

# Northwood Residents' Association



Newsletter 158

March 2014

## Chairman's Report - Tony Ellis



### INTRODUCTION

It only seems a few days since Christmas but by the time you read this, March will have arrived. When I was a child, days seemed to last forever, and special events would never arrive.

Now days pass in a blur

and there are never enough hours in the day. Must be getting old!

I have now had the privilege of being your Chairman for nearly five years and this is my 15<sup>th</sup> Newsletter report. I will be standing for re-election at the Annual General Meeting.

### SAVE OUR NORTHWOOD

We learned about the proposed development by Transport for London last February. The Community, including Eastbury and Moor Park, was galvanised into action at our meeting in July and the SON organisation was formed with yours truly as Chairman. We obtained nearly 7,000 signatures on our petition showing that a large majority of residents is opposed to the development and to a large Sainsbury's being inflicted on us.

This event brought the community together and we are much the better for it. This cohesiveness was one of the main drivers in getting TfL to reassess their plans. Many people have volunteered to help us, My Northwood News has given us a page in its editions and we have strengthened our relationships with our MP, Nick Hurd and our three Ward Councillors who have all been active on our behalf. In particular, I want to thank Nick Hurd for persuading Boris Johnson that a rethink was necessary.

We have our first meeting with the TfL Commercial Director on 25<sup>th</sup> February to discuss their current thoughts about the site. However, we do not trust TfL, and it will take some time for them to win us over. Only when the plans are finally agreed with us, and planning

permission obtained, will we be able to have complete trust and relax. SON will hold another public meeting when it knows what direction TfL wants to take. Do check both the NRA and the SON websites for updates.

### CHRISTMAS CAROL EVENING

Around 250 people turned out for our first Christmas event. It was so successful that we plan to hold a bigger and better evening next Christmas. Vice Chairman Miles Gillman did a splendid job organising it and was ably helped by members of the committee and other volunteers. Thanks to Costa Coffee for saving the day at the last minute and providing electricity. Hopefully our local shopkeepers will take a more active part next year.

### LOCAL SHOPS AND BUSINESSES

As there is no local Chamber of Commerce, the NRA continues to represent our local shops and businesses both in High Street and in the town centre. Whilst some shop and business owners take an active part in our community, many don't. This year we will make a greater effort to involve them.

In the meantime, please do support them. Some of their prices may be a little higher than in supermarkets but it is surely worth paying a little extra to maintain a viable town centre.

### SCHOOL PARKING

Inconsiderate parking at local schools continues to be a major problem in Northwood. Residents' driveways are blocked, parking restrictions ignored and traffic jams caused. My plea to parents is to think about where you are parking. Even better, can you walk your children to school? The exercise will benefit all of you.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our AGM will be held at Northwood Methodist Church on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April; see Page 15 for details. We are holding it later this year to take advantage of the lighter evenings after the clocks change. Please do make every effort to come. If you have never been before, you will find it to be an interesting evening. →

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**AGM 3rd April  
See Page 15**

President: Alan Prue Vice Presidents: Valerie Mellor, Lisa Maclay Chairman: Tony Ellis.

To contact NRA: phone the Chairman on 01923 821237 email: [info@northwoodresidents.co.uk](mailto:info@northwoodresidents.co.uk)  
[www.northwoodresidents.co.uk](http://www.northwoodresidents.co.uk)

## Chairman's Report ctd.

Coffee, tea and biscuits are served from 7.30pm and the meeting starts at 8pm. Our speakers will be a senior Hillingdon police officer and Nick Hurd MP. Harry Temmink is not seeking re-election to the committee - thanks for your contribution, Harry. There is therefore a vacancy for a member to handle transport and highways.

**CONCLUSION** I'd like to thank the executive committee and the Secretary for their hard work and support, our

three Ward Councillors and MP Nick Hurd whom we have kept very busy this year. Last but not least, we are indebted to our Road Stewards without whom we couldn't function.

I look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

*Tony Ellis*  
Chairman

chairman@northwoodresidents.co.uk  
Tel: 01923 821237

## From the Treasurer

**THE CURRENT NATURAL EVENTS** are being described as disasters by many although from a purely natural perspective these are predictable events. Flood plains are so called because they flood so it should not really be a great surprise when they do. Unfortunately, the UK has endured the wettest January since records began.

**THE COST OF THE FLOODING** is very large both in monetary terms and the stress and inconvenience to the sodden householders. The cost will be met by all of us either by increased insurance premiums or by diverting tax receipts (or more Government borrowing). Why should non-affected people suffer insurance premium increases? Why indeed, but the Government has previously had a nice deal with the insurance companies such that it is possible to insure houses built on flood plains given viable defences to minimise the impact.

**IT IS NOT JUST THE FLOOD PLAINS.** Coastal towns have been hit by a combination of high tides and strong winds causing massive waves that have destroyed some defences and breached many more. Which is less desirable, salt water or effluent contaminated rain water, is open for discussion. The whole argument will be determined by statistics. What is the likelihood of such eventualities and the cost of them vs the cost of attempting to prevent them? Such events do add substance to the old adage of saving something for a rainy day. The Government needs such a fund, but does not have one, of course. Councils need one, but are also often indebted. Householders perhaps always assume it will not happen to them.

**NRA'S RAINY DAY POT.** The NRA is no different in that we need reserves for unexpected events. But how large

should reserves be? Keeping too much is not correct since the NRA exists to maintain Northwood as a desirable place and today's members deserve benefits as much as the ensuing generations.



Last year, following AGM approvals, the NRA donated £2,000 to each of two schools to acquire musical instruments. An NRA funded bench has also been installed around the tree in Rowland Place, similar to the one round the oak tree in Green Lane. It is hoped that residents will enjoy this new facility, perhaps when the weather improves somewhat. This bench is perhaps the most visible evidence of the NRA's presence. Most efforts of the NRA are often behind the scenes, planning issues or traffic questions being the most obvious.

### OUR DEDICATED ROAD STEWARDS

The hardest working volunteers are the road stewards who provide the link between residents and the committee. They are also responsible for collecting the subscriptions. It is time-consuming work so please make it easy for them by having cash or a cheque payable to Northwood Residents' Association ready for collection.

Without subscriptions the NRA cannot continue and the more members we have the stronger our mandate. There is no maximum subscription so please do make those cheques as large as you wish. If you do have any suggestions for what the NRA can do to improve Northwood, please do let your road steward know or contact one of the committee.

*David Blowers*  
treasurer@northwoodresidents.co.uk

## Visit Us Online @ [www.northwoodresidents.co.uk](http://www.northwoodresidents.co.uk)

Have you visited the NRA website recently? A lot of people do, and find it a useful resource for local information. Under Local News we post information about a variety of Northwood matters that might affect you, and the Notice Board is there to inspire you with things to do in the area. Article extracts on the home page quickly lead you to more information by clicking on the headings, and there is a lot more to discover through the menu items. Why not decide to spend five minutes with a cup of coffee exploring the website today? You may find more is going on in Northwood than you realised and with handy links and phone numbers just a few clicks away I hope you will be encouraged to add our site to your favourites list.

Unfortunately websites don't magically update themselves so it is up to you to send us information to post on the site. Do you run a club with an event coming up, are you looking for members? Or do you represent an institution wanting people to know where to find you and how to get in touch? Visitors arrive at pages on our website from many different directions thanks to our high ranking with Google search, so lots of people will find your article. Also please send us pictures, either to accompany your articles or just because you saw something relevant. We will do our best to use them and make the site more attractive.

Finally, if you would like to receive an email alert when the site has had a significant number of updates, email me and ask to join the mailing list.

*Cathy Kim, webmaster*  
webmaster@northwoodresidents.co.uk

## A message from Nick Hurd MP

Since I became an MP I have developed a healthy respect for Residents' Associations and the work they do - even when they are giving me a hard time! The campaign to Save our Northwood is a great example of a community coming together with their local representatives to fight something we know is wrong for the area. Nearly 7,000 people united to say "No" to the idea of a big new Sainsbury's and the loss of valued local shops. This allowed us to put Northwood on the "heat map" for all the senior decision makers in the process. The campaign was tied together by Cllr Scott Seaman-Digby with some careful branding and web and social media platforms, reaching out to other local supermarket opposition groups and even live tweeting during public meetings to ensure TfL could not ignore the activity even after office hours. No stone was left unturned - the Mayor for London, Chief Executives of Sainsbury's and TfL, the Planning Minister, Secretary of State and even the Prime Minister were all lobbied in some way.

As a result, we have together made something important happen. In response to our pressure, Boris asked for the project to be reviewed. As a result TfL are taking a new approach. I am assured that the current scheme is withdrawn. There will be no action without local engagement. A meeting has been set up with senior management of TfL to start that conversation about what Northwood needs. Residents will be represented by myself, the three elected Northwood councillors and the Residents' Association. I have insisted that soon after that

meeting, TfL sit down with local shopkeepers to discuss their future in detail. This is progress. As TfL have acknowledged, it would not have happened without the tenacity and volume of the Save our Northwood campaign.



None of us should be under any illusions. TfL, acting on behalf of the taxpayer, wants to get better long term value from the site. The status quo is not likely to be an option. However, we now have an opportunity, working with the local authority planning teams, to shape a proposal that is better for the area and fairer for local businesses. I have told TfL that they start from a very low level of trust with the Northwood community and they will have to work hard to persuade us that the warm words of their letter to me are worth anything. However, we are now dealing directly with the senior decision maker at TfL and I am going to give him a chance.

### 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.

## From our Chief Road Steward – Paul Barker

Northwood Residents' Association is run entirely by volunteers, for the benefit of the Residents, and nowhere is that more true in the organisation than with the time and shoe-leather provided by my team of 13 Area Road Stewards and 90 Road Stewards in distributing your newsletter three times a year and collecting annual subscriptions from about 2,600 paid-up Resident members, in 170 roads. Plus, of course, in 2013 extra newsletters and SoN correspondence went to nearly all residents.

But this doesn't paint the whole picture, since as you will appreciate Northwood has an increasingly large number of blocks of flats, where distribution involves climbing many stairs and entry is often time-restricted, and typically requires repeat visits to find members at home for subscription collection. Plus of course some roads (Green Lane, Rickmansworth Road, Ducks Hill Road, Copsewood Way, Carew Road and Frithwood Avenue spring to mind) are long enough to require two, three or even more Road Stewards.

With such a sizeable army of Stewards, it is inevitable that each year we will get a number of retirements and resignations, and this year I would like to record our thanks in particular to:

- \* Carol Ginelly, who had been RS for part of Nicholas Way
- \* The Taskers, who have for many years covered the area off Maxwell Road
- \* Ian Shave, dealing with part of the Gatehill Estate as Area and Road Steward

Their contributions over many years are much appreciated.

New volunteers always required - please contact me if you are interested. Do so soon, and secure an immediate invitation to our forthcoming Road Stewards' reception on 25<sup>th</sup> April (this year at Northwood Cricket Club), with food and beverages provided in a social atmosphere by the NRA!

Paul I.F. Barker  
[chiefroadsteward@northwoodresidents.co.uk](mailto:chiefroadsteward@northwoodresidents.co.uk)  
Mobile: 07946 385 474

## Planning

### A NEW LOCAL PLAN

The Council has just started the process of producing the second and final part of its new Local Plan; this article will show why that is important for the borough and what the process entails.

The Local Plan is an important document. Every local planning authority (in common parlance "Council") has to have one and keep it up-to-date at regular intervals. All planning applications made to the Council have to be dealt with in accordance with the Local Plan, so the Plan's content will, over time, directly shape the environment within which we live and work.

All Local Plans have to be prepared having regard to the terms of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which was produced by the Government in March 2012. The NPPF was a flagship part of the Government's policies on planning. As well as simplifying central government planning guidance (it reduced the number of pages of guidance from over 1000 to about 50) it also introduced the novel planning presumption that what the Government describes as "sustainable development" should always be permitted without delay.

In very broad terms the NPPF seeks the delivery of sustainable development in a number of contexts including building a strong economy, ensuring the vitality of town centres, promoting sustainable transport and technological communications, delivering high quality homes and healthy communities and protecting the green belt.

Hillingdon's current Local Plan is in transition. It adopted its old style Unitary Development Plan in 1998; in 2007

part of that Plan was deleted and in November 2012 further changes were made when Part 1 of the new Local Plan was introduced.

Part 1 of the Local Plan is more of a strategic document; the proposed Part 2 will have more specific policies and some specific site allocations.

The Council has been working on introducing the new Part 2 of the Local Plan and when that is introduced what is left of the Unitary Development Plan will fall away. The intention is that the Council will shortly issue their draft Part 2 policies and consult with residents and businesses in the borough over a six week period expected to begin sometime in March. The NRA will certainly be making its views known to the Council but it will obviously be beneficial to the process and its outcome if as many residents and businesses as possible make their own comments. The Local Plan will form the planning framework for the whole of the borough for the next 15 years so it is important that we all have our say in its content.

Details of the draft Part 2 will no doubt appear shortly on the planning page of the Council's website; please take the time to consider the draft and make your comments known. We are here to help and advise so if you have any queries please get in touch.

Jeffrey Bailey, NRA Planning Adviser  
[planning@northwoodresidents.co.uk](mailto:planning@northwoodresidents.co.uk)



### New PET/CT Scanner at Paul Strickland Centre



Inside the new PET Scanner

Last September Paul Strickland Scanner Centre at Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood, took delivery of a new leading edge Siemens PET/CT scanner. So far more than 400 patients have been scanned on the new scanner.

Chief Executive at the Centre, Margaret Sullivan said "Our new PET-CT scanner offers the potential for lower dose, higher image quality and faster scanning for improved patient comfort.

"But we still need the public to support our continuous scanner replacement programme. We are planning to upgrade and improve our 3T MRI scanning capabilities this year and this could cost between £900,000 and £1,500,000 dependent on specification. Fundraising activities we hold are very important so that we can continue offering patients a local, high quality service on their doorstep."

The Scanner Centre receives no government funding for its scanners and raised the £1.4m needed for the PET-CT scanner from donations and fundraising initiatives. More than 13,500 scans are undertaken annually and these give clinicians vital information directly influencing treatment and monitoring its effectiveness.

With a great line up of fundraising activities, there are lots of fun ways local people can support the Scanner Appeal:

Bank Holiday Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May the charity is holding its annual sponsored Chenies Spring Walk. The 8km circular walk starts from Chenies Manor House.

A Charity Golf Day is also planned on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June at the prestigious Denham Golf Club.

To take part in the above events, to make a donation or for further information contact the Appeals Office on 01923 844290 or email [appeals@stricklandscanner.org.uk](mailto:appeals@stricklandscanner.org.uk). Use ref NRA when making any bookings.

Visit the charity's website

**[www.stricklandscanner.org.uk](http://www.stricklandscanner.org.uk)**. Join them on Facebook or Twitter @PSSC\_13.

## Outdoor News

### NRA installs a new circular bench in Northwood

The NRA has donated funds for a new circular bench which has been placed round the tree at the junction of Eastbury Road and Rowland Place. We are just waiting for the council to decide what surface



should go around it before we attach a commemorative plaque dedicated to Malcolm Ruddock, our Planning Officer who died unexpectedly in April 2011.

### Wood you take down this date?

The Ruislip Woods Festival will be held on: **SUNDAY 11th MAY 2014** from 12pm to 4.30pm on The Willow Lawn at Ruislip Lido next to the Water's Edge Pub HA4 7TY

A range of side shows have been arranged including:

- Axe Men – Lumberjack Race
- Birds of Prey in Action
- Woodland Crafts
- Ferret Racing
- Morris Dancing
- Children's Woodland Crafts
- Charcoal Burning
- Family Pet Dog Show

### Christmas already!!

We hope to build on the success of the NRA's Christmas Carol Evening where we were entertained by choirs from Frithwood and Holy Trinity schools as well as the North London branch of the Military Wives Choir. Many of the shops stayed open for the event, some offering mince pies and mulled wine to tempt customers inside. The library in Oaklands Gate had Christmas Craft-making and Stories with Santa. Alongside the War Memorial we set up gazebos for the Northwood Lions, Northwood Live at Home Scheme and the local Scout Explorer Group to publicise their organisations and to sell gifts.

Next year we aim to expand and encourage more shops to have outside stalls and get permission to have a craft market in the small car park in front of The Village Café.

*Miles Gillman*

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



*Military Wives Choir entertains at NRA Carol Evening*

## Business Membership

By all accounts the Christmas Carol Evening was deemed a huge success by visitors, residents and business owners alike. Occasions such as these help to foster a community spirit so if all goes well there will be a bigger and brighter event this year. See you there!

### BUSINESS MEMBERS' NEWS

Northwood's High Street and Green Lane provide a rich mix of shops and services to cater for the needs of the residents. The NRA supports their endeavours with over 65 independent owners and national chains already 'Business' members of the Association.

A recent recruiting drive brought four further businesses into the fold –

- ABI Convenience Store, 72 High Street
- Beyond Kitchens, 11 Clive Parade
- Northwood Piazza, 28 Green Lane
- Ritz Clinic, 12 Station Approach

Contact details for the newcomers and all the other members are given on the NRA website.

Whether you have recently come to live in Northwood or are a long-standing resident there is always something of value from our Business Members. With the bleak dismal weather hopefully now behind us, the establishments will be putting their new offerings on display. Among some of the promotions in the coming months are **Northwood Piazza** with their special menu for Mother's Day on 30<sup>th</sup> March while **COOK** on Green Lane will be holding group tasting evenings. So whether you are looking for sumptuous dining, a quick take-away, ingredients for a meal at home or just want to pamper yourself, make your local businesses your first port of call.

*Mithu Chellaram*

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

## Environment

**The expanded recycling services** have been up and running for a number of months now, and Hillingdon Council is pleased with the uptake, particularly of the food waste caddy collection service.



### **A reminder of what is acceptable for the caddy:**

- \* Bread, cakes, pastries, fruit, vegetables, peelings, cereals, rice, pasta, pulses, tea bags, tea leaves, coffee grounds, dairy produce, eggs, eggshells, cheese, small amounts of butter and lard, raw and cooked meat and fish, including skin and bone, food scrapings, pet food, paper kitchen towels
- \* NO plastic packaging, animal litter, cardboard, nappies.

### **Run out of bags?**

- \* Replacement corn starch bags, recycling bags, purple bags for textiles and garden waste bags can be ordered online [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/recycling), or by phone: 01895 556000.
- \* Libraries will provide one roll of recycling bags on production of your Hillingdon First Card. You can also opt to have your recycling bags automatically delivered up to four times a year, please use the above website or telephone number to set up this service.

### **Special collections**

- \* Residents can use the Special collections service to dispose of heavy or bulky unwanted household items. NOT including: loose rubbish, garden waste, builders' rubble, paint.
- \* Charges are based on the number of items to be collected:

Fridge/freezer	-	free
Up to 4 items	-	£15
Up to 8 items	-	£30
Up to 12 items	-	£45
- \* Residents on a state pension or a disability living allowance can have the first four items collected free.
- \* Phone 01895 556000 to arrange a collection date.

### **Fly-tipping**

There have been a number of incidents of fly-tipping in recent months. Please report any incident immediately so that it can be removed effectively and as quickly as

possible. Fly-tippers can be fined up to £50,000 in the Magistrates Court, with unlimited fines in the higher courts and up to five years imprisonment.

Contact the Antisocial Behaviour Investigation Team  
[asbinvestigation@hillingdon.gov.uk](mailto:asbinvestigation@hillingdon.gov.uk)

Tel: 01895 556000 or 0800 6940240

Tel: 01895 250111 out of hours: Thurs 20.00-0200,  
Fri 21.00-03.00, Sat 19.00-0100

### **Noise**

The Antisocial Behaviour Investigation Team will also deal with unreasonable nuisance caused by the following:

Loud music, dogs barking, DIY noise, building alarm, vehicle alarm, car repair noise.

The council suggests that before you report the nuisance you should try:

- \* Talking to your neighbours to see who else is affected.
- \* Talk to the person responsible for the nuisance, but consider the reaction you may receive from them.
- \* Contact your landlord.

### **Bonfires**

Household waste should not be burnt on a bonfire as many items can be recycled. Examples of materials which cannot be burnt: rubber, tyres, plastic foam, paint. If a domestic bonfire persistently causes significant nuisance or pollution from smoke and ash, an abatement notice can be served under the Environment Protection Act 1990 section 80. Contact the Antisocial Behaviour Investigation team as above.

### **Estate Agents' boards**

Boards must be within the property boundary, not on grass verges. They must be removed after 14 days of the property being sold or let. The council will ask Agents to remove illegal boards, if that is not complied with the council will remove them.

### **Trees and leaves**

If you know of any fallen or dangerous trees or of any leaves that are causing problems for pedestrians or blocking drains, please call 01895 250230 so that the council can remove them.

*Fiona Blackwell*

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



## Northwood Lions Club

In March we will be holding another cheque presentation evening when we shall donate money raised by The Den to local causes. The Den, our Saturday market at 195 Pinner Road, is a real Aladdin's Cave and if you have yet to visit do pop in as without your support there would be no presentation evening.

It is open every Saturday morning between 9.45am and 11.45am. Run by an amazing group of volunteers it raises unbelievable amounts of money and we are donating £12,000 this time, shared between six local charities. The Den accepts donations of any unwanted goods except large furniture and electrical items.

Our next fund-raising quiz will be held on May 10<sup>th</sup> at Haste Hill Golf Club, The Drive, Northwood, prompt 8pm start.

If you would like further information about Northwood Lions Club or would like to come to a Quiz, please contact Robert on 07860 324395



## Traffic and Highways

Since the last newsletter we have all suffered from seemingly constant rain and foul weather; inevitably these adverse conditions have had their effect on the roads. I pity the Highways Department, having to keep up with the constant holes and wearing away of the road surfaces in the Borough. Do keep alerting them ... the more reports, the speedier the action but please bear in mind that holes have to be "of sufficient depth" (1 1/4") before action is taken. Please copy me into your email to the Highways Dept., enabling me to follow up on these matters.

In November I had a meeting with the manager of the Highways Dept and discussed parking matters in Old Northwood. About that same time, a separate petition had been presented to the Dept regarding the parking situation on the High Street. It was suggested and well supported by Cllr Seaman-Digby, to extend the consultation to Hallowell Road (part), Roy, Reginald and Highfield Roads. In other words, roads which all 'suffer' from commuter and other long term car parking by non-residents. This is often quite inconsiderate such as parking on and too near bends and junctions and drive entrances.

The first phase of the consultation will have finished by the time you read this and the results will be made known to households in the area some time afterwards.

There are three proposals made by the council:

1. Waiting restrictions
2. Parking Management Scheme (scheme A & B)
3. No change

In 2, the A scheme is where the Highways Dept paints parking bays on the road, but excludes drive-ins. *The last time the council tried this in Roy Road, we lost about half the*

*available parking; after vehement protests by residents, the scheme was scrapped (although that ugly paint remained).* Scheme 2B is where most of the road gets turned into long parking bays with continuous white lines painted across residents' drive-ins. *This scheme means that anyone with a permit can park across their own AND neighbours' drive-ins! This scheme may be a recipe for lots of "road rage" in my view.* We will see what the majority vote is on the three options on offer.

Recently I had to leave Northwood via Hallowell Road and Green Lane. Stupidly, I had set my appointment time in Denham for 9am! I left at 08.20 and managed to reach the junction of Green Lane and Rickmansworth Road at 9.05. What a ridiculous situation! I really think that the traffic management people at the council need to take a fresh look at how the traffic in Northwood can be made to flow better during term time!

And yet, I have some sympathy for the resident who asked me whether some thought could be given to a pedestrian phase to the traffic lights at the junction of Green Lane and Rickmansworth Road. At present, walking to Holy Trinity School or the nursery at the Cricket ground from the town centre, is a very dangerous affair, with no thought for pedestrians needing to cross the junction. I passed this idea on to the council, but in my opinion it may have a further detrimental effect on the traffic flow.

**Happy Motoring,**

Harry Temmink

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

To report anything to LBH Highways Dept.  
email [contactcentre1@hillingdon.gov.uk](mailto:contactcentre1@hillingdon.gov.uk) Tel: 01895 556000

## Metropolitan Line

The Met Line had a particularly bad run in the period leading up to Christmas. The "new" trains have had to undergo a lot of remedial work, which is still ongoing. There were also problems with an extended leaf fall period, leading to slower speeds and cancellations. The "good" news is that, due to track replacement, it is now possible to attain 60 mph on some sections, which should, in theory, lead to shorter journey times.

**Croxley Link:** The projected opening of the new link (taking the Met north on to Watford High Street and Watford Junction) is now May, 2017, rather than the anticipated 2016, due to design work difficulties.

**"Mind the Gap":** Work is being done to minimise the dangerous gap between the trains and the platform at Finchley Road, by moving the track nearer to the platform. Door signage is to be improved where the track bends and the gap gets wider. At Baker Street, there are now blue lights on the underside of the platform which illuminate when trains arrive, drawing attention to the gap.

**Staffing at stations:** As reported in the press, it is proposed that all ticket offices will close in 2015. Northwood would have only one member of staff on duty. That person would be "front of house" instead of in the ticket office. Although ticket machines will be upgraded and staff issued with improved communications devices, it is hard to see how one person can deal with queries and pass on communications about the state of the service, especially during lunch breaks etc.

**New signalling contract:** Now for the really bad news: The contract with Bombardier to provide new signals on the Met and other sub-surface lines has collapsed. Basically Bombardier couldn't deliver – they told LUL that the task of fitting new signals to the old lines was too complex. The contract will now go out to tender – again. The due date for completion was 2018 but there must now be major doubt that this can be attained. Bombardier will apparently be paid £85 million for the work it completed from 2011, when the contract was awarded, up until it withdrew.



Lisa Maclay

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

## The Glen, a short history

The Glen is a pleasant cul-de-sac of 52 maisonettes off Green Lane, dating from 1958. It was designed by Kenneth C Saunders and built by AEA Prowting Ltd of Ruislip, and has been designated a Conservation Area in view of its quality and excellent state of preservation.

But an earlier development that gave the road its name is equally interesting and has come to attention as the result of a communication the NRA received from near San Francisco. Thomas McGuire sent an email entitled "Anyone interested in the history of the Glen?", offering to share photographs and other material his family had acquired whilst living in the original house on this site in early 1950s.

After corresponding with Mr McGuire I had an idea of life in a large Edwardian house in the middle of the 20th century. This information was later augmented as a result of an amazing coincidence - the Chairman of the Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote Local History Society happened to meet the daughter of an owner of The Glen at a church in Kent!

The original Glen was a large 6-bedroom detached house with four reception rooms. Ordnance Survey maps tell us only that it was built between 1895 and 1914, but from census and street directory information and its 'Arts and Crafts' style, I surmise that it was constructed about 1908, probably by Alfred Grieves, a builder who was living there with his family in 1911.

We know something of life there in the 1940s and 50s when the house was owned by Kenneth G Higgins, a quantity surveyor and property developer. His daughters recall the garden having the two big cedars and the wooded pathway at the back through a rhododendron glen, which presumably gave the house its name. They had a live-in maid for part of the time, but later they managed with dailies and used the maid's room as their living room and for doing homework to save fuel.

In 1946 Mr Higgins commissioned plans for a major extension, but this was never carried out, and in 1952 the



*The Glen - south front from the garden*

house was rented to the Colonel G F McGuire and his family. McGuire held a high-rank in the US Air Force and was stationed in Northwood for several years. He was very well-connected and in July 1954 hosted a buffet supper party for a glittering array of titled and senior air force personnel, including Sir James Barnes, the Permanent Under Secretary of State for Air. Other memories of life at The Glen in 1950s include there being a delightful berry patch in the garden and a total of eight staircases, three of which connected the ground and first floors. Another of them was a secret stairway down to the cellar hidden behind a wall panel and yet another allowed the owners to surprise their guests by appearing in the lounge directly from the master bedroom. Between the lounge and dining room a panel slid up into the ceiling to allow a billiard table to be pulled out.

The Glen was much loved by both the Higgins and McGuire families, hence the survival of many photographs. Not all such interesting buildings can survive, but at least it made way for another development of charm and architectural merit.

*Simon Morgan*

**Ruislip, Northwood & Eastcote Local History Society**

For information, please call 01895 673299 or go to  
**RNELHS.org.uk**

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## 1<sup>st</sup> Northwood Scout Group Centenary

100 years ago, Scouting was born in Northwood. The war against Germany was only a few days old when on 17<sup>th</sup> August 1914 at North House in Chester Road, an inaugural meeting of eminent citizens was called, hosted by Mrs Townsend (after whom Townsend Way would later be named). The idea came from her daughter, Claire who decided that her contribution to victory in the war would be to endow Northwood with a Scout Troop. Attending the meeting were local clergy, the bank manager, the schoolmaster, Miss Rowland Brown of St Helens, Mr Harry Neal the builder, two local doctors and others.

The meeting passed a formal resolution to form a Scout Troop in Northwood, and appointed Miss Townsend as Scoutmaster. There is no record of the early activities of the Troop, but we can be sure that they found plenty of opportunity for service at the many local establishments supporting the war effort, including St John's Church, which was built in 1915 and immediately turned into a military hospital for wounded servicemen.

1<sup>st</sup> Northwood today is a very successful Group, with its Scout Hut in Northwood Way. It runs sections for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, and hosts the Poindextor Explorers altogether providing high quality Scouting for over 100 young people. Its main source of funds is the Annual Grand Jumble Sale, held in the Scout Hut and on the adjacent open space the Hogsback. Those of you familiar with the event today may be amused to know that the first record of a 1<sup>st</sup> Northwood Jumble Sale was in 1925, and it raised the princely sum of £22.7s.1d!

The Centenary year will be marked in a number of ways including a Centenary Camp at Kandersteg in Switzerland which over 250 Scouts and Leaders from the District will be attending.

If you would like to find out more about local Scouting, or get involved, please contact me on 01923 827409, or take a look at the website at **www.renscouts.org.uk**

*Richard Plume, Group Executive member, 1<sup>st</sup> Northwood*





## THE HILLINGDON HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

### The Care Quality Commission

**Report:** Information about every registered hospital is published in its

first Intelligent Monitoring Report. Hospitals are placed in one of six bands, Band 1 being highest risk and band 6 lowest. This is not a comparison between hospitals but a guide to its inspections.

Bands for our local hospitals are:

Ealing Hospital NHS Trust – Band 3

North West London NHS Trust – Band 2

East & North Herts Hospitals NHS Trust – Band 3

Royal Brompton & Harefield FT – Band 3

The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS FT – Band 6

West Herts Hospitals NHS Trust – Band 3

Full details are on the CQC website: [www.cqc.org.uk](http://www.cqc.org.uk)

**Hillingdon Urgent Care Centre:** In October 2013, its first month of operation, the UCC saw an average of 166 patients a day, but not yet children under six months old; in September the previous service saw an average of only 74 patients a day. The new service transferred an average of 21 patients a day to the Emergency Department, and in the month referred 480 patients to a specialty department, and 150 patients to primary care. Liaison is good between Hillingdon Hospital and the UCC, which is run by Greenbrook Healthcare.

**Edmunds Ward at Mount Vernon:** This was opened on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013 and will remain open until end of March 2014 with 20 beds for use of Northwick Park Hospital and 9 beds providing additional winter capacity for Hillingdon Hospital.

**Hip care:** The findings of the National Hip Fracture Database 2013, published in September, show the Trust to have some of the best results in London.

### NHS PRESCRIPTIONS

There is apparently some confusion over the role of pharmacists. These are the views of a recently retired local GP.

Pharmacists sell non-prescription drugs to anyone, and may give advice on what to buy, but only qualified doctors can issue NHS prescriptions, which are then dispensed by pharmacists.

Patients with long-term conditions may be issued with repeat prescription-request forms, listing the medication currently prescribed by their doctors. Some pharmacists offer to hold these forms and to submit them to patients' GPs when repeats are due. Patients often value this service, which saves their time – it also benefits the pharmacist by ensuring that a future order is placed in their shop.

However, either patients or pharmacists may tick all the repeat prescription boxes without first checking that every item is actually needed, which can lead to collection of

## Health Matters

unwanted medication, possibly causing problems for the patient, and certainly causing waste and expense for the NHS.

Electronic prescribing is now being introduced in England. Patients opting in to this scheme will no longer be given a paper prescription by their GP. Instead an electronic prescription will be sent to the pharmacy chosen by the patient. Since no one wants the NHS to provide unwanted medication, it will be very interesting to find out how the electronic system deals with repeat prescriptions.

For more information visit:

<http://systems.hscic.gov.uk/eps/patient>

### THE HAWTHORN INTERMEDIATE CARE UNIT

*From a report by Joan Davis, Chairman of Community Voice.*

The Hawthorn Intermediate Care Unit is now home to the patients from the former Northwood & Pinner Unit at Mount Vernon Hospital. This new unit is located in The Woodlands at Hillingdon Hospital, but it is part of the Central & North West London NHS Foundation Trust (CNWLFT). The Unit was opened officially on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2014 by the Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr. Allan Kauffman, in the presence of the Chairman of CNWL FT, Prof. Dorothy Griffiths.

The unit centres on a large hall, light, airy and attractive, which provides a communal dining area, tables for arts and crafts, a comfortable seating area and a large television, on which various games can be played. Other facilities lead off this hall – a small gymnasium, an activity kitchen, and access to single-sex areas, each with bedrooms and its own comfortable seating area. Most bedrooms have two beds, but each bed can be enclosed with curtains for complete privacy. A large garden for patients and their visitors is accessible from in the unit.

This Unit is for patients registered with a Hillingdon General practitioner; it accepts referrals from GPs, acute hospitals and the Hillingdon Rapid Response Team. It operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week throughout the year, providing intermediate care for patient rehabilitation and step-up beds for patients requiring short-term inpatient care. Housed on the Hillingdon Hospital site and adjacent, within The Woodlands, to CNWL's mental health wards, this Unit is well placed to be a model for integration of NHS health services.

The Unit is nurse-led and staffed by a multidisciplinary team including a dedicated ward pharmacist, physiotherapist, occupational therapist, nurses, and an activity co-ordinator. Medical cover is provided by The Hillingdon Hospitals Care of the Elderly Team. Collaborative working with Hillingdon Community Services (provided also by CNWL) and with Hillingdon Social Services, assists patients when they are ready to return home. Visitors are welcome from 2pm – 5pm and from 6pm – 8pm daily.

Also see: [www.communityvoicehealth.org.uk](http://www.communityvoicehealth.org.uk)

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



## Northwood Cricket Club

Northwood Cricket Club, at the corner of Rickmansworth Road and Ducks Hill Road, has been in existence since 1878. The club presently has three Saturday adult teams that play in the

Hertfordshire league. On Sundays the club plays friendly adult matches generally fielding a mixed ability side. The club has striven hard over the years to play cricket in a competitive yet friendly way where opposing sides are competitors on the field but colleagues in the bar after the match.

In 2011 the club took the decision to start up a Youth Section. Coaches have had to be trained and qualified, kit has had to be purchased and coaching facilities have had to be found. After two seasons, membership had grown to 54 at the end of the 2013 season and already subsequent enquiries about membership indicate that by the early summer of 2014, there will be over 80 youngsters being coached and playing matches for Northwood Cricket Club.

The Youth Section can accommodate boys and girls from Year 1 (Under 6) to Year 10 (Under 15) for the 2014 season. Competitive matches in the Middlesex Colts Association league will be played at U10, U11, U13 and U15

groupings. One of our U9's represented the London Borough of Hillingdon at U10 level in 2013 and several youngsters have been nominated for Borough trials in 2014.

Northwood Cricket Club is also trying to encourage boys and girls in local schools to engage in and enjoy cricket. During the summer of 2012, Northwood coaches worked with Holy Trinity Primary school. In the summer of 2013, Northwood Cricket Club arranged cricket coaching for Frithwood, Hillside and Harlyn primary schools. The girls of Northwood College also used the Northwood ground for their home matches.

Boys and girls from the Northwood area in Years 1 to 10 who would like to be coached in cricket skills and play in competitive matches are welcome to join Northwood Cricket Club. Application packs for 2014 membership, containing all details about indoor coaching from mid-January to mid-April, outdoor coaching from mid April to end July, costs, coaching days and times etc., are now available.

***If any resident has youngsters who might like to join Northwood Cricket Club, they should contact the Youth Section Manager Ian Keys at [gikeys@btinternet.com](mailto:gikeys@btinternet.com) or phone on 01895 637958.***

### Friends of Michael Sobell Hospice Events

#### **SPRING SALE: Wednesday 26th March 11am – 3pm at the Michael Sobell Lecture Hall**

Come and pick up some bargain clothes and many other items on sale kindly donated by GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) employees. GSK employees will run the sale as a part of their Orange Day initiative, which encourages each GSK employee to give up one working day a year to volunteer with a local community project.

#### **PLANT SALE: Saturday 10th May 10am – 12.30pm at Michael Sobell Hospice**

This annual horticultural event is once again being organised by the award-winning team of MSH volunteer gardeners. Come and buy your bedding plants, flowers and fruit 'n' veg. Entry is FREE and refreshments will be available. We welcome donations of plants for delivery to us from 6th May onwards.

#### **ON YOUR BIKE: 2014 NEW ROUTE! Sunday 11th May at Michael Sobell Hospice Registration 7.30am, ride starts at 8.00am**

A brand new and exciting 35 mile route has been created for our annual sponsored bike ride. This will be a real challenge for today's cyclists. The new route will start and finish at the hospice and takes riders through Amersham, Bovington and Hemel Hempstead. So put your thighs to the test and take on this cycling challenge for a very good cause. Pre-registration £15 or £20 on the day.

#### **LADIES IN THE NIGHT WALK: Friday 6th June Registration at 8.30pm, walk begins at 10pm**

For further information please call the fundraising office on 01923 844829 or visit: [www.michaelsobellhospice.co.uk](http://www.michaelsobellhospice.co.uk)



## Northwood and District Community Association

Where did 2013 go? Here we are in 2014 and trying to keep our spirits up in spite of the wet weather - so why not join us in some of our many sections? We always need new members and have two new sections - Short Mat Bowls on a Wednesday morning at Emmanuel Church and a Card & Board games afternoon at the United Reformed Church in Joel Street. Here there is an opportunity to play Rummikub, Upwords, Cribbage, Sequence - all sorts - even draughts and dominoes if you want!

Of course other sections such as Bridge, Scrabble, Keep Fit, Rambling still need more people - so if any of the above catch your interest, please phone me to get more details.

We held a Ploughman's Lunch in February and our AGM is on 16th April 2014 at 8pm at the Fairfield Church - come along to find out more about this local friendly association.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Pat Dunhill, Secretary  
Tel: 01923 836346

## Northwood and District U3A – University of the Third Age

In October 2013 we elected a new chairman, Fred Butterworth in whom we have great confidence. I am sure that we all wish him great success during his term in office. In the last three months he has been a very able chairman at both our monthly meetings and the committee meetings that follow.

We have now had four sessions of the Memory Course and feedback has been very positive. Obviously we cannot perform miracles and are not suggesting that we offer a medical service. What we can hope, however, is that we can help those who attend to utilise various strategies including a sensible diet to improve the quality of their lives. Who would have thought that milk chocolate was to be shunned in favour of plain? I personally am finding that very difficult to come to terms with.

Our membership is now around 600 and although each year brings some losses for various reasons, we continue to welcome new members each month. At our monthly meetings we usually have around 220 attendees which almost fills Fairfield Church Hall. Whether it is the



speakers, booking theatre trips or just the tea, biscuits and meeting with friends that attracts I can't say but it is a very gratifying number.

We have had a good variety of speakers; from Kathy Taylor who is involved in Donkey Sanctuaries to Richard Fitzwilliam who told us all about Mutiny on the Bounty. He was so enthusiastic about his subject that he not only acted out all the voices of the protagonists but rushed all around the stage to enact the various battles. It was a riveting talk, if somewhat exhausting for both him and the audience.

We have recently started a Scrabble Group and there will soon be a Nutrition Group.

You will be very welcome to come along as a visitor on the 1st Wednesday of the month at Fairfield Church, Windsor Close, Northwood Hills at 10.30am. You never know you may find it to be just what you are looking for. For more information visit our website: [u3asites.org.uk/northwood](http://u3asites.org.uk/northwood)

Maureen Crimmins

### Arts Award Success Discovered in Northwood!

The nationally accredited Arts Awards scheme was run in Northwood last year at Northwood Community Arts at St John's Church, Hallowell Road and incorporated into the family programme of activities available over the year. The free Arts Awards programme was run over several months for a group of young people aged 6 – 11. Arts Award assessor Joy Tracy was thrilled by the enthusiasm shown by both children and parents to complete the programme and is delighted to announce that eleven young people have been awarded their Discover Certificates - the first step on the Arts Award journey.

Arts Award Discover Participants were given a log book to fill with their discoveries as they attended and took part in creative activities offered by Northwood Community Arts as well as independent pursuits with family and friends.

Arts Award is a great way for children and young people to be inspired by and enjoy the arts. It is offered at five levels: Discover, Explore, Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. The programme provides a framework for learning new skills and sharing them as well as an opportunity to develop creativity and leadership skills. Arts Award is also a fantastic link between young people and creative arts professionals.

If you would like to learn more about Arts Awards visit [artsaward.co.uk](http://artsaward.co.uk)

Or contact Northwood Community Arts [northwoodarts@artreach.biz](mailto:northwoodarts@artreach.biz)

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



### Northwood Craft Market

Forthcoming dates: 5<sup>th</sup> April, 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 7<sup>th</sup> June  
10am – 2pm, Methodist Church Hall, Oaklands Gate,  
Free Admission

After a very successful Christmas Market and a short break in January and February, the Northwood Craft Market has started again with monthly markets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month.

Do come along and enjoy the friendly atmosphere to browse & buy the beautiful crafts, all handmade by local crafters. Crafts vary each month and we are pleased to be welcoming several new crafters to our markets. Crafts include jewellery, fabric bags & purses, decoupage, greetings cards, embroidery and much more.

We are keen to encourage children to develop an interest in craft work and always have some simple hands-on crafts for them to make something to take home.



Anyone interested in helping with the market, or having a stall, please get in touch either by e-mail to [northwoodcraftmarket@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:northwoodcraftmarket@hotmail.co.uk) or telephone Susan on 07780 601842.

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

Follow us on Twitter @CraftNorthwood Like us on Facebook



Inspector David George receives the keys to the new cars from Cllr Douglas Mills

## More Wheels for Local Police

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January the four new police vehicles, funded by Hillingdon Council arrived at Ruislip Police Station. Deployed on the North Neighbourhood Policing Team the vehicles will be put to good use by the police officers assisting in patrolling, conducting victim visits and covering the nine wards. Indeed Inspector Dave George who leads the team reported that within an hour of delivery all four vehicles were in use, spread out across the area on arrest enquiries and other core duties.

Chief Inspector Wilson who leads community policing for Hillingdon said, "We are very lucky

to have such a supportive local council who help us to enhance our service by supplying additional funding. The council already funds ten additional officers to assist with proactive operations. But over the past few months additional help has been given to repair our cycle fleet, hire four extra vehicles to patrol the north of the borough and finance to support ongoing operations. They have also purchased cameras and ipads to assist investigators. This is true partnership working."

*Our thanks to Eastcote Residents' Association for sharing this press release with us.*

## Northwood Library Update

The Library's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations were very successful last October. Children and adults were invited to draw their favourite book character or write a few words about their favourite book and decorated a giant "40", which is still on show in the library. There was face painting in the afternoon, and even a time capsule to be opened in ten years' time.

The Library also took part in the first Northwood Festive Evening, when Santa visited the library to read a new book by a local children's author. Over 80 children and their parents visited and there was also colouring and crafts. It was a great evening and lots of fun for all.

City Read takes place in April, this year's book is Louisa Young's 'My Dear, I Wanted To Tell You', with a World War One theme and a London setting.

Again, with a WWI theme, on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2pm – 5pm, the library is hosting 'Making a Poppy Field', a family workshop with local artist Hazel McIntosh from Northwood Community Arts. This is a drop-in session and will focus on creating a large collage based on the

@ Hillingdon Libraries



children's book, 'Private Peaceful'. The session will also include a 'nurse' in an authentic WWI Red Cross uniform, courtesy of the British Red Cross Museum and Archives, and a practical demonstration on bandaging. There will also be

help and advice on how to crochet a poppy.

Reflecting the outbreak of World War One in 1914, Northwood Library has been participating in a joint project with Northwood Community Arts on the history of the old VAD hospital in Northwood. In June, there will be a display in the library showing the findings from our research. Local Studies will also be producing 'Do You Remember?' based on the two council workers cited on the Roll of Honour memorial in the library.

Look out for publicity on all these events nearer the time.

### Opening hours:

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

Catherine Livingston, Branch Manager  
Green Lane, Northwood, HA6 3AB  
Tel: 01895 558262

## Hillingdon Food Bank - can you help?

Many of you will not be aware of the existence of the Hillingdon Food Bank and the fact that many people in Hillingdon would go hungry if they could not receive its food parcels. In 2012 it provided food to 625 adults and 309 children and in 2013 to 1172 adults and 597 children – an increase of nearly 90%.

Most of the food poverty exists in the south of the Borough and the Food Bank's operations are concentrated there. However, in the near future it will investigate whether its operations are needed elsewhere in the Borough.

People are food poor for a variety of reasons including loss of jobs through redundancy or ill health, earning income

too low to support a family or simple bad luck. Malnourishment leads to ill health and, in children, causes poor performance at school.

The Hillingdon Food Bank not only needs donations, it needs volunteers to help run its operations as its work is mostly carried out by unpaid staff. If you are interested in learning more, or would like to volunteer, please contact Jennifer Okafor, tel: 01895 252224 or email: [hilligdonfoodbank@kingsborough.org.uk](mailto:hilligdonfoodbank@kingsborough.org.uk)

There is also a website, albeit a little out of date, at [www.hillingdon.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.hillingdon.foodbank.org.uk)

### FROM THE NORTHWOOD SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS TEAM

Currently the Northwood local policing team consists of PS Alison Jeffery, PC David Bell and PCSO John Usher, which will remain the case for the foreseeable future. Recently the Operation Bumblebee Unit which tackles burglary over Hillingdon has been based at Ruislip Police Station which will help the team by attending various burglary incidents and follow up visits, leaving us available to deal with other issues.

**LBH Funds New Vehicles** The team is still based at Ruislip police station but we have recently had additions to our fleet vehicles. Thanks to the local council we now have a total of six vehicles to be used by the teams in the North sector of Hillingdon, helping us to deal with incidents quickly and effectively. Unfortunately none of these vehicles have lights or sirens so cannot be used to stop vehicles or attend immediate response incidents. However, it does mean that there are more vehicles to share out over the teams.

**Indian Gold Theft on the Increase** A concern that has been brought to our attention more and more recently is the large scale of thefts and robberies of Indian gold, particularly necklaces. The general method of theft for such items is for the suspect to simply walk or run past the victim and grab the chain or necklace as they pass, causing the item to break and possibly cause injury to the victim.

**Crime Prevention** The best way to tackle crimes such as that described above is for victims to remain as aware and vigilant as possible. Consider covering your jewellery from sight when travelling and be wary of who is around you. In respect of residential burglaries where Indian gold or jewellery may be taken the best advice is to keep such items in a safe that is bolted to a wall or floor and hidden away. Also consider the security of doors and windows throughout your home. If you would like any information on this or other issues please contact the team via phone or email. It is worth spending the money on a decent safe and having it fitted if you have a collection of valuable items.

**The next Northwood Crime prevention event will be held on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Mar 2014, from 11am to 12 noon at Waitrose.**

### FROM THE NRA POLICE LIAISON OFFICER

Firstly, a big "thank you" to all the volunteers who continue to give support to the Police either through volunteering at the Northwood Police station or through the Neighbourhood Watch scheme as well as on your local Northwood Police panel. More volunteers are, of course, needed and any time and support you can offer would be welcome. Please feel free to contact me.

The Northwood Hills dedicated PCSO, Ricky Soler, who many of you may know from his time as a Northwood PCSO, has now returned to full fitness and we welcome him back. We hope this means our own dedicated PCSO, John Usher will be more visible in Northwood. It is often a

misconception that we do not have a police presence in Northwood. I am assured by Sgt Alison Jeffery that she uses a variety of resources and tactics to ensure we are well policed even if you do not see someone "on the beat". All 999 calls must be attended within 12 minutes and all 101 calls within 1 hour.

Our local Police are happy to receive feedback and information from the public so please feel free to contact them. They are especially keen to hear of any anti social problems that can be a cause of annoyance to residents. Or you could drop by to meet the Police at one of their open public events details of which can be found on both the NRA website and on the Police site. I am also happy to take on board any concerns about your local Police or act as a sounding board, so feel free to email me.

### Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch

The Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch scheme also needs more volunteers especially road co-ordinators. Although we have better coverage than most areas we still have significant gaps in some parts of Northwood. If you haven't refreshed your membership or heard from someone recently there is a good chance your road membership has lapsed and that could affect your home insurance quotes.

The level of burglaries in Northwood is on the rise with an average of over five per month often reaching much higher. So please be aware of your local environment, make 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 if you are very concerned.

Car burglary has increased recently but many residents are making it too easy for the opportunistic burglar by leaving their vehicles unlocked. Even if your car is parked in your own drive or behind gates we recommend it should be locked at all times.

Email: [all@hillingdonnhw.co.uk](mailto:all@hillingdonnhw.co.uk)

Visit [www.hillingdonnhw.co.uk](http://www.hillingdonnhw.co.uk) for an up-to-date newsletter and more information.

At our forthcoming AGM on 3<sup>rd</sup> April we will have an opportunity to hear from and I hope speak to one of the Hillingdon senior police team and also plan to have a Neighbourhood Watch stand.

**Please continue to contact the Northwood 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)**

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](http://www.police.uk/metropolitan/00ASGT/crime/burglary)

Philip Green  
[police@northwoodresidents.co.uk](mailto:police@northwoodresidents.co.uk)

*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.*

## The Big Brownie Birthday

Brownies are 100 years old in 2014 and to celebrate 'The Big Brownie Birthday', a group of 20 Brownies and 6 adults from 1<sup>st</sup> Northwood (Holy Trinity), 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Northwood (Oaklands Gate) and

7<sup>th</sup> Northwood (St John's) headed off on 17<sup>th</sup> January for a fun filled weekend at Butlins in Bognor Regis with 3,000 other Brownies from London and South East Region.

From beginning to end, the whole weekend was enjoyed by all participants – girls and adults. After very little sleep, Saturday morning was spent on funfair rides, crazy golf, craft, circus skills and activities down at the beach. There was a panto in the afternoon then in the evening the girls watched 'A Celebration Show', 100 years of guiding, before singing, dancing or brushing up on circus skills. Sunday morning was spent in 'Splashworld' – I'm not sure who had more fun, the girls or their leaders, the rapids were a big hit for two Brown Owls!!

There will be many more exciting activities on offer to the girls throughout this year in celebration of 100 years of Brownies and this would not be possible without the dedication of the Guiders and their helpers who give up hours of their free time voluntarily in order to give the girls these opportunities and experiences. My thanks go to all my fellow Guiders and helpers in Northwood District for their continued commitment.

Jane Anderson



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## Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre

**Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre – supporting people affected by cancer**

### Charity Golf Day in aid of the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre Friday 28th March 2014 at Chorleywood Golf Club

Set in the middle of picturesque Chorleywood Common, the club is the oldest in Hertfordshire. Registration from 8.30am with coffee and bacon rolls.

Make up a team of four or come as an individual. Cost: £40 per person includes lunch as well.

Lots of prizes to be won!

For more information, speak to Daniel Craggs (01923 844589 or [daniel.craggs@nhs.net](mailto:daniel.craggs@nhs.net)) at the LJMC

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## Northwood Live at Home Scheme

The Northwood Live At Home Scheme has a full programme planned for 2014, helping older people in our community to remain active and supporting them to stay living in their own home.

On 31<sup>st</sup> January we launched our new Healthy Living activity. This is an extension of our previous exercise class and takes place on Thursday mornings from 10am - 12.30pm at St John's Court in Murray Road. It includes a gentle exercise session, a light healthy lunch and speakers on topics related to mental and physical well-being and healthy nutrition in later life. Once a month there will be a longer workshop session from 11am – 3pm.

By combining exercise with an emphasis on healthy living we aim to improve the physical and mental health of our members. Those who take part in the exercise session have commented on how much easier they find it to get dressed in the morning because of their increased flexibility. Their balance is also much improved, reducing the risk of falls. In addition they find it immensely enjoyable.

Our other regular activities include a weekly lunch club, soup & sandwich lunches with speakers, a monthly breakfast club and also occasional shopping trips and outings to places of interest. We also have a Friendship Group at Northwood Hills URC Church in Joel Street which meets every Monday from 9.30am to 2.30pm. It provides an exercise session, craft activities, quizzes, a healthy lunch and plenty of opportunity to socialise. Members can stay for part of the day if preferred. A small charge is made towards the cost of all our activities. New members are always very welcome. To find out more about our whole programme of events, contact the office on **01923 842494**.

If you have a few hours a month to spare and would like to volunteer to help run our activities, drive people to them or visit people in their own homes, please contact the office too on **01923 842494**.

[www.localgiving.com/charity/northwoodliveathome](http://www.localgiving.com/charity/northwoodliveathome)



*Enjoying a therapeutic massage*

Jo Wild, Chairman



# Northwood Residents' Association 48th Annual General Meeting

Thursday 3rd April 2014

at Methodist Church, Oaklands Gate, Northwood

Tea & coffee served from 7.30 pm; meeting starts at 8.00 pm

## AGENDA

- 1) Welcome and introduction from Tony Ellis, Chairman.
- 2) **First Guest speaker.** A senior police officer from the Hillingdon Borough Division of the Metropolitan Police Service.
- 3) To receive the Chairman's Report for 2013
- 4) To receive the Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2013
- 5) To set the rate of subscription for the year 2014 (currently set at a minimum of £2 per household)
- 6) To elect the Officers, the current ones are prepared to stand again:  
Chairman Mr Tony ELLIS  
Vice-Chairman Mr Miles GILLMAN  
Treasurer Mr David BLOWERS  
Hon Auditor Mr Chris ROGERS FCA
- 7) To elect an Executive Committee:  
**Members standing for re-election:** Mr Jeffrey Bailey, Mr Paul Barker, Mrs Fiona Blackwell, Mr Mithu Chellaram, Mr David Goodman, Mrs Marie-Françoise Meyer  
**Co-opted members standing for election:** Richard Field, Philip Green, Trevor Paes
- 8) To elect the President, currently Mr Alan Prue  
and Vice Presidents, currently Mrs Valerie Mellor, Mrs Lisa Maclay.
- 9) **Second Guest speaker.** Nick Hurd, MP for Ruislip Northwood Pinner & Minister for Civil Society.
- 10) Any Other Business.
  - Update on Save our Northwood Campaign.
- 11) Open Forum with our local councillors present

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

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

NOTICE OF MOTIONS proposed and seconded by two members must be delivered to the Chairman at least ten days before the AGM.

All members are invited to attend and a cordial invitation is extended to other Northwood residents, and to our Ward Councillors.

## Council of Christians and Jews, Hillingdon Branch

**Tuesday 8th April. Don't Mention It: "Inter faith relations and Israel".** Presented by **Dr Jane Clements**, Director of Forum for Discussion of Israel & Palestine. St Matthews Church, Hallowell Road, Northwood HA6 1DW

**Tuesday 13th May. "Life & Times of the Bible".** By **Rev Robert Harrison**, Vicar John the Baptist Church, Hillingdon. Northwood Methodist Church, Oaklands Gate, Northwood HA6 3AA

Events start at 8pm; entry donation £3 for visitors. *ALL ARE WELCOME*

For more information contact the secretary on 07836 676792. [www.ccj-hillingdon.org.uk](http://www.ccj-hillingdon.org.uk)

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Health	Richard Field	
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Committee Members	David Goodman	
	Trevor Paes	

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## Kate Fassnidge Community Hall

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**aretter@hillingdon.gov.uk** or **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**

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