

## RUISLIP AIR CADETS

LAST WEEKEND WHAT DID YOUR TEEN DO?  
FLY, GO CANOEING OR EVEN PLAY IN A BAND?

**NO?**



Air Cadets across the UK do all these things and more. Ruislip has its own Air Cadet squadron located down the road from West Ruislip Station, 114 squadron has its own band which has an excellent reputation for its precision and playing ability. Even if your teenager has never picked up an instrument they can still join the band and be trained up to the required standard. Flying of course is also one of the main activities; this includes gliding and the chance to learn to fly! Football, netball and hockey are all played; including inter-squadron competitions. Cadets have the opportunity to take BTECH's and all of them are encouraged to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Or how about summer camps at RAF bases, a chance to see the RAF in action and to take part in different activities and more flying?

For more information please contact:  
Squadron Adjutant on 01895 631461 or email [adj@114sqn.plus.com](mailto:adj@114sqn.plus.com)

### Annual General Meeting

Notice is now given of the forthcoming AGM to be held on Monday, 15 June 2009. Motions or proposals for consideration at the AGM and nominations for the Officers and members of the Executive Committee, duly proposed and seconded, should be received by the Secretary not later than 22 May 2009 at 9 College Drive, Ruislip HA4 8SD. A further issue of the Town Crier will be made in May.



Ruislip Residents' Association

## TOWN CRIER

The Voice of Ruislip Residents  
February 2009



### Inside this issue:

General Meeting

Ranger Patrols

History:  
Story of Ruislip  
Gardens Association

Duke of Edinburgh  
Award Scheme in Ruislip

Streets Ahead

Planning Matters

Health Matters

Air Cadets

What's this? Elephants on the beach at Ruislip Lido?

Well, no. Not even our Ranger Patrols would be expect to encounter elephants as part of their duties.

To find out why elephants, turn to page 8...

...and page 5 for more on what Ranger Patrols get up to at Christmas.

**Ruislip Residents' Association**  
**GENERAL MEETING: *OPEN FORUM***

Wednesday 18th February 2009 at 7.30pm  
**RUISLIP MANOR LIBRARY**  
 Linden Avenue

**HAVE YOUR SAY ON LOCAL TOPICS:**

- Traffic
- Parking
- Planning
- Health
- Schools
- Environment
- Freight Movement
- Green Spaces
- SNT
- Waste

This coming General Meeting will be an Open Forum, giving you the chance to give your views and air your concerns. We hope that holding the meeting in Ruislip Manor Library will offer our Residents a convenient opportunity to get involved.

*[Light refreshments will be available]*

<b>Officers</b>	
Chairman:	Peter Lansdown
Vice-Chairman:	Joan Davis
Treasurer:	John Perkins
Secretary:	Penny Rutherford
Chief Road Steward:	Brian Cowley
Deputy Ch. Rd. Stwd.	Joshua May

<b>Committee</b>	
Janice Andrews	Sue Seagroatt
Elma Hutton	Mike Hodge
Ian Cantley	Ivor John
Keith Allsopp	John Williams

If you would like to help with the work of your Association, please contact our Secretary.

**Mt Vernon Cancer Centre Review**

As part of the Community Voice campaign, we have argued that Hillingdon residents were not responsible for the debt and that, as the NHS is not democratic, there was no way local people could have prevented the debt from occurring. Since the debt is now deemed due to incompetence, we did not benefit from it either. It is therefore monstrous that we as innocent victims are made to suffer inferior health services in order to pay the money back.

**L**ate in 2008, the current Review Group consulted the public on its proposal to abandon the previous recommendation that the Cancer Centre should be moved to a general hospital in Herts. Instead the Review indicated that it wished to concentrate on exploring whether to develop cancer services only at Mt Vernon or to extend the Mt Vernon services with satellite services provided elsewhere. We of course responded in favour of keeping the Cancer Centre on its present site.

However, we are now within sight of success! All 31 London PCTs have recently agreed that they will pull together to pay the historic debts of the capital's hospitals and PCTs. Our package is that Hillingdon PCT must continue to pay back the £7.7m plus interest annually and balance its books this year and for the next two years, but that then its remaining £19m debt will be paid by the other PCTs. Furthermore, so that Hillingdon PCT can start to implement the services recommended in the Darzi report, Healthcare for London, it can immediately borrow money for crucial investments. How far this outcome is due to our campaign is anyone's guess, but we believe that public protest is a powerful tool, which can and does bring results.

The Review's Interim Report, on the consultation, is expected in February, somewhat delayed because it needs to take account of new predictions about future numbers of cancer patients. However, due to representation on the Mt Vernon Cancer Centre User Group, we hear that over 90% of respondents agreed that the Cancer Centre should stay on its present site but amongst those not agreeing was the powerful Hertfordshire Overview and Scrutiny Committee. A public conference is expected in March.

Our long fight to retain these cancer services does appear to be en route to success. The Cancer Centre is looking for an academic partner to back its own research and we understand that very prestigious applications are being received. We will keep you informed.

*Joan Davis, Tel: 01895 636095*

## HEALTH MATTERS *(Joan Davis)*

### Foundation Trusts Are In The News

The Government is pushing hospitals into becoming foundation trusts, with the threat of being broken up or taken over if they fail. This spurs them all on towards that goal. The Hillingdon Hospital NHS Trust, Royal Brompton & Harefield NHS Trust, West Herts Hospitals NHS Trust and East Herts Hospitals NHS Trust (which manages the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre) are all a long way down the path towards accreditation. To achieve success, they have to prove competence to manage their own affairs, which is then rewarded by greater freedoms.

Foundation trusts are not supervised by strategic health authorities – in our area NHS London – but they remain in the NHS, under the gentler oversight of Monitor. They can borrow financially on the open market and can sell their assets, such as buildings and land. Opponents argue that this resembles selling off the family silver, which may bring short-term gain and long-term pain. Unlike other NHS bodies, local Councils and Parliament, they are not obliged to hold their Board meetings in public, so they can take major decisions and spend huge sums of public money behind closed doors.

The Community Voice, of which our Association is a member, has long

campaigned for foundation trusts to hold Board meetings in public, with the safeguard that sensitive issues can be held in private. Some foundation trusts, to their credit, already choose to do this. However others, including Central & North West London NHS Foundation Trust, which provides mental health services in our Borough, hold all decision meetings in secret. Now John McDonnell, MP for Hayes, has tabled an Early Day Motion in Parliament calling for the law to be changed. We applaud his initiative and hope that MPs from across the land will support his motion. We will keep you informed in the next Town Crier.

---

### Hillingdon PCT's Historic Debt

This is a long saga. At one time Hillingdon Primary Care Trust had the largest PCT debt in the country, £54m! All its officers, Chairman and Board were replaced. Newcomers battled hard and last year balanced the PCT books for the first time in many years and repaid the required annual £7.7m of its historic debt, plus interest, which tips the total annual cost to over £8m. This has crippled Hillingdon's expenditure on maintenance of NHS buildings and undermined the health services that we, the public, were able to receive.

Cont.../

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE OF THE TOWN CRIER

<i>Community Notice Board</i>	4
<i>Ranger Patrols at Christmas</i>	5
<i>Story of Ruislip Gardens Association</i>	6-7
<i>Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme in Ruislip</i>	8-9
<i>Streets Ahead</i>	10-11
<i>Planning Matters</i>	12-13
<i>Health Matters</i>	14-15
<i>Community Activity: Ruislip Air Cadets</i>	Back Cover
<i>Notice of Annual General Meeting</i>	Back Cover

### Contact us:

Mrs Penny Rutherford, Honorary Secretary  
9 College Drive, Ruislip, HA4 8SD  
01895 636193  
email: [feedback@ruislipresidents.org.uk](mailto:feedback@ruislipresidents.org.uk)

---

### Your Town Crier

You may have noticed we have made some changes to the format and content of the Town Crier over the past year. We intend to continue developing your Town Crier to make it more attractive and focus on things that are relevant, helpful and interesting to all sections of our membership.

As well as a second historical article, we are delighted to include two pieces about some of the great opportunities Ruislip has to offer its young residents.

We currently publish the Town Crier in February, May and September. If you have suggestions for further improvements or would like to contribute an article, please contact our Hon. Secretary.

Inclusion of articles is subject to space and editorial committee approval. Not-for-profit entities that serve our community may request the inclusion of notices in our "Community Notice Board" section, subject to the same editorial and space restrictions and with a suitable contribution to publication costs.

## COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

### Climate Change Strategy Consultation

In December, London Borough of Hillingdon issued its draft Climate Change Strategy and embarked upon a 9 week consultation to give residents an opportunity to respond to and comment. The draft strategy document is available on the Council's website at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk) (click on the "have your say" quick link on the right of the home page); at public libraries; or from Planning and Community Services on level 3 at the Civic Centre. You can submit responses online or using a representation form from the same sources.

Residents have until 20th February to submit their responses.

### Fighting Fuel Poverty

Hillingdon Council works with the London Warm Zone (LWZ) scheme to help reduce fuel bills and receive unclaimed benefits for residents, especially for vulnerable and older people.

LWZ scheme gives grants for boiler repairs, new central heating systems and the installation of loft and cavity wall insulation and is available to homeowners and private tenants. Concentrating on assistance for vulnerable and elderly homeowners, it aims to improve the energy efficiency of homes, lower heating costs and reduce the effects of climate change.

For more information call 0800 587 2251

### Area & Road Stewards Needed

We have always been dependent on you, the residents, to come forward and volunteer to help with the distribution of the 'Town Crier'. This works by having in each of our 15 areas Area Stewards who distribute the appropriate number of TC's to each of the Road Stewards in their area. This should take 2 to 3 hours three times a year. We presently have vacancies for area stewards in both West Ruislip & Manor wards.

Please contact me if you think you might be able to help; we do also need more volunteers to act as Road Stewards throughout Ruislip.

(Tel: 0208 582 7810, e-mail [b.cowley@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:b.cowley@blueyonder.co.uk)) Brian Cowley, Chief Road Steward

## PLANNING MATTERS

### Ruislip Village Conservation Area

A public consultation on the proposed extension to the Ruislip Village Conservation Area was held between June and August 2008.

The overall response was very supportive and proved that local democracy is working. The London Borough of Hillingdon took on board residents proposals to include additional properties in Sharps Lane, Kingsend and Wood Lane.

The new extended area (see map) was approved at the local authority Cabinet meeting on 18th December, an outcome we find very gratifying.

Although we view the newly extended Conservation Area very positively, it will not prevent future planning applications. However, the changes should act as a powerful deterrent to approval of some

future planning applications.  
(Mike Hodge)

Others included the applications in **Kingsend** at No 8 (house in rear garden), Nos 16-18 (12 flats) and No 22B (5 terraced houses) and at **Little Orchard, Wood Lane** (8 flats). All have recently been refused.

In the past year or so there have been another eight applications in the **Kingsend** area in which Sue has been heavily involved. Only two of these have been approved which is an indication of what can be achieved when residents are able to respond in a coordinated and constructive manner. We expect the credit crunch will contribute to a respite in the number of applications in the immediate future. However when the economy improves we anticipate developers will revive their interest in the area even though it is now part of the extended Ruislip Village Conservation Area. (John Williams)



The new Ruislip Village Conservation Area. For more information visit the Hillingdon Council's website.

## PLANNING MATTERS *(Mike Hodge & John Williams)*

In recent years residential development projects have dominated. However in our last issue we were able to start with something different and so it is in this report.

### **Ruislip Golf Course, Ickenham Road**

Top Golf Ltd have recently submitted an application for the replacement of the existing driving range on land part of which is currently occupied by 4 holes on the golf course. Also proposed is a new putting course, clubhouse, floodlighting, 120-space car park and alterations to the access. We have already received several expressions of concern about the impact this would have on the area and also on the future viability of Ruislip Golf Club (formed in 1936). Your Committee has agreed to seek clarification from the Council on a number of issues.

### **Ruislip Baptist Church in Manor**

**Way** has just submitted an application for a two storey extension, which would provide a replacement hall and other facilities. From a brief review of the proposal this would appear to upgrade the existing facilities and generally improve the street scene in West Way.

**Whiteheath Junior School** is proposing a single storey building for use as a new Sports Hall.

The Council recently approved the application by Whitbread for alterations and an extension of the **Orchard in Ickenham Road** to provide a 24-bedroom hotel.

Whilst the credit crunch may be affecting activity on the housing market there have still been a number of applications for development. In the last two years there have been seven applications at **2 Windmill Hill**, most of which have been unsuccessful. The latest proposal is for a block of 4 quad (back to back) houses. These are completely out of character with the area and we are again supporting local residents' objections to the proposal. We have also joined with neighbours against proposals to develop infill sites at **9 Midcroft** and **44 Brixham Crescent**. In both cases the sites were on corner plots and the proposed houses would have had a detrimental effect on the street scene. Both applications have recently been refused.

The proposal by Alcyone Developments to replace Nos **55-59 Pembroke Road** with 31 flats was recently dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate. This is just one of several applications for which our Area Road Steward Sue Browne took an active part in coordinating local residents' response.

## RANGER PATROLS: HAVE A NICE CHRISTMAS?

Whilst some of us walked off our Christmas lunch with a stroll in the park, the Council's Ranger Patrol team were on duty making sure the parks were safe, and responding to any emergencies.

So who are Ranger Patrol and what do they do? The Ranger Patrol team in the north of the borough consists of 6 officers (see photo) ...



...and have the job to:

"Promote and encourage the proper use of all parks, public open spaces, cemeteries and public facilities within Council policies, relevant legislation and good practice for the use of such places."

The team are active in the community, helping with projects in parks and attending meetings to add their informed advice.

Recent activities include:

- Assisting with 2 planting days at Churchfield Gardens
- Assisting with hedge planting with Eastcote Bowls Club
- Attending the Street Champions launch at Winston Churchill Hall
- Helping young skateboarders paint the ramps at Kings College Skate Ramp
- Removing broken glass from playgrounds
- Undertaking responsible dog-owner initiatives

Officers also attend sites to deal with reports of antisocial behaviour, fly-tipping, and illegal use of motorbikes on green spaces, and are constables with the power of arrest.

If the Ranger Patrol can assist, please don't hesitate to call : **01895 239 241**

Hours of operation:

Summer:- 12 – 10pm

Winter:- 10am – 8pm

### **Theft from Motor Vehicles**

This crime is one of the most prolific of the crimes committed in Hillingdon. However it can be prevented or reduced by removing items on display when your vehicle is unattended. Lock all items in the boot out of sight of the would be opportunist thief. Help the police and yourself by not giving someone the opportunity of robbing you.

## THE STORY OF RUISLIP GARDENS ASSOCIATION

‘It was sunny that day in 1934 and our first sight of Yeading Brook with willows overhanging the banks and wild flowers waving in the breeze was the prettiest we had ever seen. A cow had wandered across the fields from the farm at Ickenham and was rubbing its back against an oak tree. . .’

The first houses on the Ruislip Gardens Estate were already built, more were under construction, and Mr and Mrs Merrett were viewing with the intention of taking the bold step towards home ownership. The naming of the new area as ‘Gardens’ reminds us that in those years between Wars I and II the Green Belt and garden cities were the popular themes of the age. A year or so later the picturesque stream overflowed and the Ruislip Gardens Association was formed with the purpose, I quote the minutes of 13<sup>th</sup> November 1935, ‘to discuss the recent floods at the Ruislip Gardens Estate, what action could be taken to deal with the proper authorities, whose responsibility it was. . .’

Another meeting was held eleven days later and officers were elected. Bert Merrett became the Secretary and he fulfilled the duties with dedication until his retirement thirty years later. The committee urged the Council Surveyor to improve surface water drain-

age, and it resolved to set up communication with Mr Trevor of the Ruislip Development Company. An immediate concern was a letter to the Surveyor that had been lost in the post thus delaying any remedial measures. One member was all for pursuing the postal culprit, but the majority voted in favour of dropping the matter as ‘nothing could be gained by taking further action without involving hardship to a person or persons connected with the Post Office.’ A satisfactory meeting with the Surveyor was eventually held and the cause of the flood was identified as rubbish blocking the flow further downstream where the Brook passed under the newly constructed Western Avenue. At the AGM of February 1937 the Chairman was able to report that the improvements carried out by the County Council had been ‘severely tested this winter -’ and not found wanting.

The committee then turned its attention to the lack of amenities. Children had to travel to Northolt to go to school, coal lorries were too long to turn the corners in the back tracks so coal had to be delivered through the terraced houses, there was no suitable venue for meetings such as the AGM. The hire of St Paul’s Hall at a guinea (1 pound 1 shilling) for an evening strained the young Association’s funds as the last reported balance was 3

## STREETS AHEAD

A sandwich lunch was provided back at the Great Barn with a tour of the Manor Farm House and grounds. The House was built between 1506 and 1511 as a local courthouse and it has been lovingly and thoughtfully restored – open for visits at weekends, 10am – 3pm.

After lunch back to Eastcote. The Crime Prevention Bus, which has been carefully refurbished, was parked outside Budgens. It is used to inform residents about safety and crime prevention through advice, leaflets and assistance with property marking. There was also information available on Community Payback. This is a scheme for low risk offenders serving community sentences to make reparation to local communities as part of their punishment. Suggestions for work projects should be funnelled through the local Safer Neighbourhood Team. Examples of completed work include graffiti removal, refurbishment of parks and playgrounds, clearing overgrown areas and alleyways and landscaping and painting.

Next stop was to see the use of a speed radar gun in Eastcote Road and we had the opportunity to try it out on the passing traffic. Because of the number of high visibility vests being worn, traffic speeds were reasonable by the time vehicles came within range.

Then to Eastcote station to talk with a police safer transport team checking buses on the 282 route as they stopped at the station. Anyone without a valid ticket or pass was being removed. The headteacher of Newnham school was also there to show us a copy of the artwork that will be painted on the railway bridge. It will definitely brighten up the area. The last visit was to the service road leading to the station car park where a team was clearing and removing accumulated rubbish.



Peter Lansdown, RRA Chairman takes aim with the speed gun

I found the whole trip very informative and interesting.

If you would like to find out more you can telephone 01895 556247 or 01895 556792 or e-mail [streetsahead@hillingdon.gov.uk](mailto:streetsahead@hillingdon.gov.uk).

*Alison Hornibrook*

As a member of Street Champions I was invited to the launch of this event and the subsequent tour. It was arranged for us to see some of the work being carried out in the ward. After an introduction at the Great Barn in the Manor Farm, the tour started by mini-bus.

The first stop was at the Eastcote House grounds, including the walled garden, where we saw clearance and tidying by volunteers, and visited the old dovecot. We then walked through to the River Pinn where we met other volunteers litter picking (some of which later became part of an art sculpture at the Great Barn) and a team from Blue Sky, an organisation that helps released prisoners back into society, who were clearing the river as part of the Celandine Walk.



Gully cleaning in Eevelyn Avenue

From there we visited the Eastcote War Memorial and gardens. Work

here includes clipping hedges, possible widening of the entrance for easier access and tree pruning. We were assured that this would not interfere with the Remembrance service in November and was being carried out in partnership with the local British Legion branch. Our next venue was Evelyn Avenue to view gully cleaning in progress and to hear of some of the problems encountered. Plastic bottles are pushed through the drain grids causing blockages and broken ones are a safety hazard. There are 34,000 grids in the Borough!

In Eastcote we were given a talk on licensing laws with regard to illegal underage sale of alcohol to minors. Trained children are sent into off-licences for test purchases of alcohol, but, for a conviction, evidence can be a problem, even with the use of CCTV and observing officers. Then into the Manor House where the assistant manager talked about some of the problems running a large pub and the necessary staff. There can be as many as 200 people through the doors on a Friday night and they all have to show a current ID to gain entry. Door-staff are fully trained in controlling people (gone are the days of the bouncer here), they use head cameras and can call for back-up if a problem should arise.

pounds 6 shillings. Members requested more steam trains to stop at Ruislip Gardens Halt on their way to Marylebone (the Central Line was in the future), a viable bus route to serve the Estate and an end to the nuisance of milk bottles left lying around. The committee harassed various authorities which resulted in smaller lorries for coal and the euphemistically named 'dust collections', also a promise of a bus service when the population increased. They canvassed for members and collected subscriptions, which were unacceptably high at 2 shillings per person and were later reduced to a shilling, a homily was delivered by the Chairman that brought shame to anyone who did not control their milk bottles and they persuaded the Council to consider building a school.

The Association lost support during the next few years when the economy of the country was recovering from the disastrous 1929 collapse and, like today, the housing market was depressed. Many houses were let and blame was laid on tenants for uncultivated gardens and general lack of interest. The committee initiated a Horticultural Society with competitions and prizes for the best displays. The dispute about who was responsible for the maintenance of the backtracks rumbled on with Councils and Developers abrogating responsibility. Mentions of

meetings to learn about Air Raid Precautions began to creep into the minutes and the last recorded committee meeting before the outbreak of World War II was on 16<sup>th</sup> April 1939. The Association was revived in 1945, but that is another part of the story. Soon Ruislip Gardens was to be celebrated by that enthusiast of the suburbs, John Betjeman, with his poetic lines, 'Gaily into Ruislip Gardens/Runs the red electric train/...Out into the outskirts edges/Where a few surviving hedges/Keep alive our lost Elysium- rural Middlesex again.'

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

### Screening Ruislip Manor Station

I'm pleased to report that following a meeting on site with Stuart Hunt and Trevor Heaps of the Council's Green Spaces team, five lime trees have been planted in a W-formation on Park Way Green to provide screening of the unsightly shelter on the eastbound platform. Negotiations with Met Line management to increase the screening of the westbound shelter by planting four trees on the bank facing Linden Close are progressing.

*Brian Cowley*

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME IN RUISLIP

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is run from Ruislip Young People's Centre, Bury Street on Wednesday nights. The Award operates three levels, starting at Bronze for age 14+, graduating to Silver, age 15+ and Gold for age 16+. You can start at any level and have until you are 25 to complete the scheme, with most doing so before 20 years of age. The award is divided into four sections: Volunteering; Skills; Physical and Expeditions. The philosophy is that the award aims to recognise young people for the activities that they are already taking part in as well as encouraging them to take up new activities.

### Volunteering

Aim - to encourage service to individuals and to the community. Local young people have volunteered to work in charity shops or at church or a mosque. Sometimes if it has been difficult to find a place that will take young people on in a voluntary capacity, Ruislip Young People's Centre has organised first aid courses that young people can become involved with.

### Skills

Aim - to encourage the discovery and development of practical and social skills and personal interests. The Young People's Centre has previously organised digital music and cooking courses. Those that are already learning a musical instrument

can also use this interest for the skills part of the scheme.

### Physical

Aim - to encourage participation and improvement in physical activity. The Young People's Centre has organised trampolining, Brazilian football and basketball courses. If you are already involved in a sport, for example, playing for a football team, then this can also be considered as part of the physical aspect of the scheme.

### Expeditions

Aim - to encourage a spirit of adventure and discovery by preparing for and carrying out an adventurous journey as part of a team. The bronze Expedition is run over 3 weekends; training, pre-assessment and assessment. The young people must plan their own route by completing route cards helping them learn to be self sufficient and work as part of a team. The physical side involves carrying everything they need for walking and camping. The assessment tends to be held in the Chesham/Amersham area where they walk unaccompanied with their progress being monitored from a distance. The silver assessment has taken place in places such as the New Forest, Isle of Purbeck and the Brecon Beacons.

In August 2008 the Gold Expedition assessment took place over 4 days in the Lake District where the three groups walked approximately 80km

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME

and camped in the wild for one of the nights.



The expedition can be especially challenging for young people within London who may rarely visit the countryside but it is surprising how good their map or compass reading skills become throughout the scheme. The Gold Award can take up to 18 months to complete with young people invited to Buckingham Palace to collect their award on completion. After finishing the award some young people come back to mentor the younger ones who are just starting.

### Gold Expedition 2007: South Africa

This was the idea of eight young people who over the course of a year raised £1700 each, part of which went towards buying sports equipment and books for the schools they were to visit in South Africa. The trip lasted two weeks with the first week spent completing the residential aspect of the award in Port Alfred. For this the group

supported 3 programmes; a crèche, a primary school and a school for young people with disabilities. For the second week the group returned to Alicedale for the start of their four-day expedition, walking in non-predatory game-reserve land and admiring the surroundings including giraffes, baboon and springbok. This expedition was especially challenging as the only maps the group had access to were ten years old, quite different from the detailed OS maps they were used to.

### More Information

Each year approximately 350 young people achieve the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award through the Youth and Connexions Service in Hillingdon. Many will take part through their school but some will choose to go to their local Young People's Centre, of which there are three in this borough located in Ruislip, West Drayton and Harlington. The Accredited Learning Team support the 12-15 schools that offer the scheme in addition to running the scheme offered through Young People's Centres. To learn more log on to [www.dofe.org](http://www.dofe.org). You can also contact the Hillingdon Council Accredited Learning Team on 01895 470093 or email the Borough Coordinator Jonathan Hitchinson on: [jhitchinson@hillingdongrid.org](mailto:jhitchinson@hillingdongrid.org) or Hannah Sargeant on [hsargeant@hillingongrid.org](mailto:hsargeant@hillingongrid.org)