



Northwood

Residents' Association

www.northwoodresidents.co.uk

Newsletter 179, Autumn 2021



AGM, 30 September 2021

Live again!



Pop-Up, 25 September 2021

The committee members are delighted to be meeting
you face-to-face again

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Business News



After seven years as the Police Liaison officer, I have recently swapped roles with my colleague Hoda Lacey and will now be the contact for Businesses. By the time this newsletter is published I hope to have visited the majority of businesses in the area. As well as checking on the general health of our local businesses, I want to be able to offer advice and ensure they are using all NRA services on offer. I also

hope to encourage businesses to become more connected so that we can enhance the shopping experience and create a buoyant and successful community.

AS WE EMERGE FROM THE COVID CRISIS the media reports that huge swathes of retail shops have closed, and some town centres are suffering. Thankfully, that is not the case in Northwood. Whilst we do have some empty shops most are not a direct result of the Covid pandemic. Sadly, Lloyds bank closed on 5th October leaving us without a major High Street bank presence although we still have Nationwide Building Society and the Post Office providing some banking services.

We have seen several new restaurants opening recently and Moka will be opening at the ASK site from mid-October. A Turkish restaurant is due to replace Melisi. Located in High Street, Wyld Thyme Eatery is proving very popular. A second dental clinic (Nur) has opened on Green Lane too. We are also awaiting the opening of other businesses we are reliably informed will be opening shortly.

ALL LOCAL BUSINESSES ARE WELCOME. As working from home becomes more usual, I would welcome any business owners who are based at home or in a non-retail site to join us as Business Members as well. Everyone is welcome.

I am hoping that with police cooperation the ShopWatch scheme can be introduced enabling the retailers to stay in touch with each other and be aware of thefts and/or other security issues. This, hopefully, will make residents feel safer whilst shopping.

I know all the businesses are grateful to the residents for supporting them and as we progress, I hope to be able to report further openings, more new ideas and some local improvements. If you have any comments, please feel free to contact me.

Philip Green

business@northwoodresidents.co.uk

NRA Membership

Due to lockdown, this is only our second Newsletter to be printed this year - we hope to be back to our usual schedule of three in 2022. I will be calling on my substantial team of 85 Road Stewards and their "baker's dozen" Area supervisors to deliver some 2,300 copies to registered members.

Frances Meyer, our membership secretary has been busy entering the details of an increasing number of residents registering to join, several as a result of our membership drive at the gazebo erected recently in Green Lane next to the War Memorial.

But still only one third of the resident addresses in our ward are registered as members - so please check with your neighbours and friends and encourage them to join if they are not already on board.

Do stress to them the work we do on behalf of all Northwood residents, and the regular alerts we send out regarding matters of local interest or urgent issues such as impending road closures.

DON'T MISS OUT ON ALERTS! I receive many emails of thanks for the alerts - which are sent by email - so again, I renew my plea for all members to ensure we have your current correct email address. After each alert I receive a handful of "non-deliverable" messages - typically half being from addresses where we have not been advised of a change.

You will have seen in our last Newsletter that our public-facing website has been (very successfully) transformed to bring it up to date. The second phase of that work behind the scenes is to update the membership database where email addresses and other contact data is stored. A significant benefit from this will be to allow the move away from cash-

collecting of annual membership dues to a more modern electronic form of collection.

This will reduce the workload on our Road Stewards and be in line with the general move towards a cashless society. More information on the new procedures will be forthcoming soon.

Finally, I renew my plea for more of you to volunteer as an RS - and remember one of the perks is an invitation for you and a partner to attend an annual Road Stewards Reception (with free food and drink!) to be held next in April 2022, following the easing of restrictions. So do offer to become an RS or contact me to explore the minimal duties involved.

Marie Faulkner, Road Steward for the Drive for more than 20 years says,

"I can heartily recommend any keen NRA member to take up this voluntary task which can develop into a commitment lasting many years. The ideal personal requirements are good organisational skills with an attention to detail, but above all, a desire to be involved in your community. Being a good communicator is a plus as it helps to persuade the undecided resident to join the NRA. A good level of computer literacy is no less essential as it is becoming more integral to the way the NRA presents itself to its members in Northwood and the wider public."

"Taking up the voluntary task of Road Steward for a particular road is worthwhile and essential for the NRA to maintain a high level of membership enabling them to influence such matters as protecting our Green Belt environment. Please come forward and volunteer."

chiefroadsteward@northwoodresidents.co.uk
or pifbarker@me.com

Tel: 01923 821036

Paul I. F. Barker

Chief Road Steward and Data Protection Officer

From the Chairman

INTRODUCTION

Today it seems that we have plunged from summer into the middle of autumn with a cold wind blowing from the north. Yet, most of the trees are still green and flowers are still abundant. What a wonderful climate we live in. It is very difficult to contemplate global warming.

Since I last wrote, life has returned to a semblance of normality. COVID jabs have removed the threat of serious illness and we have been able to return to travel, visiting relatives and eating out. For me, the worst part is having to wear a mask in certain circumstances.

We owe a great debt to NHS employees and to all of those essential workers who have continued to serve tirelessly under the most difficult of conditions. We are lucky also to have a council that has delivered its services throughout the pandemic.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

It was good to see so many of you in person after a gap of two and a half years. I was certainly out of practice. MP David Simmonds gave us an interesting talk on what was his maiden appearance. Cllr Carol Melvin informed us that she was retiring after 14 years' service, and we are grateful for her service to the community and wish her good health in her retirement.

See the AGM report on Page 12.

Now that we have been released from the shackles of Covid we hope to hold the next AGM in April 2022.

NORTHWOOD AND PINNER HOSPITAL

Plans have still not been submitted to the council. We have assisted Northwood Hills RA in raising a strong objection to the proposed height of the flats which amounts to overdevelopment of the site. Local residents in Jubilee Court have also objected and local councillors have expressed their doubts; queries have been raised under the Human Rights Act. We will be keeping a close eye on the developments.

THE HILLINGDON HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST (THHF) AND THE MOUNT VERNON CANCER CENTRE

The article on Page 9 describes the progress on the preparation for construction of the new hospital at Hillingdon. Several departments have been transferred to the Mount Vernon site ready for the construction as have many of the administration staff. The number of elective surgery procedures has also been increased.

A review of the Cancer services, which are run by East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust, has concluded that the Mount Vernon premises are not suitable for modern practice and has recommended that a new hospital be constructed alongside the new Watford General. A business case for the move is being produced. In the meantime normal service is the order of the day at Mount Vernon.

As the Lead Governor at THHF, I am involved in the developments.

WEBSITE AND MEMBERSHIP DATABASE

At the AGM held on Zoom in October last year, members authorised the committee to spend a sum in excess of 5% of



David Simmonds MP with Tony Ellis, NRA Chairman at the recent AGM

NRA funds on the development of a replacement website and database. The new website was completed at a cost of £1700 and thanks are due to Ros Plume and Cathy Kim who worked with the developer in producing and implementing a fine system. If you haven't already done so, do visit www.northwoodresidents.co.uk. I'm sure you will be impressed.

Work has now commenced on the database. A new committee member, Sunil Shah, has joined us. He is an IT professional, and will manage the design and implementation aided by a small working party. We'll keep you informed on progress.

We now communicate as much as possible by email and if you have not furnished us with your email address you will miss out on current events. Please send your details to Paul Barker – chiefroadsteward@northwoodresidents.co.uk

I appreciate that some of our members do not have email; we will endeavour to keep you informed by use of noticeboards, newsletters and word of mouth.

ROAD STEWARDS AND COMMITTEE

As ever, I am extremely grateful to all of the Road Stewards who deliver newsletters and collect subscriptions. We are always in need of new volunteers as *anno domini* catches up and forces retirement. If you are interested in fulfilling this worthwhile role please contact Paul Barker, our Chief Road Steward.

Members of our Committee put in many hours ensuring that the NRA works smoothly, and I am lucky to have such a willing and able team supporting me.

Once again, thanks are due to the editor, Ros Plume, for applying such skill and time to producing this newsletter.

CONCLUSION

With the advent of winter, please make sure that any elderly neighbours are safe and well. A few kind words make all the difference. Drive carefully, we still have too many speeding motorists in Northwood, and stay well.

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

Traffic and Highways

NORTHWOOD TRAFFIC STUDY

About three years ago a transport study was carried out for LBH, at the request of the NRA, including the following roads:

- A404 Rickmansworth Road
- B469 Green Lane between Rickmansworth Road and Maxwell Road
- Maxwell Road

So far little positive has come out of this project, but recently an exchange of emails with the Cabinet Member for Transportation has been encouraging and he is aware of our expectations. Of course there are budget limitations and this project is now scheduled for year 2022/2023. Details will be available when a schedule of work has been agreed.

RICKMANSWORTH ROAD/GREEN LANE

Because of recent changes to double yellow lines, the number of pedestrians crossing at the junction of Rickmansworth Road and Green Lane, particularly with young children, has increased. At present, as the traffic lights now operate, there is no safe time for pedestrians to cross. Local residents have raised a petition to try to rectify this, suggesting the installation of a Pelican crossing. The council has agreed that a survey will be carried out during term time and at 'rush hour' to reflect the true usage of the crossing by the local community. This has been delayed owing to the restrictions, but with schools having returned and traffic building to pre-Covid levels, it should now go ahead. It would be good if any recommendations from the survey could be considered with the above Northwood Traffic Study. An update from the council is eagerly awaited.

ROAD WORKS AND WATER WORKS

No one will have failed to notice that Affinity Water has been replacing a trunk water main between Cygnet Close and the top of Potter Street Hill. So far this has caused traffic

complications in The Avenue, Ducks Hill Road, Rickmansworth Road, High Street, Northwood Way and Hillside Road. I understand that there are some minor problems to be solved in the area of the railway bridge over Rickmansworth Road which will cause a short delay, but work is already scheduled to continue until the end of January 2022.

At the same time there have been multiple daytime closures of Batchworth Lane in Hertfordshire with diversions set up using Green Lane from Rickmansworth Road to Watford Road causing long traffic jams. It seems odd that a



When will the chaos end?

neighbouring council organisation is allowed to cause so much chaos in a next-door county.

FURTHER AFIELD – HS2

HS2 action is picking up pace. Tunnel boring machines will be starting work in Ruislip very soon and will be in action non-stop 24/7 for several years. It is almost certain that there will be many more travel restrictions imposed on Breakspear Road South from time to time.

traffichighways@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Peter Lansdown



PAUL
STRICKLAND
SCANNER
CENTRE

**Paul Strickland
Scanner Centre,**
an independent
medical charity is
based at Mount

Vernon Hospital. We provide comprehensive services to the NHS and private health sectors for the diagnosis, treatment monitoring and research of cancer and other serious diseases, using leading edge PET-CT, MRI and CT scanners.

Legacies and donations help fund new scanners which have to be replaced every few years.

Please help us raise much needed funds to make sure patients can benefit from leading edge scanning equipment and furthers medical research into cancer and other conditions.

Friday 13 November, our popular **Quiz night** at Greenfields Primary School. Teams of up to six, £17pp includes supper.

Charity **Christmas Cards** are on sale via the website or request an order form by phone or email. You can also take part in our **Scanlot lottery**, for just £20 entry for the year. Draws take place quarterly with cash prizes.

Our 2022 **Golf Day** will be on, **Tuesday 7 June**. We had a great turnout this year and raised almost £6,000. Congratulations to Missing Links who won.



The Missing Links pictured with their awards and one of

For any information and to book events please contact the fundraising team
Email: appeals@stricklandscanner.org.uk
Tel: 01923 886315
Website: www.stricklandscanner.org.uk
Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn

Metropolitan Line

HOPEFULLY the worst of the pandemic is beyond us and after a torrid lockdown time, life seems to be returning to normal, albeit at a hesitant pace.

This has been reflected on tube numbers with journeys up to 50% of pre-pandemic levels on August weekdays and 60% at weekends, about 1.8m passengers per day. This will have naturally increased in September as children returned to school and many parents took their tentative first steps back to the office.

Tentative though it remains as office capacity remains well under-used. What lockdown taught many companies and individuals was that working from home can actually be very productive when you are not having to spend time on the commute. And with the Met line often a commute fraught with difficulties and regularly being tipped out at Harrow-on-the-Hill! It would have been galling for many returners after 18 or so months that the 'severe delays' notification was back to haunt us. Indeed, at one point a special timetable had to be put in place as a lack of drivers led to cancellations. Let us hope this is behind us, though you'd have hoped 18 months with very few commuters may have offered the opportunity to fix those pesky signal failures. I am sure many workers are having conversations with their bosses that actually they are far better continuing to work from home! Many of course have no choice.



Masks remain a topical subject with many seemingly 'choosing' not to wear them on the tube. Well it's not a choice but a law. However, it doesn't seem to faze many. My experience is that we suburbia dwellers are pretty good at usage but it drops off the nearer you get to the City. Of course, there are undoubtedly a few with exemptions but I suspect the refuseniks are the greater number. My guess is masks on the tube will remain in place for longer than many think, something of a cultural change that may become natural. Probably not a bad thing with all the germs around. I still find it remarkable that people used to be able to smoke on the tube, before my time luckily. Here's hoping as we approach winter that Covid remains at a low level and the Met line performance increases the other way! We could all do with some Christmas cheer.

Gerry Pimm represents the NRA on FOMLUC, the Federation of Metropolitan Line User Committees.

met@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Gerry Pimm

From the Treasurer

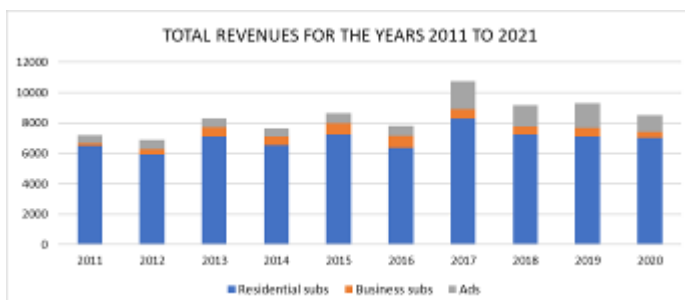
Firstly, let me say 'hello' to all the members of the association. As you will be aware from our last newsletter, I was delighted to be appointed Treasurer in April 2021.

ACCOUNTS

Whilst I was not involved in the preparation of the 2020 accounts, David Blowers has provided me with excellent information and documentation, and I am able to provide some details of the audited accounts.

The residential subscription receipts for 2020 totalled £7021 and were almost the same as the previous year's total of £7092. In view of the Covid pandemic this was an excellent result and was achieved by the hard work as always of the Road Stewards. Obviously in real terms, the overall value over the past 10 years has diminished but this is expected as we have not increased our minimum subscription amount during this period.

The expenditure for 2020 was similar to that of the previous year after you adjust for the town centre clock purchased at a cost of £4,248 in 2019.



The graph below left shows the total revenues received from 2011 to 2020 comprising Residential, Business and Advertising receipts.

RESERVES

Our reserves remain steady as the income and expenditure generally breaks even and so the reserves do not change materially. We almost re-couped the cost of the clock in 2020 and our cash reserves increased by £3,300 to £32,102 as at 31st December 2020.

Whilst it is prudent to keep some reserves in case of an urgent need, I would like to ask you, the members, for suggestions to use our reserves for projects that will benefit the residents of Northwood.

We will always endeavour to ensure that Hillingdon Council meets their financial obligations. However, our objective is always to support our local residents and businesses, so your ideas will be most welcome.

OUR ROAD STEWARDS

I wish to join my fellow committee members in thanking all our Road Stewards sincerely for their wonderful efforts in collecting the subscriptions. Without their dedication and hard work, especially during these difficult times, we would not have the revenues to pay for our costs.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are set for the calendar year at the AGM, but as this year's AGM was delayed to almost the end of the year, the rate for 2021 will continue as a minimum of £2 per household for Residents and £10 for Businesses.

Rashmi Chauhan
treasurer@northwoodresidents.co.uk



In the Spring newsletter, we published an appeal for volunteers to take on the role of Remembrance Parade Organiser, and we were contacted by not one, but two Northwood residents! Philip Austin and Adam Stapley have agreed to share the responsibilities, a perfect result.

Many thanks to Chris Boulton who has acted as Parade Organiser in recent years, I'm sure he will be sharing his knowledge and experience with Philip and Adam.

Remembrance Sunday Parade

Northwood War Memorial
on **Sunday 14th November 2021**
from 10.30am

The service itself will start at 10.50am with the two minute silence at 11am
Please refer to the NRA website and notice boards for any updates to the arrangements.

Local Environment

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

The development of Northwood as more individual homes are replaced with multi occupation unit apartments, has outstripped the capacity of our foul water, rainwater and, dare I say, our fresh water supply pipes to cope with the job adequately. The present infrastructure of pipes was laid down in the 1950s.

The activity in Rickmansworth Road and in other roads in and around Northwood where deep channels are being dug in the roads concerns laying new pipes for freshwater supply. In a number of local roads and for a number of residents whose homes and gardens are in low-lying areas plus those residents residing below high ground, regular flooding after heavy rainfall is occurring. Some parts of Northwood seem to get more than their fair share of flooding such as Hills Lane, Copse Wood Way and in The Gravel Pits.

Contributing to the potential of flooding is the concreting and paving over of front gardens when rainfall no longer permeates into the ground but now runs off into road drains. The deduction one can make is that the drains that take our water and sewage laid decades ago are not coping with the extra pressure of more homes, more people and more frequent heavy rainfall. To replace the network of drainpipes most affected with larger bore pipes would cost millions and major disruption in our communities.

Affinity Water is responsible for fresh water supplies and infrastructure, and Thames Water is responsible for foul water / sewage drains infrastructure. Our local council is responsible for ensuring that the drains by pavements and roads are kept clean and clear of debris.

If our aging network of pipework is not up to the job then money has to be found and spent on replacing old systems, and it is you and I as taxpayers that will end up paying for that action. We may want more homes, more apartments and extensions built, but we also have to pay the price for that growth.

If you have issues regarding flooding or less than adequate freshwater pressure or supply, there are regular channels to

For all information about local environmental issues, visit the council website, www.hillingdon.gov.uk and follow the links or use the Search box
Email: contactcentre1@hillingdon.gov.uk
Tel: 01895 556000

contact the organisations mentioned above - search their websites or check on paper bills. If concerns are unanswered, it is surprising what a letter (better than an email) can achieve when it is written to the CEO of the relevant organisation.

BUSHY BOUNDARIES

Plants, shrubs and trees have put on a growth spurt in the last month and gardeners may delight in this. That also has a by-product – trees and hedges that grow beyond boundaries and restrict pavements causing inconvenience to pedestrians. Can I make a plea to Northwood gardeners and to residents employing garden contractors? Please can you check your boundaries and cut back over-spilling foliage and hedges that reduce pavement width? Thank you.



Consider the pedestrians

DRIVEWAYS / PATHS / VERGES AND DEVELOPERS.

It maybe a bonanza time for building contractors around Northwood and whilst many behave responsibly, a number appear to be intent on damaging our amenities.

Look around as you walk and drive in Northwood at each plot where renovation or development is occurring. Just take in the amount of damage caused to driveway crossovers, pavements and verges where heavy vehicles and machinery have entered and exited the property. Each incident or example is an outrage to you and me as taxpayers, as it is we that frequently pay for the repairs undertaken to reinstate safe pavements, crossovers and verges.

If you are having work undertaken on your property, please ensure that your contractors use boards and planks to protect these surfaces, and if when the work is finished there is damage, please could you offer personally to pay for reinstatement work outside your property? To do what is right and just is important.

Let us keep Northwood looking smart.

environment@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Andrew Egan

A Message From Our MP, David Simmonds

When I last wrote to you back in May, we were just starting to emerge from our third national lockdown. Now I am pleased that the sacrifices made have enabled us to move forward, cautiously, and it has been pleasing to see the country reopening over the past few months. The Government recently outlined its Covid Winter Plan and I am hopeful that with the continued success of our vaccine rollout, and now the booster rollout, we will be able to proceed with 'Plan A' over the coming months.

Reopening has seen the return of more in-person activity, and I am delighted to have been able to resume coffee shop surgeries, including at Village Express in Northwood. Whilst it has been a pleasure to have facetime with residents after months of 'virtual living', I have wanted to do this cautiously. Now the remaining restrictions have lifted, I will be getting back to advertising my surgeries more widely, so please do look out for details in your local area and on my social media channels.

The situation on the Northwood Town Centre remains much the same, with redevelopment work paused and focus now on improving the existing retail estate, which I know will be welcome news for residents. TfL has confirmed to me that leases are being offered at five-year terms to provide more certainty for tenants and will be advertised once they have been brought to a marketable standard. Efforts are also being put into repair work, pest control, fly tipping regulation and deterring parking on double yellow lines on Station Approach.

Work has continued on plans to redevelop the Cottage Hospital. I know that many residents still have concerns about the housing development, but I maintain my belief that we must not object to the housing at the expense of a significantly larger and more modern healthcare facility for the community. That all being said, I have been engaging with the team leading on the project and I am working with them and council colleagues to see if we can agree a mutually acceptable future use for this housing. I am hoping to meet with them in the next week or so and I will of course keep constituents updated on the matter.



To contact Northwood MP, David Simmonds CBE:

Email: david.simmonds.mp@parliament.uk

Post: House of Commons, Westminster, London, SW1A 0AA

Constituency: 10 Village Way, Pinner, HA5 5AF

Tel: 01923 822 876

You can follow his work on the website:

www.davidsimmonds.org.uk

and on Twitter: @DSimmonds_RNP

or Facebook: DavidSimmondsMP

Health Matters

ELECTRIC AMBULANCE IS A UK FIRST

The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is leading the way on sustainability, this time through a new collaboration with patient transport partner HATS.

It will soon be using the UK's first purpose-built totally electric ambulance to take patients to and from appointments at Hillingdon and Mount Vernon hospitals.

The Renault ambulance has a battery capable of about a 95-mile range between charges under normal conditions and use, and the ambulance itself emits zero CO2 and is totally silent.

The ambulance bears a dedication to the late Capt. Sir Tom Moore who raised so much money for the NHS by walking laps of his garden, winning the hearts of the nation.

WATFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL'S Health and Care Video Library includes over 600 simple and easy to follow

information videos. The clinically assured content has been produced in partnership with Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust and covers a range of topics and conditions in an easily accessible format, providing an alternative to written health information.

The Library can be accessed either through the Watford General Hospital Website or the West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust Website:

www.westhertshospitals.nhs.uk/patientinformation/

Example topics include:

- Preparing for surgery
- Scans and tests
- Having an anaesthetic
- Critical care
- Hospital admission and discharge

health@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Dr Amir Lakha



Holy Trinity CE Primary School's link with Malawi

We have been linked with Mkanakhoti School in Malawi for several years and, during that time, there have been several visits to Malawi by our staff and two visits to Northwood by Mkanakhoti School staff. Another reciprocal visit had been arranged for last summer but is now not likely to happen until next year. In the meantime, we continue to have an ongoing dialogue between the two schools using WhatsApp. Both schools are currently working on a Clean Hands Project where children are learning about health and

hygiene in the UK and Malawi. Our link has recently enabled us to fund the provision of a roof and floor in the new classroom block at Mkanakhoti which was built by the local community in Malawi. This year also, thanks to the generous sponsorship of staff and parents at Holy Trinity School, all the students who passed their final exams at the Primary School have been able to attend the Secondary School, which is fee paying. We are proud of the fact that children at both schools are becoming responsible global citizens through their work on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Tel: 01923 822529

Email: admin@holytrinitynorthwood.org

Web: www.holytrinitynorthwood.org

Friends of Northwood Recreation Ground

Since launching this year, the Friends of Northwood Recreation Ground group has sought to boost the fortunes of the much-maligned park and turn it into a source of local pride. There has been tangible progress in conjunction with Hillingdon Council, but the future is dependent on there being enough desire and involvement from local residents to sustain the project. That's where you come in...



Definitely in need of TLC

Many readers may not be aware that Northwood Recreation Ground and its accompanying meadow lie within the Northwood Ward, given that it's largely surrounded by Northwood Hills. Perhaps the location contributed to this valuable green space 'falling down the back of the sofa' so to speak.

Venture beyond the well-maintained flowery entrance and playground on Chestnut Avenue and it's clear to see how much the park could benefit from some TLC – with areas of dereliction and drainage issues that make part of the habitat more suitable for alligators than humans. It's an issue that intensifies during the winter. Bit by bit though, we're chipping away and are very much on Hillingdon Council's radar thanks to the voluntary efforts and publicity.

One major success has been the restoration of the glorious 'Jubilee Walk' in September. Created in 1936 to honour King George V posthumously, it consists of two lines of plane and lime trees running down half a mile from the top of Haste Hill to the bottom of Northwood Recreation Ground. A large section of this has been unwalkable for many years due to overgrown vegetation, but we're delighted to say a path - deliberately narrow out of respect for the flourishing wildlife - has been cut along the route after we put forward the case to Hillingdon Council. It's not an official public footpath, so it's up to us to maintain it now. We hope Northwood residents can enjoy this lovely walk and be inspired to make a difference.

If you want to become involved, please join the Friends Of Northwood Recreation Ground Facebook group or Email: northwoodrecfriends@gmail.com
Tel: 07977 938 249

Ben Rawson-Jones



The Jubilee Walk, glorious once more

Northwood Rec. has an outdoor gym!

Back in May 2019, Niru Patel wrote to Hillingdon Council asking them to consider installing an outdoor gym in Northwood Recreation Ground. She said, "The two big private gyms in Northwood are very expensive so not everyone can afford to use them. Lots of young mothers and grandparents bring children to play at the nice park on Chestnut Avenue, so an outdoor gym will be very useful and beneficial to all age groups."

She was invited to submit an application for Chrysalis funding and much to her delight, the application was successful.



Official opening, 1st July 2021

At a cost of £58k the gym was installed, and officially opened on 1st July 2021. Niru was there to see Cllr Roy Chamdal, Mayor of Hillingdon do the honours by cutting a ribbon. He was accompanied by Mayoress Reeta Chamdal, Cllr Eddie Lavery the Cabinet member for Environment, Housing and Regeneration, and several officers from the Open Spaces team who had been involved with the project.



Niru Patel enjoys using the new equipment

Well done, Niru, your efforts are much appreciated!

Plans to redevelop Hillingdon Hospital

Plans continue for Hillingdon's new state-of-the-art hospital which is currently at the pre-planning application stage.

A recent public exhibition gave people a first glimpse of what the new building might look like. The trust held a number of online events to hear people's views and, once Covid restrictions lifted, they were also engaging with people in person at the Love Uxbridge Summer Festival.

Overall, more than 360 people gave feedback on the plans. The trust is always keen to hear from as many local people and patients as possible so please visit thh.nhs.uk/redevelopment/exhibition to have your say.

The team behind the redevelopment are really excited about the plans for the new hospital. It will support the very best in delivering healthcare for local people and patients, providing the same range of services that we have now, in the same location but with improvements made possible by modern, purpose-built facilities.

It will have about 40 percent more floor space with a small increase in bed numbers. Most importantly, it is better designed so that services and departments are together when needed. For example, in the new Accident and Emergency Department, services including resuscitation, a frailty unit and acute mental health will be brought together on one floor to improve patient flows. Patients will be clearly directed to the services they need and will have convenient access to diagnostic and specialist services.

As well as giving us a modern state-of-the-art facility, the new hospital promises to be much more pleasant to stay in. For



The Hillingdon Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust



Artist's impression - Crispin Way

example, inpatient wards will be placed higher up in the building so that patients can take advantage of the natural light and views. Outside the hospital, there will be extensive outdoor spaces and attractive landscaping, creating a genuinely new amenity for local people.

You can read more about all the proposed benefits and see a number of artist impression-type images of the new hospital on the exhibition website thh.nhs.uk/redevelopment

Over the coming months there will be more public workshops on specific aspects of the plans. Keep an eye on the website, Twitter or sign up for alerts:

thh.nhs.uk/redevelopment/get-involved-and-have-your-say/

Niall Smith

Communications & Engagement Manager
The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Planning Matters

Planning applications have continued to be submitted at about the same rate, over 30 each month. This includes applications for works to trees covered by Tree Preservation Orders which continues apace with those being about a quarter of the total submitted.

Out of the 163 submitted since the last Newsletter I have made objections or comments on 57 of them, geared primarily to where there is an adverse impact on the neighbouring properties. The majority of applications continue to be for extensions rather than new builds.

CHECK OUT APPLICATIONS. It remains the case that once an application is approved you cannot get that decision overturned except on a technicality, and so you should study any applications made by neighbours to see whether they comply with the planning rules. If you see reasons to object on planning grounds, then they can be submitted on the London Borough of Hillingdon portal.

Whilst LBH does notify those neighbours affected by planning applications, you can also search on the portal using this link: <http://planning.hillingdon.gov.uk/OcellaWeb/planningSearch>

Just enter the first part of the address in the 'Location' box. After viewing the documents press 'Enter Comment.'

GET YOUR VOICE HEARD WITH A PETITION. Planning Committee meetings are now back live, and if you want to present your case personally then you will need to produce a petition with a minimum of 20 signatures of any residents living within the LB Hillingdon who are 18 or over. That will entitle you to attend the Committee meeting and you can speak for up to five minutes, and it's live on YouTube.

planning@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Trevor Sherling

Members, this is your newsletter!

I am always eager to receive comments, articles and suggestions for topics that you would like us to cover.

The next issue will be published in March with copy deadline mid February.

Do get in touch.

editor@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Ros Plume

All views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors.

The local team has been working hard recently, especially with operational need across London causing occasional abstractions. We are now able to meet face-to-face again, and we encourage everyone to engage with the local officers either at the Crime Prevention Stalls and Contact Points that are held monthly, or whenever they are seen on patrol.

YOU CAN REPORT AREAS PRONE TO SPEEDING. At present there is a particular focus on speeding and e-scooters being used around Northwood. If you are aware of a specific location where speeding vehicles are an issue please raise it with the team. It may be an area we are already aware of, but if not, it can be monitored and traffic operations can be arranged.

E-SCOOTERS come with their own challenges, however when



we can we will stop them and speak with the owners. In some cases, simply offering advice around the legality of them has proved an effective tactic, however police can and will seize them from riders if necessary. You can read

more about the rules of them online, however in the simplest form they are not legal to be ridden on the road or pavement. They may only be ridden on private land with the land owner's permission. Currently the only exception is the hireable e-scooters which are appearing across London and come with their own insurance for use in public spaces. The type that can be bought in shops are not insurable at this



METROPOLITAN
POLICE

From PC Max Christmas

stage and therefore are not legal for use. If you are unsure you can check the rules on the Met Police website or simply contact the team for advice.

PERSONNEL CHANGES. Sergeant Bishop has recently moved from the area with a replacement set to take over in October. PC John, who was with the team on an attachment has also moved on to the Emergency Response Team and has been replaced by PC Staines who will now be working with the team for six months. PC Christmas and PCSO Usher remain your local officers.

As always, we advise residents to stay safe and report crime or concerns when they can. If we know what is happening in the area, we can police more effectively. Thank you.

The Team members are:

PC Max Christmas, PC Lewis Staines and PCSO John Usher.

The Neighbourhoods Inspector is Insp Dan Lipinski

Northwood Ward Team can be contacted on

Telephone: 020 8721 2545 or 020 8246 1823

Email: Northwood.snt@met.police.uk

Twitter: [@MPSNorthwood](https://twitter.com/MPSNorthwood)

Website: www.met.police.uk/your-area/

Address: Ruislip Police Station, The Oaks, HA4 7LF



Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch

As the dark nights are already upon us, culminating with the clocks reverting to GMT on Sunday 31st October, now is the time to beef up your home security to prevent unwanted visitors from gaining access to your home. Our regular advice is to:

- Securely close and lock all external doors and windows, remembering to remove keys from locks.
- Use timer switches to make the house look occupied when you are not at home by leaving lights on in the rooms you use, not just in the hall. Also use a timer switch to leave a radio playing on a talk station.
- Install external lights to the front and rear of your property, ensuring that they are placed high enough not to be damaged by would-be intruders.
- Install an intruder alarm and CCTV or video-enabled doorbell.
- Consider laying gravel on driveways and paths – burglars hate noise!
- Ensure that back and side gates are robust and securely locked as many burglars access properties this way (so as not to be seen by passers-by on the street), Repair any broken fences, adding trellis and/or prickly bushes as an added deterrent to would-be intruders.
- Avoid high trees and shrubs to the front of your property as these can shield from view anyone up to no good.
- Don't forget to lock garages and sheds securely, taking care not to leave anything of value on show through the windows.

OUR WATCH CO-ORDINATORS are crucial to the success of our watches and are the first point of contact for the SNT when something untoward occurs in the watch area. Unfortunately, in recent months four of our long-serving Co-ordinators have retired from Farm Road, Hedgeside Road, Reginald Road and Woodridge Way. If you live in one of these roads and feel you could help, please contact us for further information.

Finally, OWL has produced a new app which can be downloaded from Google Play or the App Store for "OWL crime alerts". Users of the app have already sung its praises, e.g. "A superb app for keeping the community up to date with all matters relating to policing and the community."

Web: www.hillingdonnhw.co.uk

Email: all@hillingdonnhw.co.uk

Lynette Bridger
Secretary

Major Life Changes For Your Councillors - from Cllr Richard Lewis

There are three major changes that have happened and are happening within Hillingdon Council. Firstly, in January, Cllr Sir Ray Puddifoot (C) stood down as Leader of the Council and was succeeded by Cllr Ian Edwards (C). Ian has an outstanding knowledge of running big organisations, having been the Police Borough Commander in Richmond and then as a senior local government officer in Hillingdon.



Carol, Scott and Richard on 2018 Election Night

The second big change has been brought about by the Boundary Commission's decision to reduce the number of Hillingdon councillors from 65 to 53, with the net effect for Northwood is that we will have only two councillors from May 2022 onwards.

The third change is that after 24 years representing Northwood, Scott Seaman-Digby has moved to Kent. Carol Melvin has also decided to retire from local politics after 14 years on the council and is moving with Andrew to the coast. They have both been fantastic stalwarts of Northwood and we have made a brilliant team together, offering different strengths, ages and enormous in-depth knowledge of the area. I feel so lucky to have had such great colleagues and through these pages I would like to thank them sincerely for their

unstinting dedication to the people of Northwood. I am sure we will all miss them and, of course, wish them well in their new homes and lives far away from Northwood.

So, what the future holds is that whilst I hope to restand in the May 2022 local elections, we will definitely have at least one new councillor going forward. The Hillingdon Conservative Group is currently going through a new and much more intensive

councillor selection process, and I hope to remain as one of your councillors in order to offer continuity to our local businesses, residents and of course to the members of the Northwood Residents' Association.

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

Tel: 01895 250316 - Civic Centre office (9am - 5.30pm weekdays)

Email: rlewis@hillingsdon.gov.uk
cmelvin@hillingsdon.gov.uk
sseaman-digby@hillingsdon.gov.uk

Local Policing from the NRA Police Liaison Officer

Eagle-eyed residents may have noticed that Philip Green is not writing this column; Philip and I exchanged roles recently. He is now responsible for Northwood Businesses, and I am your new Police Liaison Officer. I really enjoyed my time with the businesses, both on Green Lane and the High Street, and am now looking forward to a new direction.

NORTHWOOD WARD POLICE PANEL

The Northwood Ward panel meets quarterly with the local Police to discuss short, medium and long term strategy and discuss matters relating to local policing. This committee is itself a wider grouping with members drawn from organisations in Northwood. The committee is a two-way channel between the police and the community where both parties can raise matters of local concern.

The Panel held its first face-to-face meeting since lockdown on the 26th July 2021. We have had one resignation and our student member has moved on to continue her education.

We Want You. How many times have you ranted about a local issue and said, "Someone needs to do something about it"? Sounds familiar? Well, that somebody could well be you and now you can! We want more residents to join our Police Panel. We have a diverse group on our panel and would like to expand it further. If you would like to be involved, please contact me. You can have your say too!

OUR SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM (SNT) is not on duty 24/7. Please use the non-emergency number 101 for **situations that do not require an immediate police response**. This will help keep 999 available for when there is

an emergency, e.g. if a crime is taking place, or somebody is in immediate danger.

Northwood remains a low crime area and we work hard to keep it that way.

OTHER NEWS

Sergeant James Bishop has moved to pastures new. We have a caretaker sergeant until the new one starts in October.

The SNT holds regular surgeries in Northwood, usually in Costa Coffee, to meet you all and to make note of any concerns. They regularly receive great feedback and thanks. They also set up a regular Crime Prevention stall under their gazebo near the War Memorial. Please do come and say 'hello'. Your police team is here to allay your concerns, prevent possible crimes and protect our residents.

OWL

We are seeing an uptake in residents signing up to OWL. The new OWL app for smart phones is an extra bonus. Please do sign up to www.owl.co.uk. It will tell you what is going on around you. It has been designed for you, so please make good use of it.



police@northwoodresidents.co.uk
Tel: 01923 828085

Hoda Lacey

55th NRA AGM, 30th September 2021

This was our first face-to-face AGM for two and a half years. Would anyone turn up? Would our members be cautious about meeting indoors in person? Would the foul weather deter others? In the event, the full committee was present, and we were gratified to welcome more than 50 of you, as well as our MP and two local councillors. Thank you for your support.

OUR GUEST SPEAKER was David Simmonds MP who covered three main topics:

PLANNING. He said builders should be building homes they already have permission for rather than developing Green Belt land. Across the country there are over one million planning applications approved and awaiting building. Central government is now having a rethink of their previously suggested plans; Green Belt building development should be unnecessary.

THE EFFECTS OF THE PANDEMIC. In this area banks have reported that businesses and individuals are typically holding 40% more cash than they did before the pandemic, so it is to be hoped that more benefit will flow to local businesses.

SOCIAL CARE. As Social Care is generally recognised to need improvement, new models must be looked at, possibly including other European countries' models.

Mr Simmonds fielded a number of questions from the floor. The main point he took away from the meeting was the concern about the lack of police presence in Northwood, even though Hillingdon funds 20 extra police officers.

ELECTION. The NRA officers, committee members and president were elected, the only changes from last year being Rashmi Chauhan and Sunil Shah who had been co-opted as Treasurer and IT Specialist respectively earlier in the year. David Blowers stepped down in February after 10 years as NRA Treasurer, he was thanked for all his efforts on our behalf.

ACCOUNTS. The examined accounts for 2020 were presented by the Treasurer and accepted. The Treasurer noted that we have healthy reserves and asked for ideas for using some funds for the benefit of local residents. One suggestion was to have a permanent feature to mark the 2022 Jubilee, possibly some new trees could be planted.

SUBSCRIPTIONS. The proposal to continue for the rest of 2021 with a minimum rate of £2 per household and the Business member rate of £10 was approved.

CONSTITUTION. The proposal to allow Associate Members was approved. Residents from the part of Hertfordshire that lies within the HA6 post code area can now enrol as NRA Associate members; they do not have voting rights but receive newsletters, have the right to speak at AGMs and EGMs and to register for email bulletins.

COUNCILLORS' FORUM. Cllrs Melvin and Lewis took a variety of questions from the floor. Cllr Richard Lewis announced that Cllr Carol Melvin would not be standing for election next May and thanked her for her dedication to Northwood residents over the last 14 years.

The full minutes from the AGM will be posted on the website.



Throughout the whole of lockdown, Guiding in Northwood has shown great resilience and a continued sense of community. All units met in one way or another – but most of us opted for good old Zoom! What did we do before Zoom????

During this time 4th/5th Northwood Brownies at Oaklands Gate (my unit) continued to follow the Brownie programme, went on a 'virtual' pack holiday weekend which was greatly enjoyed by all and worked towards our termly badge awards. We were delighted when we were at long last allowed to meet face-to-face (albeit outdoors and with social distancing) and on the last meeting of the summer term Jenni Maidment, our District Commissioner visited the girls to present four of the oldest Brownies with their Gold Awards, the highest achievement possible in Brownies. They were the first in the District to complete it, so we were extra proud of them, well done girls!



Krishna, proud recipient of the Brownie Gold Award, with Brown Owl and Tawny Owl

Guiding is an extremely rewarding activity and we are always looking for new and enthusiastic helpers, if you would like to join our team of volunteers in Rainbows, Brownies or Guides, please contact Jenni at northwooddistrictguides@outlook.com

Jane Anderson



Woodland Centre opened

On Friday 24th September, Councillor Roy Chamdal, Mayor of Hillingdon and Councillor Eddie Lavery attended the opening of the new Woodland Centre at Ruislip Lido. The centre has displays of what can be found in the woods, educational activities, interactive video and the history of the area. Small school groups can visit by prior arrangement.

woods@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Miles Gillman



At Emmanuel we love being part of the Northwood Community and found the past 18 months difficult as it put on hold many of the community groups we enjoy running. But we are thrilled to be meeting again in person this autumn and there are two groups we are excited to share with you.

Wednesday Fellowship is our seniors fellowship group that meets on Wednesdays

2:15pm - 4pm. We have a varied programme of events including interesting speakers, slide presentations of journeys afar, quizzes, craft, musical entertainment and a thought for the day. Our banner reads 'Love one another as I have loved you' and our aim is to do just that. If you are a senior, why not come along and make some new friends - we'd love to meet you!



Afterhours is our group for young people in the Northwood area. We meet from 7:30pm to 8:30pm on Fridays during term time. It's an hour filled with craft activities, sports, group games and more. It's high energy and a lot of fun. If you are currently at secondary school, you are so welcome to come along. For more information about these groups or our other activities, please see our website.

**Emmanuel Church, High Street,
Northwood HA6 1AS**

Web: www.ecn.org.uk

Tele: 01923 845200

email: ecnooffice@ecn.org.uk

News From Eastbury Horticultural Society



Visit to Theobalds Farmhouse Garden

With the country coming back to some sort of post-Covid normality, so the activities of the EASTBURY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY have been picking up.

During the summer we arranged visits to gardens in Pinner, Crews Hill, Harefield and Wisley. All proved most popular despite a couple being return visits.

We held successful bring-and-buy plant sales in June and September but unfortunately our Annual Show was cancelled as we failed to find someone to organise it.

Around about the time you will be reading this we will be planting an evergreen shrub with golden foliage at Eastbury Farm School to celebrate our 50th anniversary – which was actually in Covid-restricted 2020.



Our speaker evenings have started with the first one being about modern garden design ideas and the 18th October one about Greenfingers, a charity which supports children's hospices. Our next talk is by author and broadcaster Chris Day on "The all-new A-Z of Foolproof Gardening". It takes place on Monday 18 November at Eastbury Farm School at 7.45 for 8.00pm. Visitors are welcome – but why not join on the night for a mere £5 per annum!

After Christmas we have a quiz and two talks on 31 January, 28 February and 28 March – all Mondays.

We always welcome new members

Enquiries to our Membership Secretary:
Tim Ellison on 01923 822162
or email ehs.members@gmail.com

Northwood Christmas Craft Market

**Saturday 11th December
10am – 1pm
Methodist Church Hall
Oaklands Gate, Northwood HA6 3AA
Free Admission**

After such a long absence, we are now delighted to be getting back into the swing of things with our Christmas Market on Saturday 11th December. There will be a wide variety of quality crafts for sale, all handmade by local crafters. It's the ideal place to find beautiful decorations, original gifts for Christmas, or even a treat for yourself! Santa will be there once again and is looking forward to greeting lots of children.

As for next year, we are planning to continue with our monthly markets from the beginning of March onwards. Keep an eye on our website and social media pages for future dates.



We hope to see you again soon!

For more information, take a look at our website:

www.northwoodcraftmarket.co.uk

Like us on Facebook; Follow us on Twitter @CraftNorthwood

Email: northwoodcraftmarket@hotmail.co.uk

Telephone Susan on 07780 601842



A newly constructed woodland walkway has been opened at Mount Vernon Cancer Centre.

This exciting project sees the return of 'fresh air for health' at Mount Vernon as the hospital was originally built for patients with tuberculosis and other lung diseases. First opened in 1902, the hospital was a place where patients could benefit from innovative 'fresh air treatment' that had been pioneered in Europe. The site was chosen for its high ground and gentle slopes within easy reach of London.

Fast forward to the 21st century and there is mounting evidence of the benefits being in nature can bring to both your mental and physical wellbeing.

The new woodland walkway features an elegant, wheelchair-accessible path so that patients and staff can enjoy a lovely walk around the historic lawn and newly created wildflower meadow. At its furthest point, the path wends its way through secluded woodland providing walkers with a real sense of being in nature whilst remaining close to the hospital buildings.

Everyone is invited to walk this way!



Celebration Time! Thursday 2nd June 2022

In 2022, Her Majesty The Queen will become the first British monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, seventy years of service, having acceded to the throne on 6th February 1952 when she was 25 years old.

We are delighted to announce that to mark this unique occasion Northwood Residents' Association and Northwood Hills Residents' Association will once again be joining together to hold a **"Music and Picnic in the Park"** community event on Northwood Recreation ground.

It will take place on Thursday 2nd June 2022 from 2pm to 6pm - this will be a Bank Holiday and the start of four days of national celebrations.

Live music, refreshment stalls and children's entertainment.

Updates will be published in the next edition of the newsletter and on our website.

News Update from Northwood Library

Northwood Library is back open for residents, do come and see us! We receive new books every week and are able to reserve them for you to borrow.

We are still being cautious about groups meeting in the building as we cannot guarantee sufficient ventilation for larger gatherings. However, for your day-to-day IT requirements and for browsing and borrowing books, we are open and looking forward to welcoming people back.

Our opening times are still slightly limited, see box opposite. Don't forget you can also look on the Hillingdon Libraries website to find out about all our online offers. Library membership entitles you to access eBooks, audiobooks, magazines and newspapers online, as well as using reference

tools like Britannica, Which? and Theory Test Pro. Any of our staff will be happy to get you started with downloading and accessing these resources.

We look forward to seeing you again soon.

Maggie Ross
Branch Manager

Northwood Library, Oaklands Gate, Northwood, HA6 3AB
Tel: 01895 558262

Email: northwood-library@hilligdon.gov.uk

Web: www.hillingdon.gov.uk/libraries

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/Hill_Libraries](https://twitter.com/Hill_Libraries)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/HillingdonLibraries

Open: Monday to Friday 09:30am - 1pm and 2 - 5pm
Saturday 09:30-1pm and 2 - 4pm



Iron Aid Foundation is an established charity that has been working within the community for over 10 years,

running various activities and worship at St John's United Reformed Church building. Over the years, they have built up a good and trusted relationship with St John's URC, the local synagogues and the local community, raising funds for local causes as well as sending food and other essential items to disaster areas overseas.

Iron Aid Foundation recently completed the purchase of the former Northwood Police station. They are currently in the process of applying for a Change of Use and the refurbishment of the heritage building.

Ownership of this iconic building will allow Iron Aid Foundation to plan for the longer term regarding the benefits it can bring to the community, as well as ensure the dilapidated building is sensitively restored to its former glory.

Early discussions have taken place with the local council and key local stakeholders such as David Simmonds MP. A wider consultation will be arranged to involve the community in the plans and encourage them to have their say.

Most recently, Iron Aid Foundation has also been working with local organisations to help with food distribution and assist Afghan refugees who have arrived in the community.

Having a fully operational centre will enable Iron Aid Foundation to continue providing the community services at the pre-pandemic levels.

For more information, visit our website:
www.ironaid.org

General enquiries:

Tel: 07716 756677

Email: info@ironaid.org

Dr Tariq Zaman
Chairman



We are delighted to have been able to restart our face-to-face activities. These include seated exercise classes and yoga, Lunch Club, a lighter soup, sandwich and samosa lunch and the popular Friendship Group in Northwood Hills, soon to celebrate its 10th anniversary. We are grateful to the London School of Theology for providing high quality lunches and allowing us to use their premises. Monthly Ruislip Lido walks are back on the programme and we're looking forward to hosting our first Christmas Lunch for two years with entertainment by Dean Ager.



Members enjoying a cup of tea after exercises with coordinator Yvonne

It has been wonderful to see members socialising once more and re-engaging with our fantastic volunteers. Many have commented on how much they missed seeing people in a social setting.

MHA Communities West London

(formerly Northwood Live at Home)

Some activities have also continued virtually through our umbrella organisation MHA's Digital Communities programme. This enables those who still feel unable to go out to be included and a wide variety of interests are catered for. We're pleased that our intergenerational chat sessions with local schoolchildren have restarted on Zoom.

We want to ensure local older people have social contact and support to enjoy life as much as possible, so if you know of anyone who would benefit from a befriender or a regular telephone call, please encourage them to make contact even if they are not yet ready to join in the face-to-face activities. If you would like to be involved in befriending, call us to have a chat about volunteering. Full training and support are provided.

MHA Communities exists to improve the life of older people still living independently but who wish to get out more and make new friends. Anyone in the local community over 60 is eligible to join and new volunteers, especially drivers, are always welcome. Free transport is offered where possible to those who need it.

If you would like to know more about the scheme, as a potential member or volunteer, please contact the office on **01923 842494** or email **WestLondon@mha.org.uk**

Web: www.mha.org.uk/communities/near-me/west-london/
Search: MHA Communities West London

Jo Wild, Volunteer



Are you retired and looking for an active, interesting way to fill your time?
Then perhaps **u3a** is the answer you're looking for.

What is u3a? u3a is an organisation of local people that come together to socialise, make friends and learn for fun. It's all voluntary; a typical u3a has many interest groups covering lots of different subjects so there is something to attract everyone.

Who is u3a for? u3a is open to everyone who's no longer in full-time work.

Where is the nearest u3a? This is Northwood & District u3a, which currently has over 700 members and around 60 interest groups, many of which meet regularly in Fairfield Church Hall, Northwood Hills, while others meet for table tennis or badminton in local venues, or just organise walks and visits.

How do I contact u3a? Full details are on our website: u3asites.org.uk/northwood/home or you can come to one of our regular meetings on the first Wednesday of each month and see for yourself. **10:30 am at Fairfield Church Hall.**

We look forward to meeting you!

Alan Lester
Vice Chairman
Northwood & District u3a

Michael Sobell Hospice Charity

As we countdown to the festive season, Michael Sobell Hospice is busily planning its Christmas activities:

FAMILY CHRISTMAS MARKET, Sat 5th - Sun 6th December on the hospital site (SAT NAV: WD3 IPZ), from 10am-4pm. There'll be a variety of local stalls, whilst having a browse you'll be able to indulge in a delicious homemade cake or a mince pie while enjoying a hot drink or a mulled wine. And there'll be lots of fun for little ones with a visit to Santa's Grotto!

LIGHT UP A LIFE REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY, Sunday 28th November. An opportunity to come together to honour and remember loved ones at Christmas time.

And keep your eyes peeled for a special schools' Jingle Jog event in December too!

Don't forget to visit the local Hospice shops in Northwood and Eastcote! For opening days and times, please visit the website. Donations of good quality clothing are welcomed.



For more details on MSH and our fundraising events visit www.michaelsobellhospice.co.uk

or call us on **020 8166 9222**
Email: fundraising@michaelsobellhospice.org

Northwood Tennis Club Finals Day

An unfortunate injury led to a foreshortened number of matches this year.

In the ladies' doubles, Angela Ghosh and Alita Davern retained their title beating Hannah Ghosh and Hermione Peart 6-2, 4-6, 6-4.

The men's doubles title was retained by Fergal Davern and John Ghosh who beat Lazar Andelkovic and Giuseppe Messina 7-5, 6-7, 7-5.

Alita had to pull out of the ladies' singles match, so Hannah Ghosh retained her title.

In the men's singles, former winner Duncan Chorley fought hard to beat the holder, Lazar Andelkovic, by 4-6, 6-3, 6-3. Because of Alita's injury, she and Duncan pulled out of the mixed doubles final gifting the title to Hannah Ghosh and Lazar Andelkovic.

The veteran's mixed doubles winners were Alison Cameron and John Mangan, who beat Sam Wilde and Owen Ghosh by 6-3, 6-4.

The presentations took place at the social afterwards.



Laz and Giuseppe in action

The following day the junior section took over. The girls' singles title went to Jess Wilde and the runner-up was Hermione Peart. The boys' singles winner was Teddy Mangan who beat Aran Joshi.

We will hold a Winter tournament, inter-club matches and several social events in the coming months.

Information about the club can be found on our website www.northwoodtennisclub.co.uk.



Northwood Methodist Church

We are now back to meeting for worship at the church each Sunday at 10.30am although services will continue to be Zoomed, for log on details please contact our minister. Everyone is welcome, either in person or on Zoom. We are now able to sing but are still taking covid 19 precautions.

Our **In Loving Memory** service, when we remember

loved ones who are no longer with us, is on Sunday October 24th at 4pm. If you would like to join us you would be most welcome.

On **Remembrance Sunday**, November 14th our service will commence at 10am to allow members of the congregation to assemble at the war memorial for the community service of remembrance just before 11am.

Looking ahead to Christmas, government guidelines permitting, we will be holding our **Christmas Messy Church** on Saturday December 4th at 5pm. A time of crafting, a short act of worship and a meal suitable for children from two to eleven

years accompanied by an adult. Do bring your youngsters along for an enjoyable time.

Sunday December 19th at 4pm, **Candlelight Carol** service followed by light refreshments

Christmas Eve at 4pm, choose and sing favourite carols

Christmas Day, 10.30am, everyone is invited to bring a present they have received to show other members of the congregation.

We welcome everyone to any or all of these services.

For hiring of premises please contact our administrator. For learning more about our church please contact our minister.

WE WISH EVERYONE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND PEACE AND HAPPINESS IN 2022

Oaklands Gate, Northwood HA6 3AA
Tel: 01923 840633

Email: nmc@totalise.co.uk

www.northwoodmethodistchurch.org

Minister: Rev. Andrew Pottage

Tel: 01923 821034

andrew.pottage@methodist.org.uk

Harrow Choral Society's Christmas Celebration - A Festival of Music for Choir and Audience

Harrow Choral Society is delighted to be returning to Harrow School's prestigious Speech Room on **Saturday 18th December** for its festive concert of carols, readings, brass ensemble performances and audience participation carols. We are delighted to be welcoming Jane Asher as our Guest Reader, all music will be conducted as usual by Simon Williams and accompanied by composer Paul Ayres, winner of the annual Making Music Awards in the category of *Best Arranger*.

Ticket price £18, accompanied under 16s free (ticket required).
All further information on www.harrowchoral.org.uk



NORTHWOOD CHORAL SOCIETY
NORTHWOODCHORALSOCIETY.COM

Northwood Choral Society

Singing kept us sane during lockdown! Whilst singing on an online meeting platform was not for everyone, many of us still managed to meet once a week, coming together to share our love of music. Our MD, Julie Bale, used the time we had together to focus on and improve vocal technique, something we don't always have much time to concentrate on when we are rehearsing for a concert. We continued to learn new music, some of which we recorded, the result sounding as if we were indeed in concert mode.

We managed to put together three performances, two online and one outside in June. There were opportunities for choir members to perform solos and it was a glorious moment when we were all able to come back together in June, albeit socially distanced, to sing some of the pieces we had learned.

Being able to get together socially online gave a sense of togetherness in our isolation. Now we are back! In-person weekly rehearsals have started again and we have an exciting programme to look forward to including Fauré, Mozart and Mendelssohn.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 4th December at 6pm

Mozart Requiem and Christmas Carols
St John's URC, Hallowell Road

After nearly two years of waiting, we finally bring our wonderful Mozart Requiem to fruition! This is coupled with some seasonal carols.

Sunday 14th November at 7.30pm

NCS Sings Fauré for Remembrance
St John's URC, Hallowell Road

We often perform Fauré's beautiful Requiem on Remembrance Sunday. This year we plan to dedicate our performance to those lost during the pandemic.

For more information, please visit our website
www.northwoodchoralsociety.com



Northwood & District Community Association

Well at last we can get back to our activities which all started up in September. I hoped that everyone felt confident enough to attend them after our enforced absence for the last 18 months. Hopefully, now that life is getting back to some normality we can get to enjoy each other's company once again.

So – Keep Fit, Yoga, Tennis, Table Tennis, Badminton, Short Mat Bowls and Rambling are available to get the limbs and co-ordination going again and Bridge, all sorts of Board and Card Games to get the mind in focus again!! All sections would welcome any new members, so please get in touch. Our Annual Membership fee is £5.00 and each section reasonably priced, so I look forward to hearing from you.



We definitely want more people in the Keep Fit Sections where some members have not felt able to return because their fitness level had dropped. Georgia, our vibrant instructor is waiting to tone you up!

Interested?
Contact me on **01923 836346**

Pat Dunhill



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We wanted to say 'Hi' from Arts For Life Project. We are a local charity making impactful change to the everyday lives of vulnerable young people, aged 6 – 25 years and their families, who find life challenging and who find themselves on the margins of society. We do this by supporting their emotional health & wellbeing through the therapeutic value of the creative arts.

We run a variety of programmes from group creative sessions to individual therapeutic support to

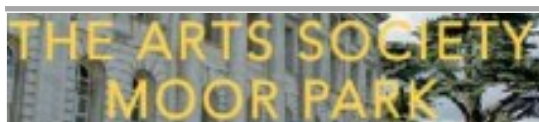
- * *Improve young people's essential skills to use within their daily lives and assist in reducing isolation*
- * *Develop and Improve positive relationships within their immediate family unit, their immediate surroundings and within their structured communities*
- * *Develop, Grow & Sustain strong self-belief to manage daily challenges no matter how confusing and pressured the outside world is.*

The Charity also runs a Community Wellbeing Café at St Matthews Church Annexe in Hallowell Road on Tuesdays and Wednesdays 4:00 – 6:30pm where you can be creative, receive a supportive ear or learn something new. We are always looking for volunteers and currently would love to hear from creative people, bakers and those who would be interested in helping to run the café. We can't wait to meet you!



Sam and Bethaney are ready to welcome you

Website: www.artsforlifeproject.org
Email: enquiries@artsforlifeproject.org
Tel: 0208 866 4192



We're back in live action! Our new season of lectures – live at our new venue Pinner Village Hall, with refreshments beforehand.

Wednesday morning lectures, 10:50 at Pinner Village Hall, complimentary tea/coffee 10:15. We invite a donation of £10 from visitors and guests.

Wed 17 November Gaudi and Barcelona by Clyde Binfield

Antoni Gaudi - outstanding creative architect whose work is immediately recognisable, 'Barcelona', 'cosmopolitan', 'European' and 'Catalonian'. Is his work kitsch, or genius, or both at once?

Wed 19 January Fire, Smoke and Iron: Spanish Artists and the Bilbao Iron Industry by Martin Lloyd

The rise, heyday and fall of the Bilbaoan iron industry has been fixed forever in oils, water colours and bronze.

Wed 16 February Barbara Hepworth by Linda Smith

Barbara Hepworth is a significant name in twentieth-century sculpture. This talk looks at her life and career, her talents and her move away from human figures towards the more abstract.

Wed 16 March A Decorative Art: The History of Wallpaper by Joanna Banham

Often regarded as the most ephemeral and least precious of home decorations, we examine how wallpapers were used within grand and ordinary homes.

From 1 November 2021, membership to 31 August 2022 is £37.00, joint membership at same address £69.00, which entitles members to attend the remaining seven Morning Lectures during the year. To join email moorparkdfas@gmail.com
For full details and for details of Evening Lectures and Days of Special Interest at Moor Park Mansion plus Outside Visits and Five Day Tours go to www.moorparkdfas.com

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In March 2020 we were ready to perform Handel's Messiah with the Herts Chamber Orchestra and four professional soloists, under the baton of our own Robert Jones. This concert will finally take place on **Saturday 30th October at 7.30 pm**, at St. Edmund's Church, Northwood Hills, HA6 1QS.

Tickets: £15 on the door or from a choir member. Under 12s - free.

Rehearsals resumed on Tuesday 7th September 2021 at Ruislip Methodist Church Hall.

More details are on our website: **www.eastcote-ruislip-choral.org**

If you like the classical choral repertoire, songs from musicals and lighter works, why not join us?

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