked!

Among the many organisations we have supported are - Paul Strickland Scanner Appeal; Children of Fire; Northwood Live at Home; Sunshine School for the Blind; Guide Dogs; Macmillan Nurses; Alzheimer's Society; Breast Cancer Now; local Scout Groups. We donate around £25,000 a year to our chosen charities and have done so for the past eight years.

This coming summer do look out for our stall at the above three events, plus Eastcote House Garden Fete.

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

Robert can be contacted on 07860 324395

Visit www.northwoodlions.org.uk

Robert Green

Northwood & District Community Association

I am pleased to say that we are gaining numbers in some of our sections that were struggling before. Thanks to the NRA newsletter, Streetlife and just by word of mouth, people are getting in touch and then trying out some of the things we have on offer. The Keep Fit sections are now thriving and we have recently started up a Monday Yoga group as well as holding one on a Friday. We are looking into the possibility of starting up an Art group - so watch this space! The Line Dancing group on a Wednesday morning could do with some more dancers, why not give that a try? For those who are more energetic, the Saturday Tennis section will always welcome new

members - no pressure of league matches, just a friendly game, although the competitive streak in us all makes for a good game.

We are holding our AGM in the United Reform Church, Joel Street on Tuesday 12th April at 8pm. Why not come along and meet us, the meeting is followed by refreshments and a chance to chat and socialise.

We shall have Ploughman's Lunches in June and October and a Quiz in November - always enjoyable gatherings.

For more information please call 01923 836346

Pat Dunhill

Northwood Residents' Association 50th Annual General Meeting

Thursday 14th April 2016

at Methodist Church, Oaklands Gate, Northwood

AGENDA

- 1) Welcome and introduction from Tony Ellis, Chairman.
- 2) **To receive the Chairman's Report for 2015.**
- 3) To receive the Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2015.
- 4) To set the rate of subscription for the year 2015 (currently set at a minimum of £2 per household and £10 per business).
- 5) To elect the Officers: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer and Hon Auditor
- 6) To elect an Executive Committee:
Members standing for re-election: Mr Paul Barker, Mrs Fiona Blackwell, Mr Mithu Chellaram, Mr Richard Field, Mr David Goodman, Mr Philip Green, Mrs Marie-Françoise Meyer, Mr Rikin Patel and Mr Peter Lansdown.
- 7) To elect the President, currently Mr Alan Prue; and Vice President, currently Mrs Valerie Mellor.
- 8) Guest speakers. A team of Volunteer Police Cadets will present a talk **entitled "Cyber Crime Prevention"**.
- 9) Any Other Business.
- 10) Open Forum with our local councillors and representatives from the police present. Nick Hurd MP will attend if his ministerial duties permit.

Note: There are vacancies for membership of the Executive Committee. Do consider joining us.

NOMINATIONS in writing for Officers and Members of the Executive Committee, with the written consent of the candidate, must reach the Chairman at least 28 days before the AGM.

All Northwood residents and businesses are invited to attend.

THE BEST OF THE BIG BANDS PART II

Georgina Jackson & Pete Long present
A concert in aid of

**Mount Vernon Breast Cancer Research Unit
&
Mount Vernon Cancer Centre Charitable Fund**

Thursday 31st March
Watersmeet, Rickmansworth

18-piece all-star orchestra with special guests!

Tickets: £25, concessions £20

Box office: 01923 711063

www.georginajackson.net

NORTHWOOD CHORAL SOCIETY

Musical Director - THEO VINDEN
Present their Spring Concert

SCHUBERT Mass in G, HANDEL Messiah (extracts)
Holy Trinity Church Hall, Gateway Close, Northwood HA6 2RP

Saturday 19th March at 7:30pm

Tickets: £12 available from choir members or by contacting
Lorraine Chapman on 01923 826795 or chaplor@fsmail.net or at the door.

Also: Sunday 22nd May on **"Come & Sing Handel's Messiah"**. Rehearsal
2.30pm, informal performance at 6.30pm. All welcome; please email
office@htnorthwood.co.uk to indicate if you would like to come & if you
wish to reserve a score. Tickets: Singers £6, audience £10

and Saturday 18th June - Summer Concert.

Online Email and Letter Scams

ActionFraud
Report Fraud & Internet Crimes
0300 123 2040

Our AGM speakers will be telling us all about cyber crime, how to avoid being caught out and what to do if you have been a victim. In advance of that here is a useful phone number and website to note down. A Home Office and City of London Police backed bureau called, "Action Fraud UK" and run by the National Fraud Authority is available for use by anyone who has been a victim of a scam or suspects they have spotted a scam.

www.actionfraud.police.uk



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www.oldbillspestcontrol.co.uk

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Tel: 01923 836334

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Ruislip, Northwood & Eastcote Local History Society
18 April: *Watford after the Dissolution: Royal Manor of Watford*
Pat Simpson, Watford Historian

Meetings are held on Mondays in St Martin's Church Hall, High Street, Ruislip at 8.15pm.
For more information, please contact The Programme Secretary on 01895 673299.



Kate Fassnidge Community Hall

The hall in the High Street is available
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