



# Northwood Residents' Association

Newsletter 163, October 2015

## From the NRA Chairman

### INTRODUCTION

Autumn 2015 is going to be a busy time for the NRA. In particular we have the presentation of the final plans for the proposed development by Transport for London (TfL) to study, the organisation of a petition to save the Northwood and Pinner Hospital (N&PH), the launch of our new website, planning the Christmas Carol evening and also planning the **Queen's 90<sup>th</sup>** Birthday celebration to be held next June. More about these later.

### PROPOSED STATION APPROACH DEVELOPMENT

Many of you will have seen comments about the consultation by TfL being undemocratic and biased. At each stage of the consultation, residents have been sent leaflets inviting them to take part. Again in September, residents were invited to inspect the final proposals and comment on them. Also the consultations were widely publicised. It is very difficult to understand the charge of the process being undemocratic; if the majority of residents choose not to take part in the process, that is their democratic choice. However, it will be very disappointing if the residents of **Northwood, having used "People Power" to get TfL to drop their original plan, now seem indifferent to what results.**

In July 2013, the NRA convened the first public meeting to **discuss TfL's plan to develop its Northwood site by replacing the existing buildings with a large supermarket and 162 flats. The meeting agreed to form the 'Save Our Northwood' group to fight the proposals, raise a petition and form a fighting fund.** The NRA still has a role to play in keeping members informed of relevant matters and to study the Planning Application when it is finally submitted by TfL later this year. As with all local Planning Applications, we will make any objections based on planning grounds, and any residents who wish may also submit their objections during the planning process.

There is a website at <http://northwoodfutures.com> which provides a detailed account of the process so far and is part of the *make:good* / TfL consultation.

### NORTHWOOD AND PINNER HOSPITAL

Information concerning saving the N&PH is detailed in reports from Nick Hurd and Richard Field (page 4). The

hospital was opened in 1920 as a memorial to those local residents who fell in the First World War. The capital and running costs were met by local residents until nationalisation in 1948. It continued as a general hospital and **later an elderly people's unit until 2008 when NHS Hillingdon closed it.** Hillingdon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) declared the site surplus to requirements and it passed on to NHS Property Services in 2013 who are now in the process of deciding whether to sell it for commercial development or to continue using it for Health purposes. Hillingdon CCG is adamant that it has no use for the site.

Community Voice, Northwood Hills RA and the NRA have agreed to raise a petition, addressed to the Secretary of State for Health, demanding that the site continues to be used for the benefit of the health of local residents. The target is to obtain 20,000 signatures during October and November. Please make every effort to support this petition.

### QUEEN'S 90<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

**Following our successful Queen's Diamond Jubilee** celebration in 2012, we have decided to hold a music event **to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday** in partnership with Northwood Hills RA. It will be held at Chestnut Avenue recreation ground on Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> June 2016. Please make a note in your diary. More details on page 11.

### DANGEROUS DRIVING

I feel it is very necessary to remind some residents NOT to use their mobiles when driving. It seems that some of you are unable to drive without being on the phone at the same time. Not only is the practice dangerous and inconsiderate, it is also **ILLEGAL**.

I also wonder if it is the same inconsiderate drivers who ignore speed limits. Speed tables (commonly known as speed humps) are not an invitation to see who can drive the fastest between them. A recent police exercise determined that the majority of motorists who were caught speeding were in fact local residents.

If you are one of the guilty parties, please do consider the possible consequences of your actions.



You can help influence the future of Northwood & Pinner Community Hospital. Page 4

Remembrance Day Parade,  
8<sup>th</sup> November. Page 7

Do you know when a dog should be on a lead? Page 9

### Chairman's Report continued ELDERLY NEIGHBOURS

With shorter days and inclement weather fast approaching, please think about your elderly neighbours who cannot get about so readily. Drop in for a cup of tea, offer to do their shopping; a small act of kindness means so much to a lonely person.

### CONCLUSION

My thanks to hard-working committee members and road stewards who keep the show on the road. We still need some new blood. There are vacancies for a website

editor, committee members to look after Green Lane and High Street business members and road stewards. Please let me know if you are interested.

Lastly, thanks as usual for the valuable contributions from Nick Hurd MP and our three ward councillors. Together, we make Northwood a great place to live.

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

## Traffic and Highways

**GREEN LANE.** Affinity Water has completed laying the water pipe along Green Lane from Eastbury Road to Rickmansworth Road. The general consensus seems to be that overall the work proceeded well and finished ahead of schedule. However there were a few points of concern expressed, particularly with the quantity of dust blowing about, causing difficulty for shopkeepers, passers-by and for the health of workers, and also with the inadequacy of diversion signs in some areas. Comments have been relayed to Hillingdon Council.

**HALLOWELL ROAD/HIGH STREET.** Recently there have been problems caused by parking on the double yellow lines at this T-junction, obstructing the view from vehicles turning and emerging from Hallowell Road. The council parking department has been asked to enforce the double yellow lines at this T-junction. Action has followed and there has been a considerable improvement.

**FLOODING.** With the heavy rain in September there has again been flooding in Copse Wood Way and Green Lane. It was particularly nasty in Copse Wood Way as at one point sewage was being forced out of a manhole, lifting the cover, then running down the slope into the flooded area. This was reported and quickly dealt with.

In Green Lane, close to The Glen, the pedestrian crossing became unusable for several days and a few residents got a good soaking, courtesy of passing traffic (not for the first time). This has been reported and I understand work to improve the situation will be carried out in October.

**RICKMANSWORTH ROAD/COPSE WOOD WAY**  
I understand that the road surface problem on the south east corner of this T-junction was caused by a sewer collapse, only recently identified as such. The repair was awaited for several weeks - the temporary barriers and placement of cones created a dangerous traffic situation, and several attempts were made to encourage Hillingdon Council to start the work. With no warning having been given to residents, as it comes under the heading of **'emergency' and was eventually arranged at short notice**, the north end of Copse Wood Way was closed early on Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> September, together with once again inadequate diversion signs. As I write (25<sup>th</sup> September), it appears that the work has been speedily completed, although it was scheduled to continue possibly up to 9<sup>th</sup> October.

traffichighways@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Peter Lansdown

## Metropolitan Line

How is life without the ticket office at Northwood station? I had the misfortune of trying to purchase an annual season ticket soon after the office had closed down. I was told I would need to ring TfL, who then proceeded to tell me that I should buy one from the machine and register it online.

But what about the Gold Card that comes with it? Ah, you now have to apply for that separately. One suspects **they hope they don't issue too many**. Buying an annual season ticket also means getting a Gold Card that gives you discounted travel on (some) National Rail services. **Don't ask me what the "some" is** – but it seems generally to work down south (Margate a particular saver for me) but not so much on northern trips. Though I did get discount from a train in York recently. All a bit of a **spider's web of confusion**.

We should give credit to the staff at Northwood station who are all helpful and friendly in my experience, particularly as they now have to come out and meet the dreaded public. My daily trip takes me to Moorgate

where the staff there seem determined to stay in their one-man box and remain unmoved. **I don't blame them really – it's a pretty bleak station!**

At least the strikes seem to have abated so far. Rumour, but only rumour, suggests that Night Tube (that service that will benefit many but not us mere mortals in suburbia) will now start in March 2016. I suspect we are in for a few more strikes yet. **TfL is convinced it's all about yet more wage increases**, the unions insist it is all about safety. No doubt a compromise will eventually be reached that costs a great whack of public cash. Who would be a politician?

**Hopefully the Autumn leaves won't create rush hour** havoc on the Met line. Whilst the rugby world cup finals are on I am fairly sure the service will remain perfectly fine. Despite being an avid sports fan, ensuring the system runs perfectly for Wembley crowds but not for us daily workers has always felt to me like an odd sense of priorities.

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

Gerry Pimm



**TREES.** The face of Northwood continues to change: new houses, blocks of flats, and a new development for the town centre? Under the Town and Country Planning Act of 1990 the London Borough of Hillingdon protects trees of amenity value by way of Tree Preservation Orders. A TPO can protect trees and woodlands which have a significant impact on the local environment and the **public's enjoyment. A TPO is designed to safeguard trees** against being cut down, destroyed or having inappropriate works carried out. Many trees in the borough are also protected by virtue of their location within a conservation area.

So why then, are we losing trees from Northwood at an alarming rate? You only have to look at the planning applications for the last few months to see many requests **to fell trees within gardens for 'development purposes'.** These include oaks with TPOs, hornbeams, birches and many others. Oaks that are removed are supposed to be replaced like for like but they are often replaced by lesser trees, not by oaks.

Developments where trees and gardens are removed for hard standing and plots where two or three house are replaced by blocks of flats with large car parks all contribute to water flow issues. There are many residents

who ask the council for permission to remove dead wood to help the tree survive but it appears that felling is the preferred option.

The loss of these trees changes the face of Northwood and has a serious impact on earth heave and the displacement of water. Is this why we are having far more incidences of flooding on the roads and standing water causing huge problems for pedestrians? Please can you think carefully before seeking permission to fell trees?

**THE WEST LONDON WASTE PLAN** has been adopted by the Borough of Hillingdon; it was clear in the consultation document that there were no changes for Northwood residents. The target for recycling household waste is 65% by 2031 and 70% by 2020 for business waste.

**OVERGROWN VEGETATION.** Property owners are responsible for ensuring that the vegetation, including any tree, hedge or shrub is not extending beyond their boundary and encroaching onto public footpaths, public rights-of-way or obstructing the view of motorists. The council may serve a notice on the owner or the occupier of the land to remove the cause of danger. Failure to do this will result in the authority carrying out the works by default and recovering the cost of doing so.

**FOXES.** Northwood must have the best fed foxes in the country! The incidents of rubbish bags being split open by the foxes have risen dramatically with food and rubbish left strewn around the roads in the early mornings. The council strongly recommends the use of a regular domestic dustbin to contain your refuse sacks securely whilst awaiting collection.

For all information about local environmental issues, visit the council website, [www.hillingdon.gov.uk](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk) and follow the links: Residents > More Services > Environmental Issues.



*Flooding is becoming more frequent*

[environment@northwoodresidents.co.uk](mailto:environment@northwoodresidents.co.uk)

*Fiona Blackwell*

### Who is Northwood's Plant Thief?

Have you ever admired the flowers that bloom in the Horse Trough on Rickmansworth Road on the edge of the Gravel Pits? Well, someone likes the plants so much that they keep stealing them! This Summer plants were stolen, two per week, reducing 10 large Busy Lizzie plants down to two very sad ones. Since 2005, NRA volunteers have planted the **trough with tulips in the Spring and bedding plants in the Summer; we can't grow anything permanent as the trough has** no drainage and gets water-logged in Winter. Each year some plants are stolen, but we will not be beaten by this mindless action - **now, what colour tulips shall we plant .....**?



What sort of person would reduce this ..... to this?

## A Message from Nick Hurd MP ...

Regular readers will know that for some time now I have been concerned to see a good community outcome from the sad neglect of the Northwood and Pinner Community **Hospital site. I have worked closely with your Residents'** Association and other partners to try and make sure that the NHS honour past pledges to maintain some community health facilities on the site. It was clear to me that if we did nothing, then we would get another block of flats which would probably be unaffordable for the people we really want to see have a chance to live in the area – young buyers and key workers.

As a result of many discussions, a plan has been put to the NHS, which would deliver two good outcomes for Northwood and Northwood Hills. The first would be an upgraded Heath Centre, which is what the GPs want on behalf of their many patients in the area. The second would be some provision of sheltered, extra care accommodation to help us provide the care that will be needed as the local population ages.

The good news is that the NHS is at last engaging with the site, and has confirmed that they are willing to explore this

healthcare option in principle. However we need to persuade the local Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS London that this is needed and financially viable. If that argument is not won, then the NHS will just sell the site to the highest bidder. I think that all of this will come to some form of a decision in Spring 2016, which is a lot slower than I would like.

As I have warned before, we may need to mobilise the community to support the principle that past promises must be kept by the NHS. Feel free to contact me on this and any other issue.



To contact Northwood MP, Nick Hurd:

Email: [nick.hurd.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:nick.hurd.mp@parliament.uk)

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

## Health Matters

Northwood and Pinner Cottage Hospital  
Joan Davis, Chairman of Community Voice, Andrew Riley, Chairman of Northwood Hills RA and Tony Ellis, Chairman of Northwood RA have had meetings with Nick Hurd MP and the GPs at the Northwood Health Centre to discuss the future of the N&PH. They feel there is a viable solution for retaining the property in the community for health purposes.



*Northwood and Pinner Hospital in 2002*

The property is now owned by NHS Property Services who have set out a timetable to determine whether the site has a future within the NHS or should be sold for commercial development. Nick Hurd has got a developer to produce plans for the site to be developed as a Health Centre and various types of accommodation for the elderly. The GPs are very keen and are producing detailed plans for the Health Centre. Nick has suggested that the community should get involved by mustering support from the local community. Community Voice has agreed to sponsor a petition to the Secretary of State for Health and

Joan, Andrew and Tony have agreed to promote the petition. They have a target of 20,000 signatures.

Developments at Hillingdon Hospitals NHS FT  
The transfer of Maternity Services from Ealing Hospital took place in July 2015. Additional staff and funding have been put in place.

To improve the patient experience each ward now has a chart showing the uniforms of the different grades of staff and their responsibilities. All staff are required to introduce themselves by name.

As an additional patient service, free Wi-Fi is now available at both the Hillingdon and Mount Vernon sites.

Unfortunately plans for the proposed 2-tier carpark at Hillingdon have been dropped as the project could not be justified financially. The Trust is looking at alternative solutions.

Transfer of NHS services from hospitals into the community. The problems associated with this exercise are to do with: physical resources, buildings, doctors, nurses and equipment, and funding where the Clinical Commissioning Groups are in deficit. The plan is for each **area to have a number of "Hub" locations which would be** open long hours including weekends, and provide doctor and nurse services for patients. Each Hub would have a range of diagnostic equipment available. In our area Mount Vernon already provides many of these services and **Northwood Health Centre is seen as a "spoke" service.** In Hillingdon a site is needed for the Alexandra Avenue development; the former Randalls Store is being investigated as a possibility.

[health@northwoodresidents.co.uk](mailto:health@northwoodresidents.co.uk)

*Richard Field*

## ... and from our Police Safer Neighbourhoods Inspector

**TWITTER.** If any of you use Twitter then I am pleased to let you know that I now have an account that enables me to put out local police news and messages in real time. If **it's not for you but you have any friends or family who are keen on Twitter then please** pass on my details so they can keep up to date. Follow me @MPSHillingNorth

**BURGLARY.** As the nights draw in, now is a good time to look at our home security to try to avoid being burgled. Alarms are a great deterrent, as are side and rear lights. Recent burglaries in Northwood have involved side or rear windows being smashed when the house-holders were out. This must make a noise. I would like to encourage everyone to look out for their neighbours this winter. Even if you are not in a Neighbourhood Watch, looking out of your windows every now and then is a great crime prevention tool. Most of the burglars we catch in the act are caught because someone saw or heard something suspicious and called it in to the Police.



**BOGUS CALLERS.** Always be mindful of people calling at your door who you are not expecting. Purporting to be from a utility company and asking to check gas meters or water stop cocks is still a method of burglary being used. Use a chain on your front door and ask the person to hand you their ID. Check it carefully and if you are still unsure, phone the utility company before letting them in. If they are there for a valid reason, they won't mind being checked out. Also be very wary of persons calling door to door offering to cut your hedges or clear gutters. In recent months we have seen incidents of elderly house-holders agreeing to some work then being charged extortionate prices or being coerced into having extra work done at very high prices. Some people are losing thousands of pounds and I believe it could well be under-reported to us. Don't agree to having any work done by someone you don't know until you have spoken to a friend or relative.

**DANGEROUS DRIVING.** My last plea is to drivers who think it is still acceptable to use a phone whilst driving. IT IS NOT and we are running local zero tolerance operations to catch and punish this type of dangerous driving. Most worrying is that we are seeing parents on their phones whilst doing the school run. Our future operations will target the roads around schools because this is dangerous and socially irresponsible and how a parent can justify their action is beyond me.

Contact me at [rob.bryan@met.police.uk](mailto:rob.bryan@met.police.uk) or on 07500 097182

*Inspector Rob Bryan*

## Planning

Last March, I took over the planning advisor position from Jeff Bailey, who resigned from the NRA committee in order to pursue other major interests. Jeff is an eminent and extremely knowledgeable lawyer and did an outstanding **job with the planning portfolio. I'm a retired accountant** and having an accountant to advise on planning matters is akin to asking an architect to advise on tooth whitening! A somewhat steep learning curve.

I look online at every planning application to Hillingdon Council for the Northwood Ward (approximately 30 per month), regarding residential development (new build, extensions, crossovers, etc.) and examine all filed documents (plans, elevations, design & access statements, etc.). Where appropriate, I will make objections on behalf of NRA and sometimes in conjunction with neighbours or other concerned individuals.

**Objections may only be made on 'planning grounds' that** are to be found in government legislation and London Borough of Hillingdon (LBH) regulations on planning policies, in particular LBH Unitary Development Plan (UDP), e.g. excessive bulk, height, inadequate parking, overlooking and **loss of light to neighbouring properties. "I hate that ugly monstrosity next door, that's going to destroy the value of my house" are not appropriate planning grounds.** The type of application to which I will usually object is one to fell trees that are subject to Tree Preservation Orders (contrary to council policy), where no arboriculture report has been filed. Of course, LBH Planning Inspectorate will always carry out their own assessment and all cases are

decided on their own merits and are subject to appeal to The Secretary of State for the Environment.

The UDP was adopted in 1998 and has been subject to many subsequent amendments. LBH is currently conducting a consultation process on its replacement, Local Plan – Parts 1 & 2, which they hope to adopt some time in 2016.

In recent years, a new feature of some housing applications has been the creation of basements (e.g. for swimming pool, gymnasium, cinema). Subterranean development can have a material adverse impact upon the water table and run-off to neighbouring properties, even causing flooding and I will always lodge an NRA objection where no geotechnical or hydrological surveys have been filed. Due to the nature and cost of basement development, it tends to relate to large houses on large individual plots of land, which in Northwood, has meant the Copse Wood Estate. The importance of Basement Development is reflected in the proposed Local Plan-Part 2, where Policy DMHB24 is dedicated to it.

Another interesting feature has been the number of applications to convert garages and loft space into habitable **rooms; probably the result of the escalating cost of 'moving up the ladder'.** Storage of cars and goods is being sacrificed in favour of useable living space. As long as the development meets all planning criteria, such applications will be allowed.

[planning@northwoodresidents.co.uk](mailto:planning@northwoodresidents.co.uk)

*David Goodman*



## Local Policing

**WINTER APPROACHING.** As winter approaches we all need to consider our security. Darker, colder nights, the Christmas holidays and that end of year feeling all usually lead to higher burglary figures as well as Anti Social behaviour and disorder. Please heed the advise of Insp. Rob Bryan in his report.

**PARKING, SCHOOL GATES, SPEEDING & BURGLARY.** We are also hearing of a small number of parents acting very irresponsibly when dropping their children at the local schools. Driving whilst on your mobile is dangerous, as is double parking. Police have also noticed children not wearing seat belts in the cars, children walking between vehicles and parents leaving their cars unlocked, albeit for a minute or so, adding to the increase in bag snatching. Our Northwood Police Ward panel has tasked the Police with monitoring these issues for the next few months.

Speeding is also another concern. When the Police conduct traffic operations the vast majority of people caught speeding are local residents. It is unacceptable to drive at 40 or 50 mph in a 30 mph zone. Please just check your speedometers when driving and avoid using your phones and/or texting whilst driving.

Although a low crime area Northwood has had 18 reported burglaries over the past twelve weeks with a spike during July. Please be vigilant and report anything untoward to the Police on 101 or if an emergency call 999.

PCSOs. Local residents and businesses are rightly concerned about reports that numbers of PCSOs may be reduced or axed altogether. Inspector Bryan commented to me very recently that the situation is far from clear:

**“In December, details of the Government spending review will be known. Commissioner Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe has been told to plan for cuts to the central police budget of between 25-40%. As such, all Safer Neighbourhood PCSOs have been informed that their retention is under review. No decisions have been made but it is important to realise that cuts will need to be made and the police service, going forward, may look different from how it does now”.**

We encourage everyone to consider their safety, both **personal and their property's; now is a great time to review it.** Not sure what to do? 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 on the NRA website and on our noticeboards.

Next surgery: Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October, 12pm to 2pm, outside Costa Coffee.

**NORTHWOOD POLICE WARD PANEL.** The panel represents the views of local residents and businesses at quarterly meetings (and in between) with our local Police. Our meeting minutes are held at Northwood Library. I want to thank all members of the panel for their hard work during this year. We are always looking for keen and interested local volunteers to join us. Please contact me if interested.

**GET CONNECTED.** Both the Police and I send out email messages with updated information and news of any current issues. If you want to be in the know please ask to join the database.

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

Please continue to contact the Northwood Safer Neighbourhoods Team on Tel: 020 8721 2545 or email: [northwood.snt@met.police.uk](mailto:northwood.snt@met.police.uk)  
web: [met.police.uk/Team/Hillingdon/NorthwoodTeam](http://met.police.uk/Team/Hillingdon/NorthwoodTeam)

Chairman, Northwood Police Ward Panel  
[nwdpolicepanel@gmail.com](mailto:nwdpolicepanel@gmail.com)

Philip Green

and NRA Police Liaison  
[police@northwoodresidents.co.uk](mailto:police@northwoodresidents.co.uk)  
H: 01923 450497 M: 07831 116570

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

## NRA Membership

By the time you read this, we will be approaching the end of **NRA's accounting year, and there are still many members' subscriptions to come in. As you know, the NRA is run entirely by unpaid volunteers, and to pay for its website and (now) Full Colour Newsletters, annual subscriptions are vital. If you haven't given your contribution for this year to your Road Steward (RS) yet, could I ask you to do so as soon as possible?**

- ♦ **if your RS hasn't yet called to collect 2015 subs, they** will be reminded by their Area Road Steward (ARS) to do so promptly.
- ♦ if your RS called when you were not available, they may have left a collection envelope.
- ♦ if so, please put your sub (cash, or cheque to Northwood Residents Association) and hand-deliver to your RS (whose address was on the collection envelope).

- ♦ or deliver or mail a cheque to me at the address below
- ♦ do remember to add your name and address!

Finally, can I renew my plea for new volunteers to be RSs – any help you can give by delivering to a few houses near you just three times a year will allow us to continue newsletter deliveries. Our reducing band of RSs means some are so overloaded that in future we run the risk of not being able to deliver to some members.

Please contact your present RS, or me directly at:-

[chiefroadsteward@northwoodresidents.co.uk](mailto:chiefroadsteward@northwoodresidents.co.uk)  
or direct email: [Paul.barker@bbmc.uk.com](mailto:Paul.barker@bbmc.uk.com)

Home Tel: 01923 821036 Mobile: 07946 385 474  
2 Elgin Drive, Northwood, Middx. HA6 2YR

Paul I. F. Barker



## The Royal British Legion Ruislip and Northwood Branch

The Royal British Legion is the UK's leading Service charity. The Legion provides practical care, advice and support to serving members of the Armed Forces, veterans of all ages and their families.

Each year the nation expresses its unequivocal support for The Royal British Legion's work through the Poppy Appeal which is the Legion's major fundraising campaign.

### Poppy Appeal in Northwood

Northwood has supported the Royal British Legion for many years by distributing poppies, wreaths and other remembrance products to our community and collecting donations on their behalf. We distribute throughout Northwood, Eastbury and Northwood Hills and will again have products for which we collect donations in Waitrose, Northwood. Last year

donations of over £18,000 were collected in our community.

**This year's Poppy Appeal campaign will start in Northwood on Saturday 24th October 2015.**

If you have not previously participated in the Northwood Poppy Appeal and would like to assist this year, please contact Chris Boulton on 01923 825564

We need:

- \* volunteers to collect at Waitrose. (We are urgently seeking a new co-ordinator for the Waitrose collections from this year.)
- \* organisations, businesses and houses or house-to-house collection volunteers.

The Northwood Remembrance Day Parade will take place on **Sunday 8th November from 10.30am at the War Memorial in the centre of Northwood.**

**Two Minutes Silence.** We are all familiar with the two minutes silence observed at Remembrance services in November, but have you ever wondered whose idea it was in the first place? Well, its concept is attributed, in part, to one Edward George Honey, an Australian journalist who served briefly with an English Regiment during WWI before being discharged due to ill health.

Honey published a letter in the London Evening News on 8 May 1919 in which he appealed for a five minute silence to be observed during the celebrations of the first anniversary of the end of WWI. No official action was taken at the time, but in October 1919, Sir Percy Fitzpatrick's suggestion for a period of silence on Armistice Day was forwarded to the King's private secretary.

**Perhaps Sir Percy was prompted by Honey's letter; we don't know.**

But King George V was moved by the idea and he, together with both Sir Percy and Honey, attended a rehearsal for a five minute silence involving the Grenadier Guards at Buckingham Palace. However, five minutes proved too long and the two minutes silence was decided upon.

Edward Honey died of consumption, aged 36 at Mount Vernon Hospital. His grave is in Northwood Cemetery in Chestnut Avenue.



NRA Website  
make-over

We hope that you like the fresh, clean look of our new website. You should find it much easier to navigate now.

BUT, a website is only as good as its content - we welcome contributions from all of our members to help keep it up to date and relevant.

We are seeking a volunteer to oversee the website content and to do the updates. If you are interested, please do get in touch.

[info@northwoodresidents.co.uk](mailto:info@northwoodresidents.co.uk)

### ODE TO A PAVEMENT

O you evil pavement  
What did I do to you?  
How could you pull me over  
And leave me black and blue?

Why did you trap my sandal  
And throw me to the ground?  
Where was your sense of honour?  
Nowhere to be found!

Did you revel in the pools of blood  
That trickled down the street?  
Are you a secret vampire  
That lays in wait for feet?

Next time I walk along your street  
I will get you back

**I'll hit you with my walking stick**  
Till you begin to crack!

*By a resident of Murray Road*

## Musings From the Treasurer

**OUTDOOR EATING.** The summer is officially over, though some could suggest it never actually started. In the short UK season of warm evenings there has been an increased propensity for outdoor eating and social gatherings. Indeed **if someone says 'Barby' today you will probably think of a Barbeque rather than the Barbie doll.** Restaurants and pubs also like to provide outdoor eating facilities. Noise does travel further at night so it is easier to disturb others however unintentional that may be.

During the rest of the year social gatherings are likely to be indoors with doors and windows firmly closed; it is only when diners and visitors leave that noise can be an issue.

**KEEP NORTHWOOD ATTRACTIVE.** Behaving in a neighbourly fashion is important; a good neighbourhood has not just an attractive location but also friendly, considerate residents and visitors. Litter strewn, noisy streets diminish the standing of a town but both of these are under the control of the residents and visitors to the town. It is in our own interests to ensure we do not drop litter or make excessive noise, not only to maintain a high quality of life, but also to ensure Northwood remains as an agreeable place to live and therefore maintains high **property values. One's home tends to remain the most valuable asset so anything that can undermine that value is**

highly undesirable. Strangely, planning considerations do not take such financial losses into consideration so it is not possible to object to some proposed development on the **grounds it may devalue one's property.** Some developments can increase property values; having a Waitrose in a town apparently increases property values; good schools are another positive asset.

It is up to the residents to determine just how attractive their town is. We must be wary of noise when **leaving restaurants, don't talk too loudly, don't over rev car engines etc.** Do not leave litter deliberately or unintentionally e.g. by placing black rubbish sacks out too early so that animals or birds rip them open. Make your views known on issues that affect the town, for example the proposed Station Approach development. One way is to discuss such things with your Road Steward so that information can be passed to the committee. It is in all of our interests that Northwood continues to be a highly desirable place to live, and a consensus on how to achieve that is required so the NRA can actively promote that majority position.

treasurer@northwoodresidents.co.uk

David Blowers

## The Large Hadron Collider *Your questions answered*

Q: What is a hadron?

A: A hadron is a particle, named in 1981 after particle physicist Neil Hadron, whose turn it was.

**'Particle' is short for 'Partly understood Article'. The term therefore covers a wide field, getting wider all the time. I mean, you've heard of the Higgs Boson? (1)**

Q: What does it look like?

A: You will never see one. This is not because they are invisible, or anything interesting like that, but because particle physicists are paranoid about scientific espionage and never allow anyone into their laboratories.

However, I met a man in a bar whose sister once (2) dated a particle physicist, who told her a hadron looks like a cross between a gerbil, an octopus and a bicycle. (3)

**Q: What's it for, then?**

A: Hadrons were originally bred as an alternative to laboratory mice, until the anti-vivisection movements of the 90s outlawed live animal experiments. They continued to be kept in labs as pets. Particle physicists are both nerdy and needy and rarely go out with girls, so they were company.

**Q: So what's this collider when it's at home?**

A: **It's a circular track round which the hadrons race at top speed, smashing into each other from time to time. This is great fun and they enjoy it enormously. (4)**

The problem with hadrons is that they are almost pure energy (5), so they need a lot of exercise. This created a problem in the labs at weekends when the particle physicists went home to see their mothers. Left alone, the hadrons

would trash the place, so the physicists built the Large Hadron Collider to get them tired out before Friday knocking -off time.

Q: Why is it called the *Large* Hadron Collider?

A: Because only large hadrons are a problem. Little ones are kept in cages, where they get all the exercise they need going round and round on that little wheel.

**Q: I've heard that the LHC might blow up the whole planet. Should I be worried?**

A: **No, because if it did happen, you wouldn't know about it. One instant you'd be sitting there with a cup of tea watching *Pointless*, and the next you'd be vaporised. You wouldn't even have time to say, 'What the—?' before your scattered atoms were many light years away from each other.** Of course, it would be sad if the Earth *were* to be annihilated, **but since there'd be no-one left to say "You know, I think that's a bit of a shame, actually," it hardly matters. You might as well forget the whole thing, and get on with your life. (6)**

Notes

(1) No, I don't know what it is either.

(2) Literally (see following answer)

(3) Do not attempt to imagine this.

(4) Animal Lib activists take note.

(5) True, apparently.

(6) To save you wasting your final hours wondering: the **'all important pointless answer' will not be LA Confidential or Fatal Attraction. It never is.**

Cynthia Ellis



## Northwood Futures Autumn Exhibition

Northwood Futures and Transport for London (TfL) hosted a final consultation event in 65 Green Lane from the 29<sup>th</sup> September - 3<sup>rd</sup> October reaching 710 people. If you missed this event you can still view the work and a summary of the feedback we received on the Northwood Futures website.

This event marked the culmination of 15 months of public engagement and as TfL is in the final stages of preparing a planning application we were seeking to test opinion as to whether or not people support the scheme. Having spoken to many people over the duration of the Northwood Futures project we have a wide range of detailed opinions but we wanted to establish if the principles of the scheme

were correct and if the overall benefits of the proposals were something that people wanted to see happen.

TfL will now submit a planning application to London Borough of Hillingdon for assessment. As part of this assessment Hillingdon will run a statutory public consultation process providing a further opportunity for local people to submit their views formally to the borough. We will continue to update the website with key messages and milestones to keep you informed.

Thank you once again to everybody who has taken part in this process and committed so much time to share their **views and help shape TfL's proposals.**

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

Catherine Greig



## There's a lot going on at Northwood Library!

**SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2015.** This year's theme was RECORD BREAKERS and hundreds of children visited Northwood Library to take part. As well as borrowing books the children took part in craft, storytime and creative writing events, and record-breaking mini challenges.

**STORYCAMP.** If you visited the Library in June you may have seen our Storycamp set up in the Children's Library. The tents proved a popular place for families to share books together and we were also pleased to welcome both the Little Learners Nursery and the 1<sup>st</sup> Northwood Brownies to special events at the Storycamp.



**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.

**READING GROUP.** Have you ever been moved by a book and wanted to discuss it with someone else? Come along to our friendly and informal reading group. We meet 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. November's book is *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd, a moving story of slavery inspired by real events in America's deep south. If you would like to join us, speak to a member of staff and collect a copy of the book at the library.

**BIZZY BEES STORYTIME.** Stories, rhymes and simple crafts for the under 5s every Wednesday, 10am (term-time only).

Northwood Library  
Oaklands Gate, Green Lane, Northwood, HA6 3AA  
Tel: 01895 558262  
Email: northwood-library@hilligdon.gov.uk  
<http://hilligdon.gov.uk/libraries>  
Opening hours:  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9am-6pm,  
Tuesday 9am-7pm, Saturday 9am-4pm.

Janet Clements

## Dog Control Orders

The London Borough of Hillingdon website gives information about **THREE DOG CONTROL ORDERS**:

1. **DOG FOULING.** Although certain blind and disabled people are exempted from this order, it otherwise applies to all land where the public has access, so please remember your plastic bag when you take your dog for a walk.
2. **DOGS ON LEADS.** Dogs must be kept on leads within three metres of any road where there is passage of vehicles. The order does not include parks, open spaces, river embankment, towpath etc, where there is no passage of vehicles within three metres.

3. **DOGS ON LEADS BY DIRECTION.** This order requires dogs to be kept on leads if requested by an authorised officer and applies throughout the borough and to all land where the public has access. The situations where an officer may give a direction to keep a dog on a lead are

- (a) to prevent a nuisance
- (b) the dog's behaviour is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to other people
- (c) the worrying or disturbance of any animal or bird

Discussion is still underway regarding the exclusion of dogs from designated children's play areas.

It is worth observing the above Orders, as failure to do so could lead to a hefty fine or possible prosecution.

## Eastbury (and Northwood) Horticultural Society

During the early 70s, a group of budding gardeners in the Eastbury part of Northwood felt that the gardens in the area were such a valuable component to the quality of life for its residents, that a local horticultural society should be created. In 1971 the Eastbury Horticultural Society germinated; it grew well, expanding to enable residents in other parts of Northwood to join. It now has approximately 150 members.

A small working committee, supported by a number of volunteers, ensures that members have plenty of engagements to put in their diaries for every season. During autumn and winter we host speakers who cover a wide range of subjects. Meetings take place at Eastbury Farm School, starting at 8pm and finishing with an opportunity for everyone to socialise over tea and biscuits. The next meeting will be on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November when Janet Honour and Patricia Thirion will tell us about **'Creating Gardens for Chelsea'**.

The arrival of spring sees the start of activities such as day outings to gardens, both private and charitably owned (**National Trust, etc**). **We have a week's holiday in May** when we visit a variety of private and public gardens in an area.

**Events organized by the society also include 'Bring and Buy'** plant sales, one in the spring and one in the autumn, where plants grown by members are sold. These sales top-up our finances and, once coffee and cakes are served, become happy social occasions! Most members quite understandably enjoy sharing their experiences and efforts with others. Some go one step further by inviting members to view their own **gardens. We have two 'Open Gardens' every year and they too are popular.** Our Annual Show is staged at Eastbury Farm School in either early summer or autumn.

Members are kept up-to-date with all our activities through our newsletter, published several times a year and distributed by a team of Road Stewards.

We are always pleased to hear from local residents who wish to become members. The annual subscription for the current year is £5 (or £8.50 if you wish to receive the newsletters by post).

Please email the Membership Secretary to request joining details: [ehs.members@gmail.com](mailto:ehs.members@gmail.com)

## Calling Local Businesses

THE PINNER & NORTHWOOD BUSINESS CLUB was founded in 1981. The club started to hold monthly lunch meetings to further its aims and objectives which were, and still are, to discuss issues of concern, raise money for local charities and act as a voice for the local business community.

Wednesday was the chosen day because, at the time, **Wednesday was the area's traditional 'early closing' day** and many of the retailers were able to attend more easily. In keeping with this tradition meetings are still held on the last Wednesday of every month at the Northwood Golf Club. These monthly lunches feature eminent speakers who provide informative and interesting input and there is a warm welcome for everybody. Guests are always welcome.

The club has a relaxed approach to networking but its three objectives, in no particular order, remain firm:

- Support the local community
- Raise funds for local charities and good causes
- Build business relationships

The club also has an active social calendar and in recent years has organised an Annual Golf Day, a trip to the Royal

Windsor Races and a Summer Barbeque. The very special Christmas lunch is a particularly enjoyable event, normally held on the first Friday in December. The social events the club organises are open to friends and family as well as staff and business contacts.

Benefits of membership include the opportunity to network with like-minded local business people who share similar aims and objectives. The club does not operate a formal referral of business policy but undoubtedly a lot of business is transacted between contacts made at the club. In most cases these contacts become good lifelong friends.

Other benefits include the directory of members on our **website and the club's promotion of local business in and around the community.** The club has excellent contacts with other local groups and associations, local authorities etc. Amongst our membership, we usually have someone who can provide the answer to any business question you may have.

To find out more visit:  
[www.pinner-northwoodbusclub.org.uk](http://www.pinner-northwoodbusclub.org.uk)



## Northwood and District U3A

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

In August we celebrated our 4th Anniversary and are very pleased to report that we now have 673 members; there are never fewer than 200 of these in the audience at our monthly meetings which is very gratifying.

On Friday, 14th August we celebrated our Anniversary with a lunch at Old Merchant Taylors Clubhouse. This was a great success and we are all looking forward to next year! In June we held a BBQ at Grimsdyke Golf Club. There was a Table Quiz and a Treasure Hunt and the afternoon was rounded off by the raffle which raised £72 towards The London Air Ambulance which is our charity for this year.

Our Speakers this year have covered a wide range; we had talks on the Red Arrows, The Tower of London and one which aroused much interest on Frauds, Scams and How to Avoid Them. Very useful!

Two new groups on offer are Chess and Food. This latter one is not to teach but to share different ideas and who doesn't need those? Also, the Poetry Group meets once a month to read both self-penned poems as well as those that we love and wish to share.

Over the next two months the Ukulele Group will be entertaining in various venues in the surrounding district. We are very happy to go along to sing and play to groups of folk who may otherwise not get out very easily. We perform songs everybody knows and can sing along to.

General meetings are still held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 10.30am in Fairfield Church Hall, Windsor Close, Northwood Hills, HA6 1PD. You will be sure of a very warm welcome.

[u3asites.org.uk/northwood](http://u3asites.org.uk/northwood)

Maureen Crimmins

## NRA Business Members

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

Ace Cars	1 Station Approach	Minicabs
Board of Ironing	28 High Street	Ironing Service
Canterbury Travel	42-44 High Street	Travel Agents
E Spark Ltd	104 Pinner Road	Funeral Directors
Express Mobile	46 High Street	Mobile phones
Gibbs Gillespie	65c Green Lane	Estate Agents
High Street Cars	18 High Street	Minicabs
Jean Page	4 Rowland Place	Florist
Kenway Upholsterers	22 High Street	Upholstery
London Supplements	130 Pinner Road	Health Supplements
Melodies Music	54 High Street	Music Tuition
Natural Infusions	126 Pinner Road	Hairdresser
Panache	32 Green Lane	Medi-spa

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](mailto:business@northwoodresidents.co.uk)

*Vacancy - it could be YOU!*

## Save the Dates!

Our **Carol Evening** will be taking place on

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December**

from 6.30pm next to the War Memorial.

Once again we shall be entertained by several school choirs and will have festive music, possibly played by a live band. Nick Hurd MP will be opening the Christmas Tree Festival at Northwood Methodist Church in Oaklands Gate at 6pm before coming to join us in Green Lane.

~~~~~

Looking ahead to 2016, we have decided that it is time we organised another community event in the Chestnut Avenue Recreation Ground. So the plan is to celebrate the

### Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

with an afternoon of live music and you will be invited to come along bringing a picnic to enjoy while the bands entertain us. We have formed an organising committee jointly with **Northwood Hills Residents' Association** and booked dry, sunny weather!

The date is **Sunday 12th June**

~~~~~

Keep an eye on the **NRA website** and **noticeboards** for more information nearer to these dates

## Mount Vernon Comforts Fund celebrates 80 years of fund raising

The Comforts Fund Annual General Meeting was held in July and we were pleased to welcome the Deputy Mayor of Hillingdon, Councillor John Hensley, and the Mayoress and Mr Shane De Garis, Chief Executive of Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, to help us celebrate our 80<sup>th</sup> year of raising money to support patient care at Mount Vernon Hospital.



*Cllr John Hensley & Rosemary Causton do the honours*

Nearly 80 volunteers attended the meeting to hear our annual reports which noted a substantial level of income of £150,000 with profits of £80,000. After the meeting a special celebration tea was enjoyed and a cake cut by the Deputy **Mayor and a volunteer who has nearly 50 years' connection** with the hospital.

We continue to run five different areas: our trolley service to wards, tea bar in the radiotherapy suite, and our three shops selling books, charity goods and the news and gift shop. The number of volunteers remains steady at between 150-160 and apart from four hours administration a week, all give of their time freely.

We receive requests from all wards and departments across the hospital for items which cannot be purchased from NHS budgets and in the first six months of this year were able to allocate £60,000.

None of our endeavours would be possible without the support of patients, staff and members of the public who purchase items for sale in our book shop and charity shop and we hope that you will consider us if you have goods to dispose of.

*Jan Sutton  
Chairman of Comforts Fund*



## Northwood & District Community Association

Our year of activities covers September to August each year and AGMs are held in April. We have sections that meet weekly, fortnightly and monthly, some seasonal, some all year.

**Weekly:** there is Keep Fit, Short Mat Bowls, Line Dancing, Badminton, Social Tennis and Yoga. Most are held in the daytime, but Badminton and two of the Short Mat Bowls are held in the evening.

**Fortnightly:** there is Scrabble, Bridge, Card & Board Games, Table Tennis and Whist - these are all held in the daytime.

**Monthly:** there is Anglo-German Club, Walking for Pleasure and Rambling - the rambling taking place on Sundays.

We hold three Ploughman Lunches per year in October, February, and May and a Quiz once a year in November - which at a cost of £6 covering Lunch or an evening buffet, dessert and a drink is very good value for money. As we do not have a meeting place of our own, we hire halls and rooms in four of the local churches, so we are accessible by car, public transport or even within walking distance for many.

Membership is £5 per year, with each section charging a fee according to the cost of the activity which varies if tutors or hall hire is necessary. The cheapest is 50p and the dearest is £5; some sections hold their own social get-togethers.

For more information please call 01923 836346

Pat Dunhill

## Northwood Craft Market

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

**FORTHCOMING DATES:** Saturdays 7<sup>th</sup> November, 5<sup>th</sup> December

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

As Christmas approaches, Northwood Craft Market is an ideal place to find great, original, gift ideas. All crafts for sale are handmade by local craftspeople and you can be sure of high **quality and originality**. Crafts range from jewellery, children's clothing, soaps and cards, to knitting & crochet, watercolours, fabric bags, seasonal decorations, a children's story book and much more.

Our hands-on crafts for children are always popular and there will be crafts on a Christmas theme for them to make something to take home. At our December market there will

[www.northwoodcraftmarket.co.uk](http://www.northwoodcraftmarket.co.uk)

Like us on Facebook

Follow us on Twitter @CraftNorthwood

Email: [northwoodcraftmarket@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:northwoodcraftmarket@hotmail.co.uk)

Telephone Susan on 07780 601842

also be the chance to meet Father Christmas. As always, teas, coffees and delicious homemade cakes will be available at the Church Coffee Shop.

You can see photos of some of the crafts on our website, as well as other information about the market. Do call in and see us - there's always a friendly welcome.



## Northwood Lions Club



Tea at The Lion's Den

Northwood Lions Club has continued its fundraising this year, enabling us to give away thousands of pounds to local good causes. Most of our funds are raised at our long-established Saturday Market, known as the 'Lions Den', run entirely by a volunteer team headed by Olive Fairclough. Past beneficiaries include The Paul Strickland Scanner Centre, RNIB Sunshine Home, Northwood Live at Home and dozens of others. We also fundraise by participating in local Summer Fêtes, and by holding store collections ('Tin-shakes') **at Waitrose, Sainsbury's and Tesco.**

The Saturday Market, at 195 Pinner Road (next door to the sorting office, near the Iron Bridge) sells clothes, toys, bric-a-brac, small furniture items, haberdashery and craft supplies - also tea, coffee and delicious home made cakes! We are open throughout the year, every Saturday morning from 9.45 till 11.45.

Next month Northwood Lions will be having a presentation evening (our second **one this year**), where we'll be giving **£12,000 shared between six local** organisations. The club meets on the first and third Wednesday evenings of the month. At one of our recent meetings we welcomed a guest from Chennai (formerly Madras) - a city with many inhabitants and large thriving Lions clubs who are doing simply amazing work there to aid the population.

Membership enquiries are always welcome. Robert can be contacted on 07860 324395 Visit [www.northwoodlions.org.uk](http://www.northwoodlions.org.uk)

Robert Green



## St John's United Reformed Church, Hallowell Road

It has been a year since St John's URC hosted its Open House event following the stunning refurbishment of the building. The past year has seen a number of other events and developments, the most notable of which is the current garden transformation project which will make the outside space more welcoming to both visitors and wildlife!

A significant milestone was the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the consecration of the building, used as a VAD Hospital during WW1, which was commemorated as part of a weekend of events organised by Northwood Community Arts and St John's in May. The year also saw the start of 'Book Group @ St John's' which meets on Friday afternoons every six weeks and is open to all in the community. Plans are also afoot to have a tea and coffee morning on Mondays to run alongside Live at Home's tablet workshops (see below), followed by 20 minute lunch-time music performances. If you would like to be involved in any of the events at the church, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the church office.

**St John's continues to provide a warm welcome to those of any faith and none, and is blessed to have a huge variety of community groups meeting within its walls. Drop in and see!**

### Regular events

Sunday services 10.30am, communion celebrated on the second Sunday of each month.

**Book Group @ St John's, 2.30pm, 11<sup>th</sup> December (6 weekly).** Prayer meetings, 11.15am every first Wednesday and 8pm every third Wednesday of the month.

### Special events

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Oct 10.30am, Harvest Festival service followed by lunch.



*St John's transformed garden*

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November 3.00pm, concert by Chelys Consort of Viols followed by tea. Tickets £10/£8 available on the door.

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November, Advent Lunch.

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December, Christmas concert in aid of refugee charities. Details to follow.

Christmas services – 10.30am Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December and Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December.

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2016 4.30pm, Burns Night Supper.

Telephone: 01923 829166

Website: [www.urnorthwood.org](http://www.urnorthwood.org)

Email: [stjohnsnorthwood@btconnect.com](mailto:stjohnsnorthwood@btconnect.com)

## Northwood Live at Home Scheme

The Northwood Live at Home Scheme has been working in the community for the last 17 years, supporting older people locally who are still living independently, but are finding it difficult to get out and about as they used to and are possibly feeling isolated. Our friendly staff, aided by trained volunteers, organise a range of regular activities to enable our members to socialise, eat a nutritious warm meal, exercise and generally improve their wellbeing and enjoyment of life.

This autumn we are introducing three new activities: we are delighted to be the first Live at Home Scheme to offer Music Therapy, particularly beneficial for those with mild dementia; our new Monday iPad sessions have proved so popular with our members that we have organised a second course; and we are starting a monthly Saturday Breakfast Club.

The Scheme is expanding and we are seeking to recruit a new assistant manager. The post is for 24 hours a week, with some flexibility. For further details, please contact our Manager, Angela Flux, on the office number below.

Thank you to those who came forward after our appeal for befrienders in the last issue. We still need more volunteers for this and other roles, such as driving members to activities, helping at events and assisting with outings. If you feel you might enjoy giving your time in this way, please contact the office.

New members are always welcome. We are open to anyone in Northwood and Northwood



*Coteford School Pupils visiting Lunch Club*

Hills age 60+. Membership is free, but we do make a small charge for activities to cover some of our costs. Transport is currently provided free of charge for those who have mobility problems.

*Our fundraising highlight of the year:  
a Musical Evening will be held on 21<sup>st</sup> November  
featuring a champagne & canapé reception,  
followed by dinner and the opportunity to dance to  
Stardust Big Band*

*For further details and tickets  
please call 01923 829939 or 01923 820331.*

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

*Jo Wild, Chairman*



## Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre

... supporting people affected by cancer ...

### We're getting ready for Christmas!

Christmas cards are already on sale and you can view the range on our website. We welcome offers of help to sell them.

**Perhaps you could take them to your place of work or local clubs and groups? If you wish to take samples or stock on a 'sale or return' basis, please contact Fiona Hussey. If you've got some spare time and could help us sell them here at Mount Vernon Cancer Centre, then just give Fiona a call. Every penny raised from the sale of our cards goes directly to the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre to support people affected by cancer.**

We also welcome volunteers to help with our Christmas wrapping service.

Dates already confirmed:

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December: intu, Uxbridge and Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December: intu, Watford

We will also be organising a team on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December at intu, Watford.

If you enjoy wrapping presents and would like to help on what is always an enjoyable day, please call Fiona Hussey.

Contact Fiona on 020 3826 2550  
or email: [fiona.hussey@nhs.net](mailto:fiona.hussey@nhs.net)  
For more information visit [www.ljmc.org](http://www.ljmc.org)

## Friends of Michael Sobell Hospice



Hospice to Hospice Walk  
Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November, 10.30am  
Join Harrow Councillor, James Bond, and friends as he walks 8 miles from St Lukes Hospice in Kenton to Michael Sobell Hospice in Northwood. The walk will bring together everyone who has a connection with one or both of the

hospices who would like to walk for a lost loved one, or simply to support both charities. Registration is free but participants are asked to raise sponsorship.

Light up a Life

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November

Michael Sobell Hospice Lecture Hall, Gate 3, Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood, HA6 2RN

Join in this special event when friends and family come

together to celebrate, reflect and remember loved ones who are no longer with us, whether they have received hospice care or not. Ceremonies are at 4pm and 6pm. The service is a non-religious, simple but poignant collection of readings and festive songs. At the end of the ceremony the Hospice Light Up a Life Tree is lit up with each light representing the life of someone who is being remembered. Attendance to the event is free but you need to reserve a place.

Festive Coffee Morning

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 10am – 2pm

Michael Sobell Hospice Lecture Hall

Come along for a browse at our Festive Coffee Morning with a variety of gift stalls, home-made seasonal favourites, live **entertainment, Children's Reading Corner and Red Cross** Messages. FREE entry and parking.

For more details on Michael Sobell Hospice and any of our fundraising events visit [www.michaelsobellhospice.co.uk](http://www.michaelsobellhospice.co.uk) or call the Fundraising Office on 0203 826 2367.



## Northwood Football Club

Northwood Football Club made a blistering start to their new Evo-Stik League campaign, winning their first four matches of August; their best start to a new season for nearly 25 years. It was a great boost for the club following the

hard work put in on the clubhouse refurbishment over the summer and then the great value Season Ticket offer which allows everyone to watch every League fixture for just £30 for the whole season.

Season Ticket Deal. The Club has made an unlimited number of season tickets available this season at a price of just £30, a massive saving on the usual price. It allows admission to all home League games played at Northwood Park by the first team, reserves and the Under-18s in the Ryman Youth League. The £30 also includes membership of the Social Club. To apply for your Season Ticket simply download the form from our website, fill it in and send to Club Secretary Alan Evans.

Chairman Ian Barry said **"We really do want those local people** who enjoy watching football to come down and see at what their local side can offer. Even if you usually go and watch professional football at Watford, QPR or Chelsea, we want

you to make us your second club and get down whenever you can. This is why we have made the Season Ticket offer at such a reasonable price and we hope many of you will take **advantage."**

Refurbishment. **It's not stopping there though as the** clubhouse is also receiving an external makeover thanks to a Chrysalis grant from the council with new windows being fitted and the dressing-rooms being upgraded. The new facility was one of the things that attracted a new sponsor for the first team this season - the club is very grateful to John Flynn of Ruislip Windows & Doors for his generous sponsorship.

Forthcoming fixtures at Northwood Park are:  
Saturday 7th November v. Godalming Town (League)  
Saturday 21st November v. Chalfont St. Peter (League)  
Tuesday 1st December v. North Greenford United (League)  
Saturday 12th December v. St. Ives Town (League)  
Saturday 26th December v. Kings Langley (League)

Always check the website for any changes to advertised fixtures.

Chestnut Avenue, Northwood HA6 1HR  
[www.northwoodfc.com](http://www.northwoodfc.com)



## Post Early for Christmas



*Funds raised enable Explorer Scouts to enjoy adventurous experiences*

Christmas Post for Northwood, Eastcote & Ruislip.

The local Explorer Scouts will be running the popular Christmas Post service again this year. Simply post your cards with 20p per card into the boxes in local shops (last year including Northwood Health Foods and Just Sew) and public libraries and the Explorers will sort and deliver them to anywhere in Northwood, Eastcote and Ruislip. Post Boxes will be available from 1<sup>st</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> December. For more details, including a map of the areas covered, please see [www.renmaspost.org.uk](http://www.renmaspost.org.uk)

*Stephen Plume  
Administrator, REN Explorers*

### NORTHWOOD CHORAL SOCIETY with St. Martin's School Choir Present their Winter Concert:

- ◆ Britten Saint Nicholas, selection of carols
- ◆ at St. Martin's School, 40 Moor Park Road HA6 2DJ
- ◆ on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2015 at 7pm

Tickets: £12 available from choir members, by contacting Chairman, Mr James Went on 0777 3013848 email: [jimwentasingone@aol.com](mailto:jimwentasingone@aol.com), from Northwood Bookshop, tel. 01923 826999 or at the door.

### CHELYS CONSORT OF VIOLS

An hour of the beautiful music of John Dowland, followed by tea and a chance to meet the musicians.

**Chelys' highly acclaimed debut CD 'Ayres & Graces' was released earlier this year, and proceeds from this concert will go towards funding their next recording of Dowland featuring soprano Emma Kirkby.**

- ◆ 3pm, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2015
- ◆ **St John's URC, Hallowell Rd HA6 IEW**

Tickets: £10/£8 concessions, call 07947 064445  
Tickets will be available on the door but booking would be appreciated for catering purposes.  
[www.chelys.webeden.co.uk](http://www.chelys.webeden.co.uk)

### Northwood Methodist Church

Christmas Fayre at Oaklands Gate  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2015, 10am - 1pm

- \* children's games & toys \* home made preserves \*
- \* giant tombola & raffle \* turkey rolls \* crafts \*

### Emmanuel Church at Christmas

Christmas Eve

3pm & 4pm: Emmanuel Church Carols round the Tree

11.15pm: Emmanuel Church Midnight Communion Service

Christmas Day

9am: Emmanuel Church Christmas Day Holy Communion

10am: Eastbury Church Family Holy Communion Service

10.30am: Emmanuel Church Christmas Day Family Service

More info at [www.ecn.org.uk](http://www.ecn.org.uk)

### Northwood Tennis Club

We held our finals day in September and were once again fortunate that the weather was kind to us. We rounded the evening off with a BBQ and prize giving.

During the winter months the club will continue to operate running an internal club mixed doubles tournament, social and junior tennis, as well as matches against other clubs. There are also monthly social events.



*Duncan Chorley winning the men's singles*

For details about membership and coaching visit our website [www.northwoodtennisclub.co.uk](http://www.northwoodtennisclub.co.uk)

*David Cameron  
Chairman*

### Ravenswood Park likes to party!



The residents of Ravenswood Park held a street Barbecue on 9<sup>th</sup> August; it was a very enjoyable day with great weather and food. It brought the residents closer and it was decided to hold similar events in future. Big thanks to Andreea and Peter for organising the event.

*Razia Hasan  
Road Steward for Ravenswood Park*



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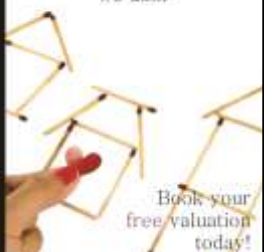
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Ruislip, Northwood & Eastcote Local History Society

16 Nov: **Richard III: The King under the Car Park**  
Matthew Morris - University of Leicester Archaeologist  
21 Dec: **RNELHS Members Evening**  
18 Jan: **The US Presence in Ruislip**  
Sean Kelly - Researcher & Author

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



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](mailto:councillors@northwoodconservatives.org)  
[scott@northwoodconservatives.org](mailto:scott@northwoodconservatives.org)

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