

Northwood Residents' Association



Newsletter 159

June 2014

Chairman's Report - Tony Ellis



INTRODUCTION

Once again it's my pleasure to address members. We have had an eventful three months including our AGM, a very successful Road Stewards' reception, good news on the Save our Northwood front and

European and Local Council elections.

Northwood has looked its best for the last few weeks with trees and flowers in blossom. It is a pity that we have not had a lot of good weather to complement the scene. As I write this, it is raining cats and dogs only hours after we were experiencing a sweltering 80 degrees Fahrenheit. Such is an English summer.

Two of the aims of the NRA are to "Protect the amenities of Northwood" and to "Take action upon matters relating to the civic and social welfare of Northwood". The executive committee strives to meet these aims but we also need your involvement. Please keep talking to us and volunteer to help us if you have the time.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Nearly 100 residents came to our AGM in April where we heard the Hillingdon Borough Commander, Assistant Chief Superintendent Des Rock, talk about London and local policing. The AGM provides a forum for residents to ask questions of speakers, councillors and the NRA and I would like to see more of you at next year's meeting.

ROAD STEWARDS

Our Road Stewards are the arteries of the NRA. Without them, we would soon wither and die. I am very grateful to these residents, some of whom have served up to 30 years, who give up their time to collect subscriptions and deliver three newsletters a year. They also pass on members' comments to the committee.

Time does not stop for anyone and some of our Stewards are getting to the stage in life that they no longer have the energy to carry on. Please do volunteer to take the place of these retirees. NORTHWOOD NEEDS YOU! You can contact our Chief Road Steward, Paul Barker, whose details appear on page 2 of this newsletter.

STATION APPROACH DEVELOPMENT

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, the Save our Northwood team, together with Nick Hurd and our three councillors, pulled off a major victory by stopping the original plans for the re-development of Station Approach. Transport for London has now terminated its contract with developers Bride Hall, and in the words of the senior TfL executive responsible for the project, Peter Elliott, "we are starting off with no preconceived ideas". This is a very welcome change of attitude from TfL.

TfL has employed an independent company, Make-Good, to carry out a four month consultation with residents of Northwood and surrounding areas and stakeholders to learn about our aspirations for the site development. Hopefully, this will result in a development that will satisfy our needs – maintaining the small businesses and adding value and vibrancy to Northwood town centre.

Together with the SON committee, I have met the representatives of Make-Good and I am sure that they will produce an unbiased report. **They will be holding a public meeting at Emmanuel Church at 8pm on Wednesday 2nd July** when they will explain their brief in more detail and answer questions. They will also be opening premises in Northwood from which to conduct their operations. TfL expects to start design work at the end of this year.

This way of designing a development is a first for TfL and a major coup for Northwood. Please do take the opportunity of meeting with Make-Good and making your views known by coming to the public meeting.

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Chairman's Report continued.

In the meantime, please do continue to support our local shops and businesses.

COMMITTEE

I have a very proactive and supportive committee and am very grateful for their unstinting efforts to serve residents and businesses. Welcome to Peter Lansdown who has joined us as the Traffic and Highways representative.

CONCLUSION

Congratulations to our three councillors – Carol Melvin, Richard Lewis and Scott Seaman-Digby – on being re-elected. We will continue to bombard you with questions.

Thanks are also due to our MP, Nick Hurd, who puts a lot of time and effort into supporting Northwood. As ever we are indebted to Editor, Ros Plume, for producing another brilliant newsletter.

Enjoy the summer. Let's hope it is as good as last year. And finally, keep asking the questions!

Tony Ellis
Chairman

chairman@northwoodresidents.co.uk
Tel: 01923 821237

Environment

June is here and hopefully so is Summer. With this in mind can we ask neighbours to think carefully about gardening matters? Bonfires that go on for hours and the lingering smell in the air are intrusive. Hillingdon council provides a weekly gardening recycling doorstep collection, most garden waste can be put out so that the need for bonfires is minimised.



If a leaf blower is being used, the leaves should be gathered up and recycled or composted not just blown away from your property. The noise from these blowers can be a real nuisance especially when used early in the morning. Do your trees need pruning, could they be causing light issues with your neighbour? Could you take action before the problem causes a dispute?

Hillingdon council has a rolling programme to inspect and manage trees in the borough. If you have concerns about overgrown street trees please contact the trees department. I have asked the council to look at the trees in Maxwell Road as they are now blocking the pavements

forcing pedestrians onto the road. This will only escalate with the extra traffic generated in September with the amalgamation of Heathfield School with Northwood College.

Pavements and roads have suffered with the large amount of rainfall recently and if you see any damage please let the council know on 01895 556000 or email contact@hillingdon.gov.uk

Fiona Blackwell
environment@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Get to know the other residents in your road

The Northwood Residents' Association (NRA) Newsletter, such as the one you are reading, is distributed three times a year by a group of volunteers – your Road Stewards (RS).

As our chairman states in his address we are always appealing for more people to help in this. Some roads are long enough that we have two or even three RSs to cover them – but in other cases one RS temporarily covers many streets when we have had a resignation, and naturally there is a need to get new volunteers involved - we are constantly seeking more.

This is a great way to get to know the other residents in your road or nearby, and you will be fully supported by your Area Road Steward who will get the Newsletters to you for each delivery, along with a report showing which addresses have registered NRA members. Hopefully you will be able to enrol more members.

And there is a perk! Annually, there is an evening Road Stewards' Reception to which all RSs are invited, along with a guest. In April this year nearly 70 people attended a very social evening at the Northwood Cricket Clubhouse, and enjoyed hot and cold refreshments with a few glasses of wine or soft drinks.

Why not join us next time? All you have to do is contact me to volunteer for RS duties, and I will be pleased to explain in more detail what is involved – not arduous, I assure you, and needing only a very few hours of your time over the year.

Paul I.F. Barker, Chief Road Steward
chiefroadsteward@northwoodresidents.co.uk
Mobile: 07946 385474



What's this? GEESE on DUCKS Hill Road?

From Councillor Scott Seaman-Digby: Harnessing Community Spirit

Fresh from the local elections (thank you to Northwood for allowing me to serve a sixth term representing you) it's time to look at some of the ideas that I had in the months prior to the election. These emerged from the overwhelming success of the Save our Northwood campaign, and from discussions around the ward with various groups and organisations about how they are supported.

NORTHWOOD CHAMPIONS?

This is an idea that came about when Tony Ellis contacted me to discuss harnessing the community spirit and selflessness that the SON campaign showed was so strong in our area. We then spoke to Nick Hurd MP to ask for his support and he agreed willingly.

The draft idea is that in the next few weeks we will work with NRA to outline a scheme where local people and businesses can nominate individuals or organisations in key categories as 'Northwood Champions'. Overall there would be a Northwood Champion who might represent one or more areas but is deemed to show overwhelmingly the best demonstration of community spirit.

We hope to launch the scheme at the end of the Summer with nominations from September 2014 to February 2015 and an awards ceremony in March 2015. We will host this somewhere central in Northwood and it will be open to all residents. The first step, as ever, is to form a small committee. Nick Hurd MP has agreed to act as Patron and we hope to get one or two more. Tony Ellis and myself

will be on the committee along with Helen Elliott, CEO of Michael Sobell Hospice. We are looking for two more volunteers so if you would be interested please let me know via admin@northwoodchampions.org

VOLUNTEERS' FAIR

The second idea is how we can tie up the hours that many people might have available to engage with the community and the needs of the organisations in the ward that rely on volunteers. I came up with a kind of Freshers' Fair idea like they have at university where local organisations have a small stand 'advertising' their opportunities and local people drop in and sign up to help. It's an idea in its infancy but one I hope to get organised in late Summer, hopefully one evening at Northwood Golf Club. If you represent a local group or organisation who would like to get some volunteers involved, please again email me but this time via scott@northwoodconservatives.org

I've written in MyNorthwoodNews about the desire to engage more fully across the community and plans are also afoot to have an initial meeting about this, with support from our neighbours in Watford and their MP, Richard Harrington. Watch this space for an update in the months ahead.

Cllr Scott Seaman-Digby
07810 543808 – mobile
01895 250316 – office hours (LBH)
0207 24 3121 – office hours (Cllr SSD's business office)
scott@northwoodconservatives.org
cllrs@northwoodconservatives.org

Have You Noticed Our Noticeboards?

By the time you receive this newsletter Green Lane will have a new piece of street furniture – namely a Public Noticeboard.

During the Save Our Northwood campaign last year it became apparent that there was a paucity of public information display areas around Northwood. To remedy this situation the NRA approached Hillingdon Council to discuss the matter and to select a suitable location for a new noticeboard to be bought and maintained by the NRA. The Green Lane site on the pavement close to the Maxwell Road junction was selected as it would provide the greatest visibility for people shopping in or passing through the area.

The new noticeboard will supplement the smaller wall-mounted one in the lower lift lobby in the Waitrose store. Unlike the latter, the new one has a lockable and shatterproof screen which will ensure that notices cannot be removed, defaced or damaged by the weather.

The noticeboard will be available for advertising local activities and general information. The key requirements for public notices are –

- the notices shall be from a non-profit making body based in or having links with Northwood
- the notice shall be submitted pre-printed and no larger than A4 size. They can be set out in portrait or landscape format
- the notices shall be legible and shall not contain any derogatory or defamatory statements or images

The noticeboard will be updated regularly and any out-of-date items removed and destroyed. There is no charge for using this facility.

So, if you belong to such an organisation and wish to avail yourself of this facility or are helping with an eligible event that you wish to publicise, get in touch with the Communications Officer at comms@northwoodresidents.co.uk for further details.



Planning Update

Except for the important work which continues to be undertaken by Save Our Northwood on Station Approach, the last few months have been relatively quiet on the planning front. There has been the usual diet of applications for consent for extensions and single-plot rebuilds, most of which have been uncontroversial. In terms of larger residential development, Barratt Homes have been granted consent to build 10 detached five bedroom houses in place of the three existing houses at 42-46 Ducks Hill Road although at the time of writing no building work has commenced.

TWO OF OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS have indicated their intention to carry out development of their sites:

Northwood College is merging in September with Heathfield School for Girls, Pinner with both schools combining on the Northwood campus and with pupil numbers increasing by approximately 300. The school has already been granted consent for two new temporary classrooms for a period of three years from September and has indicated that in due course it will be applying to the council for consent to build new permanent buildings. We have made clear to the school our concern about any increase in traffic which might result from the increase in pupil numbers and will monitor the position going forward.

St Helen's School launched a public consultation in April to explain their intention to build a new junior school complex in the middle of their existing site. A formal planning application will be made later this year and we will of course consider it carefully. The school has indicated that the new buildings will not result in any increase in pupil numbers.

LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION DELAYED AGAIN

The important public consultation on the new Local Plan has unfortunately been delayed for a second time. We first reported on this in the March 2014 Newsletter.

The six-week consultation should have started at the end of March; that was put back to the end of May; we now understand from the Council that although they cannot give a precise date they expect the consultation will commence "later this year". This is a very important exercise in which public feedback will be key to decisions to be taken by the Council. We will give details of the actual timetable as soon as we can via the NRA website and on our noticeboards.

EXTENSION SIZES MATTER

We reported in the October 2013 Newsletter on the new Permitted Development Rights which, in certain cases, allow large extensions to be built at the rear of houses without specific planning consent being granted. As we indicated, the Council has applied to the Government for permission to reduce the size of the extensions which are covered by the new rules; we await the result of that application which, of course, we hope will be successful, especially having regard to the Government's oft-quoted policy of "localism".

Jeffrey Bailey and David Goodman, NRA Planning Advisers
planning@northwoodresidents.co.uk



Christmas already!

I know it's a little early to be thinking about Christmas time, but we wish to capitalise on our successful Carol Night last year. We hope to have three local schools performing by the War Memorial and expand the area for charity stalls. With permission from the owners we would like to utilise the small parking area in front of the Village Café for the extra stalls. If there are any local charities who would like to participate do email me. The date will be confirmed once the three schools have agreed a common evening.

Miles Gillman
miles.gillman@btinternet.com

NRA Business Members

WEBSITE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Did you know the NRA website carries the contact details for all our Business Members? Well, from next month, this will be extended to include any announcement the Business Members have notified us about. This could be anything from their forthcoming event, promotions, seasonal offers, new products and services, changes in opening times and so on.

So do visit the website. It will be refreshed every month giving you the chance to stay on top of the news from the businesses in the Green Lane and High Street areas.

And if you are a business owner in Northwood, why not become a member and let NRA publicise your activities?

BUSINESS MEMBERS' NEWS

The NRA is always keen to support the businesses in the Northwood area, be they independents or branches of corporate entities, and welcome their contributions to the community.

The membership drops occasionally as retailers close down but it is heartening to have new members and the latest to be added to the list are –

David Lichfield, Estate Agent, 58 Green Lane
Seabourne Lawleys, Solicitors, 62 High Street

For more details visit the NRA website at **www.northwoodresidents.co.uk** and click on the Business members link in the left-hand column.

Mithu Chellaram
business@northwoodresidents.co.uk

How to go down to the woods today...

There are many reasons why people live in Northwood. We have an abundance of good schools, attractive houses in leafy roads and convenient tube access to Central London. What is often overlooked is the reason our town is called Northwood, and that is the woods. We are living on the edge of the largest area of woodland inside the M25, which has been designated as a National Nature Reserve – the first of its kind in Greater London.

There are miles of walks through ancient woodland, coppiced Hornbeam areas and open grassland with cows grazing in the summer.

As many Northwood residents speed past in their cars, they are not aware of how many access points there are to the woods. A short ten minute walk from Northwood Tube Station, down Murray Road, you will find Hills Lane on the Rickmansworth Road.

If you take the right-hand stony path at the end of the lane, and on through Northwood Golf Course, you will arrive at a pond. (Marked A on the map). This is the beginning of an open Common area known as Poors Fields, which can also be accessed by the path leading from Haste Hill Golf Club Car Park at the end of The Drive.

You can also enter the woods via several Public footpaths off Copse Wood Way and the far end of Links Way (B on the map). For those who wish to drive to the woods, and then walk, there are two official car parks; one for Mad Bess Wood on Ducks Hill Road, (C) and the other at Ruislip Lido (D). From here you can access both Copse Wood and Park Wood. There is also a paved circular path around the Ruislip Lido, which takes about half an hour to walk. A new Coffee Shop and Woodland Centre have been built on the beach side of the Lido.

Copse Wood, by the nature of its name, has had sections of it coppiced. This is when Hornbeam trees are cut to the stumps to encourage long-term growth, yet creates rather dense woodland. Mad Bess and Park Wood, however, are more open, mature woodland areas.

To find out more just Google 'Ruislip Woods National Nature Reserve'.



Miles Gillman

NRA representative on the Ruislip Woods Management Advisory Group
woods@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Out Damned Pest!

The dictionary defines a pest as 'anyone or anything which is annoying, harmful or injurious.' On that basis I suppose I have been involved in 'pest control' for most of my working life. Following 30 years as a police officer I have simply moved from the 'anyone' to the 'anything.' The work can be just as varied and just as challenging.

The presence of pests in or around our homes can be distressing. Whilst some may simply be annoying, others can indeed be harmful to our health and well-being. Others can cause damage to the actual premises or its contents. Their presence in or around businesses can also be financially detrimental, leading to lost custom, bad publicity, damaged stock or even legal proceedings.

The pest control industry in general has a poor image, in that most people immediately associate it with poor hygiene or squalid conditions. My experience over the last four years has taught me that nothing could be further from the truth. Whilst it is true that if untreated pests can indeed thrive in such conditions, 'pest activity' or the presence of pests can arise anywhere and often in the most unlikely of places. I have learned for instance that we are as likely to encounter pest activity in or around a multimillion pound home as in a deprived area.

The key to any successful pest treatment is the initial survey. This is required to establish the nature of the pest, the extent of the activity, any underlying faults permitting entry or other factors which may be sustaining the population.

This is also the initial stage in providing contracts for businesses needing to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations or a zero tolerance approach to pest activity. The proverbial 'Waiter there's a fly in my soup' may make a good comedy sketch, but it's not good for business.

Following the survey, a sound knowledge of the species, its life cycle, and legal status determine the method of treatment.

The types of pest we encounter are as many and varied as the locations and customers we deal with. Whilst some pests are seasonal, others keep us busy all year round. We are always happy to provide advice on any pest related issues, however do be aware we no longer do teenagers!

'Let your pest be our problem.'

Dave Kirby
Old Bill's Pest Control



From the Treasurer

LOW TURNOUT AT THE POLLS

Given the recent low turnouts in elections it appears there is a general lack of interest in the voting process to determine our local councillors or European representatives. Whether these elections are tarnished with the image of MPs and their ongoing expenses frauds, is debateable.

DOES ANY GOVERNMENT HAVE A TRUE MANDATE?

Anyway, the voting was largely predictable, the opposition winning seats in the local and European elections as people voiced their protest against the party in power. What was a surprise was UKIP winning the European election, or similarly other anti-EU parties doing rather well in other countries such as France and the Netherlands. So UKIP won with 27% of the vote. Let's not forget the turnout was only 34% so not many of the actual electorate did actually vote UKIP, with 2/3 not wishing to declare a preference. So can UKIP truly claim to represent UK citizens? There is a form of proportional representation in the European elections so the number of seats each party has is based on the number of votes received. This differs to the usual UK first past the post system in General Elections and the anomalies that can sometimes result from it, such as the Labour Party winning a majority of seats with a smaller share of the vote. It will be interesting to see how voters behave in next year's election. It is feasible UKIP could take votes from the Conservatives and thus let the Labour party win seats hitherto deemed impossible. What is likely to be true is that the winning party will win with less than 50% of the vote. How can they claim to have a mandate when they only have a minority support of those people that did actually vote? In an ideal world it would be nice for the winning party to have over 50% of the total electorate support them. Given the low turnouts in the UK, that is unlikely ever to be the case. So does any Government have a true mandate?

WHAT HAS THIS TO DO WITH NRA?

Our residents' association has a high proportion of possible members giving us a strong representation for Northwood. Having high membership rates is thus so important to ensure we can validly represent Northwood. At the AGM the minimum residential subscription was voted to remain at £2. Thankfully more than 50% of our members pay much more than £2 so we can sustain our operations with this low minimum rate. We do need to maintain our high membership levels and it is necessary that the membership fee is not preventative. It is much better for us to have our large mix of subscriptions than, for example, just ten members paying £1000 each.

We are a voluntary organisation so the largest items of expenditure are printing the newsletters and computer resources. We are always looking for ways to meet the stated objectives so if residents do have suggestions for things we can do to improve Northwood please do let us know, via your road steward or via the email addresses listed in this newsletter.

As ever increasing numbers of households have internet access we would like to be able to push information to email addresses. We could then conduct online surveys so if items crop up on which we wish to canvass residents' views we can use email to that end. As such it would be extremely beneficial if you could notify us of your email addresses so we can use technology for speedy communications and ensure we can seek residents' views.

Please email membership@northwoodresidents.co.uk so there can be no transcription errors in copying the address and state that you are happy for the NRA to use that address to communicate with you. We can assure you that the NRA will not disclose such addresses to any other organisation.

David Blowers
treasurer@northwoodresidents.co.uk



Poppy Fields in Northwood

As part of Hillingdon Borough's commemoration of the centenary of the First World War, poppy seeds have been sown at various sites including Northwood Recreation Ground in Chestnut Avenue and Frithwood Park. The work was done by Uxbridge army cadets who sowed a total area of 10,000 m² with a mix of Flanders poppies and Golden Coreopsis seeds. The flowers should be blooming by the time you receive this newsletter; they promise to make a stunning display. Why not take a photograph of the poppies and submit it to us for the website? Send your high resolution jpeg to webmaster@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Metropolitan Line

Would anyone be interested in taking over as Northwood representative on FOMLUC (Federation of Metropolitan Users' Committees)? This is a group set up to further the interests of passengers on the Met Line and to hold management to account regarding the standard of the service.

The group meets six times a year: every four months, meetings are held with Met management at their Baker Street offices, usually at 5 pm. In between, the other three meetings are held in Harrow at 8 pm. There is no necessity to attend every meeting; in fact some representatives can only attend two or three times a year. Regular group emails will keep you in touch with what is going on. Knowledge of or interest in trains is not necessary! Just a desire to improve the service for the traveller.

If you think you might be interested, please contact me.

Lisa Maclay
met@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Traffic and Highways

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER

First, an introduction. After several years working with Ruislip Residents' Association and having recently moved to Northwood, I have taken over the "Traffic and Highways" brief for Northwood Residents' Association from Harry Temmink.

THE STATE OF OUR ROADS

One of our main concerns remains potholes and the general deterioration of local roads. Recently we met with Councillor Scott Seaman-Digby and council officers to review the state of our roads. As a result of our actions, the council has already carried out repairs in Kewferry Road, Green Lane and Rickmansworth Road.

PARKING

As I write this, the consultation report for a proposed PMS (Parking Management Scheme) in the High Street and surrounding roads (as described in the last issue) is eagerly awaited, but early grape-vine rumblings suggest that there will be no change to the present parking arrangements.

Just along Rickmansworth Road, all-day and casual parking is causing width restrictions in the locality of Northwood Golf Club, leading to some dangerous situations. More yellow paint would reduce parking, but would inevitably increase vehicle speeds. I would be glad to have any relevant comments, for or against a change.

PEDESTRIAN VIEWPOINT

In the last issue mention was made of the difficulty some pedestrians have in crossing the roads at the traffic lights at the junction of Green Lane with Rickmansworth Road. These lights have been there for around 15 years and it's probably time for an operational review. It would be costly to make any changes and TfL would be involved. A very significant need would have to be established. Again I would be interested to have views from those affected.

THERE ARE ALWAYS ROAD WORKS.....

By the time you read this the temporary traffic lights in Rickmansworth Road will have disappeared and the recent waterworks completed, along with the resurfacing of Ducks Hill Road – sorely needed.

However, a new road problem is looming, which, although just outside our area, is bound to affect many local residents. In order to install the row of trees down the centre of Joel Street in Northwood Hills and to resurface the road, there will have to be road closures. The latest information from the council regarding planned road closures is as follows:-

We are planning to mitigate major disruption to residents and businesses resulting from closing Joel Street by

undertaking this work during the school summer holidays, from 24 July 2014 to 3 September 2014, as traffic levels are usually considerably lower. The work to the central reservation will be undertaken in a concentrated six week period of day and possibly night work, with the potential for the overall duration to be shortened, depending on how the works proceeds in practice.

Joel Street will need to be closed at various stages to ensure safe excavation in the centre of the road which will be undertaken by vehicles parked to one side of the closed carriageway. The concentrated closure will operate in one direction only and this means that northbound traffic heading up Joel Street will continue to run, but the southbound traffic will be curtailed at Pinner Road, at the Northwood Hills Circus roundabout.

London Buses have agreed to continue to operate the 282 northbound as at present, but the southbound service towards Greenford will be diverted as follows: From Pinner Road junction with Joel Street, ahead Pinner Road, ahead Rickmansworth Road, ahead Pinner Green, right Elm Park Road, ahead Bridge Street, ahead Marsh Road, right Eastcote Road, ahead Bridle road and left Field End Road to line of route.

The H13 bus service runs between St Vincent's Park and Ruislip Lido via Northwood Hills Station (Joel Street), Bridge Street Pinner, Field End Road and Ruislip Station London Buses have said that they will curtail the H13 at the top of Joel Street in both directions. It is recognised that this will cause some inconvenience. We have already started discussions with the Matron directly to understand how this may impact on the nursing home and to explore alternative short term arrangements to help the management at St Vincent's.

So it could be a difficult summer in Northwood Hills!

Peter Lansdown
traffichighways@northwoodresidents.co.uk

To report anything to LBH Highways Dept.
email contactcentre1@hillingdon.gov.uk Tel: 01895 556000



Joel Street - the way it should look at the end of the summer

Rotary Club of Ruislip-Northwood

It is with great pleasure that the Rotary Club of Ruislip Northwood has welcomed two new members Mr Syed Babar and Mr Nayan Patel whom we are sure will be a great asset to our Club. We have had a very good response over the past couple of years to our request for unwanted tools and sewing machines etc. for distribution to East Africa, helping disadvantaged people to learn a skilled trade. This charity is called Workaid with their centre at Chesham HP5 2AA.

For further information regarding our Rotary Club or to donate tools please contact me on 01923 823897 or email colinyvonneharris@googlemail.com.

Colin Harris, President

From Hospital To Hospitable



The new St John's Church converted to a VAD hospital, 1916

Anyone who has recently taken a walk down Hallowell Road in Northwood will have noticed that something has been happening at St John's United Reformed Church. In short, it has been a building site. But what exactly are they building and why? Well, the answer is that the church entrance area is being redeveloped to open up the space there and make the building more welcoming not only to the 1,000 or so people who make use of the facilities there every month, but to the community in general. Apart from the core United Reformed Church congregation, the church buildings are also home to a variety of clubs and societies from play groups to fitness and bridge clubs as well as being a place of worship for other Christians and a number of different faith groups.

The redevelopment work started about three years ago when the congregation of St John's, under the leadership of their minister The Reverend James Fields, began to discuss the possibilities of opening up the building in line with the United Reformed Church's programme of 'Radical Welcome'. AD Practice Ltd of Wheathampstead were employed as architects to design a new-look St John's and the church was fortunate to be able to draw on the talents of various members of the congregation who were more than capable of overseeing the project. One of the themes of the new development is the use of glass to help the church become more transparent and open to the community.

After much consultation and discussion, the builders (Elmcroft Construction of St Albans) moved in during November 2013 and began to remove the old gallery of the church and build new facilities in the entrance area including church office, toilets and an upstairs room (with a lift for accessibility) to be used for workshops, meetings, a café, drop-in space and somewhere to access advice, open for use by the church and the Northwood community.



Before the redevelopment

The congregation is hoping to move back into the church in June where one of the improvements they can look forward to is a new energy efficient heating system when winter comes around. An open day on 6th September 2014 is planned to celebrate this new space and give the community a chance to come see what has been happening in the church. The Reverend James Fields said, 'Far too much of what goes on in our church goes on behind large closed doors. It's the wrong message. We want to become a more open, transparent and welcoming church; one where religion takes a back seat to spirituality. We want to create a space where the insights and hopes of a broad spectrum of people can be expressed. Contemporary faith is not about telling people how to live their lives, but creating a space where the value of all life, not least human, can be affirmed. The hallmark of true Christian witness is hospitality to friend and stranger alike. The modernised facilities of St John's will enable us to extend just such a welcome.'

The timing of the development is perhaps fitting as it is 100 years after the church was originally built. Back then, whilst the sanctuary was being built, the congregation of the time had volunteered the buildings to be used as a Voluntary Aid Detachment hospital for the wounded of the First World War. So now, a century on, St John's continues to serve the Northwood community be it as hospital or just being hospitable.

If you are interested in what is happening at St John's you can contact the church office on 01923 829166 or email stjohnsnorthwood@btconnect.com. You can also visit their website: www.urcnorthwood.org.

John Samson



.... and afterwards



Health Matters

The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust:

Performance this year for Hillingdon and Mount Vernon Hospitals has been on target. However the most recent reports from Community Voice indicate the severe financial strain that they are under.

- **Finance and performance:** The Trust has fully delivered its 2013/14 financial plan and also the quality and performance targets set by Monitor. It is committed to health and social care integration but fears that plans to move services into the community will significantly reduce its income. The Trust must also save £12m in 2014/15 and £8m in 2015/16. To effect savings, a ward was closed in 2013/14 and another is closing in July 2014, a loss of 49 beds. Performance priorities now focus on 7 day working, integration of care with other providers, and elective pathway redesign – plus operational excellence.
- **Estate Issues:** Cost of backlog maintenance is estimated at £17.5m plus circa £40m required to repair the 1960s Tower and Podium of the Hillingdon Hospital building – there are no immediate safety concerns but the building has poor thermal efficiency and poor aesthetic appearance.
- **Expansion of Obstetrics:** In the near future much of the Trust's inpatient gynaecology service will transfer to the Mount Vernon site, which will free space at Hillingdon Hospital to absorb the expected transfer of around 800 births per annum from Ealing Hospital, which may happen as early as December 2014. An Outline Business Case for formal approval in May 2014 proposes to expand the maternity and neonatal unit to accommodate up to 6,000 births per annum (circa 2,000 more than currently provided).

- **Mount Vernon site:** Over the year ahead an increase in orthopaedics and other surgical specialities is expected, including gynaecology. A new Neuro Rehabilitation Unit is expected to open in August with 16 beds managed as an extension of the Hillingdon Hospital service.

Malignant Melanoma: There is rising concern over the growth of Skin Cancer cases.

The number of people developing malignant melanoma - the most deadly type of skin cancer - has leapt seven-fold since the 1970s, figures published by Cancer Research UK have revealed. More than 13,000 people in the UK are developing the disease each year, compared with about 1,800 in 1975, owing to the boom in package holidays to sunny resorts, and the growing use of sunbeds. The sharp rise means that incidence rates of malignant melanoma have increased more rapidly over recent decades than any of today's ten most common cancers. It is now the fifth most common cancer in Britain and the most common cancer among women in their 20s. "Sunburn is a clear sign that the DNA in your skin cells has been damaged, and over time that can lead to cancer" said Caroline Cerny of Cancer Research UK.

In addition to staying out of the sun and wearing a sunscreen with at least SPF15 and good UVA protection, the charity advises people to see their doctor if they notice new moles, freckles, or patches of skin that have suddenly changed colour or size. Particular attention should be paid to moles that are asymmetrical, have jagged edges or uneven colour, or are more than 6mm wide - and those that are itchy or bleeding.

Richard Field

health@northwoodresidents.co.uk

News from Midsummer Gardens - Resting....but not on our laurels

What a wet start to the gardening year and May looks set to be one of the wettest on record. And yet we have already received enquiries about the next Midsummer Gardens. We are delighted at this early interest.

The planning and preparation for **Midsummer Gardens 2013** commenced a year in advance. We visited prospective gardens, created a catalogue of images and for a full year devoted many hours to make sure that 2013 was the success it turned out to be.

As many of you know Midsummer Gardens has always been biennial. Recently Warren, Carole and Hugh met up and decided that we would like to rest the event until 2016. We came to this decision because right now none of us feel ready to dig deep and embrace the efforts required in order to organise another successful event as early as 2015.

We may have temporarily given our gardening gloves a rest but hopefully we shall continue to work towards making 2016 more successful than ever.

If any of you are thinking of opening your gardens individually please let us know and we will endeavour to publicise these on our website. Also, if anyone knows of NEW gardens please do get in touch.

Hugh Harkness

<http://midsummergardens.com>



MIDSUMMER GARDENS

Sponsored by Gables Cottage and Ducks Hill Garden Centre of Reading

Local gardens open for charity

www.midsummergardens.com

midsummergardens@gmail.com

Friends of Michael Sobell Hospice

Support your local hospice and make a difference to people with life-limiting illnesses

Michael Sobell Hospice is a specialist palliative care centre at Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood. With our 16 bed in-patient unit and day therapy centre, we aim to ensure that all patients who face life-limiting illnesses, their families and carers receive the best possible care to enhance their quality of life, with the focus placed on providing relief from their symptoms.



Patients may be admitted for symptom management, respite care, rehabilitation, or for care in the last days of their life and will be cared for by our fantastic team of Doctors, nurses, chaplains, social workers, counsellors, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, complementary and art therapists, housekeepers, volunteers and administration staff.

There is no charge for the care we provide but Michael Sobell Hospice relies heavily on charitable donations.

We need to raise £1.4 million every year to maintain our high standard of care to the local community.

You can support us by coming along to one of our events, making a donation or volunteering for us. We are urgently looking for Volunteer Retail Assistants to help in our shops if you can spare a few hours a week please call Victoria on **01923 844606**.

Here are details of some of our forthcoming events.....

A Vintage Affair on Sunday 13th July 2014

Michael Sobell Hospice, Gate 3, Mount Vernon Hospital, off White Hill, HA6 2RN

Free Parking on site

Step back in time and join us for all things vintage at our annual vintage event.

Morning Affair from 10am to 1pm, entry £1

There will be live music, Red Cross massages, tea rooms, classic cars and gift stalls.

Afternoon Affair from 2pm to 5pm, £15 per ticket

Ticket includes Full Afternoon Tea, a glass of bubbly, live music, Jiveswing, classic cars.



Charity Golf Day on Thursday 18th September, 2pm

Sandy Lodge Golf Club, Moor Park

Tee off at our 14th annual charity Golf Day at Sandy Lodge Golf Club where over 100 golfers compete in teams of 4 for the coveted MSH trophy. Limited places are available for this ever-popular sporting event. There will be a dinner and an auction with fabulous premium items on offer to bid for.

For more details on Michael Sobell Hospice and any of our fundraising events visit

www.michaelsobellhospice.co.uk or call the Fundraising Office on **01923 844730**.

Northwood and District Community Association

We are approaching summer (we hope) and some better weather for our rambling and tennis sections. Some of us from the rambling section went on the Paul Strickland Walk on the May Bank Holiday - see picture. We held our AGM in April and were delighted to have the then Mayor and Mayoress of Hillingdon (Mr and Mrs Kauffman) attend. They in turn were very impressed with the activities we have to offer and spent a lot of time meeting and chatting to our members over refreshments at the end of the meeting.

Our Short Mat Bowls sections have turned their attention to outdoor bowling now, but these indoor sections will resume in October. Of course we always welcome any newcomers who wish to try out these or any of our other sections all held locally at reasonable cost. Although we do not arrange outings we do hold three Ploughman's Lunches and One Quiz Supper a year where people can meet socially and enjoy good food and company.



If you want more information please contact me, Pat Dunhill, on 01923 836346.

Northwood and District U3A – University of the Third Age

As we approach our 3rd anniversary we can sit back a little and reflect on how far we have come. Sometimes life has been so hectic that the days hurtle by with no time to take stock of what we have achieved. We now have 590 members, 57 groups and a very well attended monthly meeting at Fairfield. Most months we have an audience of approximately 220 which includes both members and visitors.

Certainly, our speakers have been both informative and entertaining. In March we were very lucky to have a real live Punch and Judy Man. He gave us some historical background and showed us a selection of the puppets that he had made. To our great enjoyment he ended with a short live show. How we all shouted for Judy when Punch was hitting the baby!

May's talk was on Green Shield Stamps given by one of our members, Ted Adams. What a walk down Memory Lane! I think we all remember poring over the catalogue to see how many books would be needed to get some new tea towels.

In April, four members of our Social Group visited Hounds for Heroes in Petersfield, Hampshire to present a cheque



for £400. This was money that had been raised during various social events during the year.

Keith Cains made a short video which was shown at May's monthly meeting. This showed some of the training the dogs go through. These dogs provide an invaluable aid to troops who have been injured in the line of duty and are in need of assistance with various day to day tasks. We all agreed it is a very worthwhile cause and were very grateful to Keith and the others who had travelled down to Petersfield with him.

Our Current Affairs Group has grown to such an extent that we are starting a second one in June. It is a lovely way to let off steam regarding international, local and sometimes quite trivial matters. So many different views are aired, sometimes quite forcefully but at the end of the two hours we part very amicably feeling so much better for venting our spleens a little.

Don't forget we have a website where you can find out more: u3asites.org.uk/northwood. Better still, just come along to Fairfield Church Hall at 10.30 am on the first Wednesday of each month.

Maureen Crimmins

Have fun this summer with FIESTA

The long school holidays will soon be upon us; six whole weeks stretching ahead with no plans, but for young people in Hillingdon, there will be no shortage of things to do thanks to FIESTA.

This year's FIESTA programme, offering activities and courses for eight to 19 year olds, will run from Monday 28th July until Friday 29th August. You will be able to book online from Wednesday 11th June through the young.hillingdon.gov.uk website. Activities take place at venues across the borough including the Northwood Young People's Centre in Hallowell Road.

FIESTA is a great way to have some fun and meet some new friends, as well as learning a new skill that could come in handy for a future career, or a hobby. With courses including digital photography, outdoor activities, summer action, international cooking, sound recording music production, beauty, fashion, motor vehicle maintenance and drama there's bound to be something to interest you.

Prices have been frozen again this year, meaning you can sign up without breaking the bank. Make sure you don't miss out, have a look online and book your places now.

Cllr David Simmonds, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services, said: "Every summer we get hundreds of young people signing up for FIESTA, and it's one of the highlights of our youth programme. It's a great opportunity for Hillingdon's youngsters to enjoy trying some new things and meeting new people. I would encourage all of you to have a look and see if there's something that you want to sign up for and get involved."

Visit young.hillingdon.gov.uk/fiesta to find out more and to book your place.



Northwood Lions Club

We held a very successful quiz evening at LA Fitness in Chestnut Avenue in April, raising over £400 which will go towards our ongoing support of Hillingdon Young Carers.

June is the month when we celebrate the inauguration of Northwood Lions Club in 1987. Two of the original members are still active in the club and we will hold a lunch at the end of the month to look back on the year's activities.

We also have much to look forward to; there will be another quiz at the end of June (see NRA website for details) and we plan to have stalls at the Uxbridge Auto Show and Pinner Village Show later in the year.

The Den at 195 Pinner Road continues to thrive. Open between 9.45 and 11.45 on Saturday mornings the money raised by the wonderful volunteers there enables us to support many local charities.

If you would like to learn more about what we do and the fun we have doing it, please contact Robert on 07860 324395.



A Councillor's Lot

There is always a feeling of trepidation when my term of office comes to an end as I really enjoy the work I do, trying to help people with difficult issues and with their dealings with the council. But there are still questions that go through my mind when election time comes around. I have to ask myself – do I want to stand again? Will my family be happy to share me with all the residents for another four years? And of course the big question - will the residents want me back again?

However, once I have made the decision to put my name forward again, then comes the worrying. Will I be reselected as a candidate to stand? The interviews and waiting can be fairly stressful, but once selected it is such a good feeling to know that your peers have faith in your ability to continue doing the job.

With re-selection comes the hard work pounding the pavements leafleting, talking to residents, letting them know (if they don't know already) what you have done for them, and what you hope to do in the future if they elect you to represent them.

One of the most important things I like residents to know is that no matter what political party a councillor runs under, once we are elected to the post, we represent ALL the residents within our Ward and will go out of our way to help in any way we can.

The feeling whilst standing waiting at the count to see if you've have been elected is something difficult to explain; stressful yes, but also philosophical - you have done all you can and it is now up to the residents to decide whether or not they want you.

The feeling of elation when your name is called as an elected member is fantastic, the stress lifts and you realise that you must have been doing things right over the last four years and that your residents have faith in you to continue working for them, which is just great.

So now it's back to work as usual for all of us, and remember you can contact me on 07775 937661 or on my email: cmelvin@hillington.gov.uk.

*Carol Melvin
Councillor for Northwood Ward*

What's On at Northwood Library?

It's not just about books at Northwood Library!

19th June until 3rd July

Exhibition: 1914-1919 Northwood VAD Hospital St John's Church

An exhibition displaying some of the remarkable and unique stories of the Northwood WWI Hospital. In conjunction with Northwood Community Arts.

Saturday 12th July – Saturday 13th September Summer Reading Challenge 2014 – Mythical Maze

For children aged 4 to 11. Sign up to the Summer Reading Challenge and collect all six gifts. Complete the challenge to get your certificate and medal. Lots of fun events throughout the summer including face painting, children's entertainers, crafts and creative writing.

Mondays 1.30-3.30: Scrabble

Join us for a game of scrabble. Free refreshments.

Wednesdays 10.00-11.00 (Term-time only): Bizzzy Bees Storytime

Stories, singing and simple crafts for 0-5 year olds.

Fridays 1.00-3.30: Spanish Conversation

New group starting on 20th June, suitable for all levels, including beginners. Improve your Spanish and learn about Spanish culture. Free refreshments.

NEW FOR 2014 Library events at Northwood Young People's Centre as part of the Fiesta Summer Programme (for children in school years 4 to 7)

Thursday 7th August 2.00-4.00: Poetry Workshop Thursday 21st August 2.00-4.00: Comic Strip Workshop

Also available: Starbucks coffee, free wifi, free computer access plus a wide range of books, audio books and DVDs.

Opening hours:

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

@ Hillingdon Libraries

Green Lane, Northwood,
HA6 3AB
Tel: 01895 558262



MEGA MAKERS SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB

28th July – 1st August 2014

Mega Makers is an exciting interactive five-day holiday club, for 5 to 11yr olds. The week features Holiday Club favourites: Messy Games * Gunge-a-leader * Sport and Games * and the funniest corniest jokes you have ever heard!

You can download an application form from our website: www.htnorthwood.co.uk

For more information contact us at

Holy Trinity Church, Rickmansworth Road,
Northwood, Middlesex HA6 2RP

tel: 01923 822990

email: office@htnorthwood.co.uk

At our AGM in April 2014 Acting Commander Chief Superintendent Des Rock spoke about policing in the borough and across London. The full details are on the NRA website (click on the NRA tab of the Noticeboard and scroll down to 48th AGM and click as indicated).

He spoke of the 20-20-20 Challenge: the need to make 20% savings, reduce crime by 20% and increase public confidence in the police service by 20%. He was pleased to report that there has been a 24% reduction in crime in Hillingdon and confidence in the police service has risen from 53% to 73% over the last 12 months. 46 probation officers will soon be joining the Borough, bringing the total to just over 500 staff.

The new Borough Commander, Detective Chief Superintendent Nick Downing, took up his post on 28th April 2014.

In summary, Hillingdon is one of the safest places to live in London. There has been a big reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour has been reduced. Officers are committed to providing a good service.

I have since followed up with Det Insp David George and can report that the Police are still very keen to engage with the local community. He could not however confirm that the communication system akin to the one used in Hertfordshire (OWL system) and promised by CS Rock, is possible. I hope we can keep working on a solution whilst he investigates the possible alternatives available in Hillingdon.

FORTHCOMING SNT EVENTS

Crime Prevention Stall at Waitrose

Sun 29th June, 12.00 to 13.00

Sat 12th July, 16.00 to 17.00

Sun 24th August, 15.00 to 16.00 A one-to-one consultation session in conjunction with crime prevention advice.

Drop-in surgery at Northwood Library

Sat 28th June, 12.00 to 13.00

Thu 24th July, 14.00 to 15.00

Fri 22nd August, 12.00 to 13.00

An indoor one-to-one consultation session.

HILLINGDON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

We continue to be indebted to the small but hard working team led by Ian Birch. The newsletter they provide monthly has had a makeover and continues to provide good information. Please check that you have a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in your street and if not perhaps volunteer to start or reignite one.

The level of reported residential burglaries in Northwood is on the rise with an average over the 12 months to February 2014 of 6.9 per month but if we take the last 6 months figures it is 7.83 per month, so on the increase.

The messages continue to be the same: Please be aware of your local environment, give a friendly check on your neighbours, and if necessary take photos of cars or people that look out of place or who act suspiciously. Contact the

police on 101 if you are concerned or 999 if you believe the threat is real and imminent.

Email: all@hillingdonnhw.co.uk

website: www.hillingdonnhw.co.uk

Those with internet access are encouraged to check a very useful pamphlet about **scams** which continue to be a source of concern and are easy to fall prey to if not vigilant. See www.met.police.uk/docs/little_book_scam.pdf

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Les Board is the 'Appropriate Adult' (AA) Scheme Manager for Hillingdon Mind. Whenever an adult who has a mental health issue or a learning disability is arrested in Hillingdon they must have an AA present at the police station for interview and other processes. This is a legal requirement and police are unable to progress their investigation without an AA. Les is currently seeking to recruit new volunteers who will be fully trained for an interesting and varied role. Volunteers must be mature, reliable, non judgmental and robust. For further information please contact Les Board on 07810 403166 or email les@hillingdonmind.org.uk


CRIME PREVENTION

Summertime and burglary is easy As we enter summer and we all hope for lovely weather burglars are also working on seeing opportunities. Please ensure you check that any gates and back doors are locked even if you are out for only a short while. If you keep windows on a latch try to use any locks. And always lock ground floor windows and doors when you retire for the night.

Many burglary offences are committed by a rear property entry. Please check the entry points of your home. Below is a short guide to help you.

- ◆ Good perimeter security. Trellis fencing, a good secure gate which can be locked to prevent easy walk in access to your back garden area.
- ◆ Motion sensor lighting - for side driveway entry points and rear gardens. Cheap and very effective and easy to install.
- ◆ Always check your rear doors, patio, and shed are left locked and secure. Many burglaries are committed simply because doors are left unlocked.
- ◆ Check the doors themselves. Are they still strong, solid with good locks or if you look carefully have they become rotten and weak?
- ◆ Always put away and lock away items in your garden that maybe used against you. Garden tools, ladders and wheelie bins for example. Burglars often use items left lying about to force an entry to your home.
- ◆ UPVC doors- Always lift handle to engage the bolts and double lock.
- ◆ Consider an Intruder alarm. They are very effective at protecting your home and can start at relatively low cost.

KEEP INFORMED

I am continuing to gather email addresses from residents keen to be part of our **NRA Police communication system**. Please just send me 

Police report continued

your email address to be added to the database. Please note that your details will not be passed to anyone (including the Police) without your permission. The purpose is for me to be able to communicate Police information or seek your help when necessary. To join our growing list or for any other issues please feel free to contact me.

Please continue to 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

If you are interested to see where and what crimes have been committed recently please use the following link
www.police.uk/metropolitan/00ASGT/crime/burglary

Philip Green, Police Liaison
police@northwoodresidents.co.uk
01923 850497

At the time of writing Northwood Police Station is still open to the public:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 11.00 to 13.00 when the volunteers will do their best to deal with your issues.

Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre *supporting people affected by cancer*



Do support our big fund-raiser: **Stewarts Law Moor Park 10k & Junior Fun Runs**
Sunday 28 September 2014 at Merchant Taylors' School

This popular annual road race will be taking place for the 13th time, raising money to support people affected by cancer at the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre, the support and information service at Mount Vernon Cancer Centre.

We were thrilled to welcome a record number of runners last year, particularly in the junior events, and to raise £50,000. Runners of all ages and speeds are welcome to take part – everyone who finishes will get a medal, plus there are trophies for the first three in each age group and the winning teams. There's also a trophy for the school that enters the most pupils into the junior events. It's a fun, family day with a fun fair, bouncy castles and other activities to keep everyone entertained.

Since it was first organised in 2002, £435,000 has been raised by this event. Will 13 be our lucky number and be the year in which we reach half a million pounds for the LJMC?

Further information about the event can be obtained from **www.moorpark10k.org.uk**. Offers of help on the day are also welcomed. Please get in touch with the Race Director, John Hambleton, on 07779 458285.

Northwood Live at Home Scheme

Befrienders and other Volunteers Needed!

The Northwood Live at Home Scheme exists to support older people in the Northwood and Northwood Hills Community to remain living independently. We have a range of activities, including a weekly lunch club, Friendship Group, Soup & Sandwich lunch and two new activities which are proving extremely popular. These are a seated yoga class and an EXTEND exercise class designed to improve flexibility and maintain mobility in the older person. Both are on Thursday mornings and include light refreshments. We also have regular shopping trips and outings to places of interest.

Following our recent campaign to increase awareness of the Scheme, our membership has grown to 141. Membership is free, but we do make a small charge for activities to cover some of our costs. Some of our members are too frail to attend activities and many of these like to be visited by a befriender. Due to the increase in numbers, we are currently very short of befriending volunteers and would love to be able to match all those wishing for this service with someone suitable who would reduce their loneliness. If you feel this is something you might like to do, please get in touch. A few hours a week or even a fortnight is all the time needed. We are also always short of drivers to take our members



Our members enjoying a recent concert

to activities, hospital appointments, etc. This need not be a regular commitment, but the more drivers we have on our list, the less we have to use expensive taxis. Our members also feel safer

being picked up by a volunteer. Running our Wednesday lunch club also needs a lot of volunteer help and only takes two hours a week. We could do with a few more helpers to cover when one of our current volunteers is away for some reason.

All our volunteers are given full training and find what they do extremely rewarding. Please get in touch with our manager Linda Chapman if you would like to hear more.

To find out more about our whole programme of events, contact the office on **01923 842494** and visit **www.localgiving.com/charity/northwoodliveathome**

Jo Wild, Chairman

Northwood Methodist Church

Shopping in Northwood? Need a Coffee?

Just walk 50 paces along OAKLANDS GATE to the **OASIS COFFEE LOUNGE**

and enjoy a choice of coffee, delicious HOME MADE CAKES or toasted teacakes, scones etc. at very competitive prices. Toy corner for children.

OPEN: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday from 10.00am to 12 noon

Looking ahead - Northwood Methodist Church will again be hosting the Christmas Tree Festival. If anyone would like information on how to submit a tree and advertise their company or community group in the Northwood area, please contact Mrs Shirley Askew on asq28@icloud.com or 01923 821871.

Northwood Craft Market

Methodist Church Hall, Oaklands Gate, Northwood
Saturdays 5th July, 2nd August, 6th September
10am-2pm FREE ADMISSION

Our monthly craft markets continue on **the first Saturday of each month**. In April we were delighted to have a visit from the Mayor & Mayoress of Hillingdon, who chatted to all the stallholders.



We have been fully booked with craft stalls over the last few months and have been pleased to welcome several new crafters along with our regulars. New crafts at the market range all the way from garden planters to children's clothing, candles to scarecrows, alongside our regular stalls of jewellery, cards, bags, knitting, decoupage and much more. As always, all the crafts for sale at the market are handmade by the stallholders. There are also hands-on crafts for children at the market, which always prove very popular.

So do call in and see us. You can take a break in the church coffee shop for tea or coffee and delicious homemade cake, and enjoy the friendly atmosphere to browse the market - the ideal place to find an original gift, or even a treat for yourself.

You can find more information about the market on our website www.northwoodcraftmarket.co.uk and make any enquiries by e-mail to northwoodcraftmarket@hotmail.co.uk or by phone to Susan on 07780 601842.

Follow us on Twitter @CraftNorthwood; Like us on Facebook



As I write this, the French Open tennis tournament is currently being played and that means it is only a few weeks until Wimbledon Fortnight starts. At Northwood we are several weeks into our summer season and are looking for new members, particularly those who are interested in playing matches. We have a promotion offering half price membership for any new adult member who signs up for a year. For details please go to our website: www.northwoodtennisclub.co.uk

Alternatively contact:

General enquiries: the chairman David Cameron on 01923 823910 or email at david-cameron5@sky.com

Membership: Sue Jones on 01923 824307 or email at susie.k.jones@btinternet.com

Coaching: Simon Gibaut on 07764 501117 or email at simon@sgtennis.co.uk or visit his website www.sgtennis.co.uk

Juniors: Sarah Burke on 07891 678517 or email at sarah@sgtennis.co.uk

David Cameron, Chairman

Council of Christians and Jews, Hillingdon Branch

Wednesday 16th July. "Faith & Public Life" as seen by Rt Revd Pete Broadbent, Bishop of Willesden, Deputy Bishop of London at Northwood & Pinner Liberal Synagogue, Oaklands Gate HA6 3AA.

Event starts at 8pm; entry donation £3 for visitors. **ALL ARE WELCOME**

Includes light refreshments

We allow time for socialising and personally meeting our speakers should you desire

For more information contact the secretary on 07836 676792 or email hillingtonccj@me.com

There's lots more information about CCJ on the website: www.ccj-hillingdon.org.uk

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Holy Trinity Church Invites you to

Choral Evensong: Mozart Mass with
Chiltern Hundreds Bach Choir and
Chorleywood Chamber Orchestra
on **Sunday 29 June at 6pm** at
Holy Trinity Church, Rickmansworth
Road HA6 2RP. All welcome.

Ruislip-Northwood Flower Arrangement Society

Tues 1st July, Area Demonstrator - Joyce Furssedon,
Subject - "Seasons Splendour"

Venue: St John's Church Hall, Hallowell Road, Northwood
Time: Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start Cost: Visitors £4
Contact: Jean Joseph on 01923 829621

Kate Fassnidge Community Hall

The hall in the High Street is now open for hire by local residents and
organisations. Enquiries should be addressed to Andrew Retter:

kfcommunityhall@gmail.com
Tel: 020 8426 1806 or 07956 129046

Andrew will be pleased to show the facilities to any prospective hirer.

Elected councillors for Northwood ward are:

Richard Lewis, Carol Melvin and Scott Seaman-Digby.
Tel: 01895 250316 (Civic Centre Office) or
01923 822876 (Northwood Ward Office)
Email all at: **cllrs@northwoodconservatives.org**

To contact Northwood MP, Nick Hurd:

Email: **nick.hurd.mp@parliament.uk**
Post: Nick Hurd MP, House of Commons,
Westminster, London, SW1A 0AA.

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