

Ruislip Residents' Association **TOWN CRIER**

March 2022

www.ruislipresidents.org.uk



The Doors Open on April 28th for Our First Physical Meeting in Over Two Years!

Read about the AGM on page 15

DON'T FORGET
2022
Subscription
Due

See page 8 or visit
www.ruislipresidents.org.uk
to pay online

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Editorial

Meeting in Person!

After two years of the pandemic we are gradually returning to normal. With this edition of the *Town Crier* we are back to publishing twice a year. We are also going to have our first in-person meeting in April, using the Great Barn (see page 15).

The articles in this issue also reflect this improved situation with information on the u3a (University of the Third Age), Ruislip & Eastcote lunch clubs and Ruislip Country Market. I hope you find them interesting and useful.

This year's subscriptions are now due and there is an article about them by our new treasurer, Nick Potter, on page 8. You will also find the subscription form on the same page.

We have some new members of the executive committee. As mentioned above, Nick Potter is our new treasurer and Shirish Patel has joined as our police liaison. We still need a town planning officer to help Susan Browne, so please let me know if you are interested.

Graham Bartram

Graham Bartram, Editor Pro Tem

Please note that the views expressed in articles in the Town Crier are those of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Ruislip Residents' Association.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Syeda Malik

POLICE LIAISON

Shirish Patel

CONSERVATION

Susan Browne

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Graham Bartram

EDUCATION

Susan Midgley

RAF NORTHOLT LIAISON

Alan Wenman

WOODLANDS & ENVIRONMENT

Graeme Shaw

RUISLIP LIDO

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HEALTH

Joan Davis

RUISLIP RETAIL AREA

Clare Harris

MANOR RETAIL AREA

John Hawley

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Vivien Alcorn

MEMBERSHIP

Alan Wenman

TRAFFIC & PARKING

Mark Eidem

HS2

Phil Taylor

WEBSITE & IT

John Swindells

PLANNING

Vacant

FRIENDS OF EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDEN

🌐 www.eastcotehousegardens.weebly.com

Gardening sessions take place every Tuesday and Thursday throughout the year starting at 9.30am, with occasional conservation sessions in Long Meadow as required.

Tools, refreshments and good company are provided – no previous gardening experience necessary. Meet in the car park at Eastcote House Gardens. We welcome volunteer gardeners from surrounding areas including Eastcote, Harrow, Hillingdon, Ickenham, Northwood, Pinner, Ruislip and Uxbridge.

The Gardens Café is now open daily from 9.00am (10am on Sunday) until 3.00pm.

THE ARTS SOCIETY, HILLINGDON

Lecture Programme May-September 2022

Wednesdays at 2.00pm, St Lawrence Church Hall, Eastcote - admission £5 to non-members
Please note that the location may change back to Winston Churchill Hall if it becomes available.

11 May	150 years of London Underground Design	Mark Ovenden
8 June	The Crazy Years. Life and Art in Paris during the Jazz Age	Linda Collins
13 July	Bruegel	Chantel Brotherton-Ratcliffe
14 September	Grayson Perry	Ian Swankie

WHAT'S ON AT THE COMPASS THEATRE

Some of the upcoming events at the Compass Theatre in Ickenham, whilst the Winston Churchill Hall is unavailable - check out
🌐 www.hillingdontheatres.co.uk for more information and to book.

6-10 April	<i>Alice in Wonderland</i> (Play)	DK Productions
27-30 April	<i>Legally Blonde the Musical</i> (Musical)	Ruislip Operatic Society
18-21 May	<i>The Memory of Water</i> (Play)	Proscenium
26-28 May	<i>The Wedding Singer</i> (Musical)	Starlight Theatre Company
17 July	<i>Into the Spotlight</i> (Concert)	Stroud Theatre Arts

Chairman's Message

RRA



I hope this edition of the *Town Crier* signifies a return to some form of normality. As you can see on the front cover we are at last returning to physical

meetings, albeit in the Great Barn rather than Winston Churchill Hall. Just as we went to press it was announced that the vaccination centre was closing at the end of March, but it will have to be refurbished before returning to its normal community use, so we are having our meeting in the Great Barn.

War has broken out in Europe and Ruislip & Eastcote Arts and Crafters have created a special postbox topper to promote the Red Cross / DEC appeal for Ukraine. You can see the topper on page 21, along with links to the appeal.

HS2 carries on, causing the occasional traffic jam when they close Breakspear Road South or Harvil Road. The first tunnel boring machine for the Ruislip tunnel has largely been delivered, but the second one is yet to come. We continue to represent our residents' interests at HS2 meetings.

Covid-19 continues to affect both Hillingdon and Mount Vernon Hospitals. Visitors need to book their visits to relatives and

friends on the hospitals' website:

🌐 www.thh.nhs.uk/patients/visiting

On 1st April, Matthew Swindells takes over as the new joint chair at Hillingdon Hospitals NHS FT, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS FT, Imperial College Healthcare NHST and North West University Healthcare NHST. That's 12 hospitals in our area under one chair.

If you are not already a member of the Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, why not join - it's free! Visit:

🌐 secure.membra.co.uk/

[HillingdonApplicationForm/](#)
for the online membership form.

It's membership subscription time and you can pay it online using our website:

🌐 www.ruislippresidents.org.uk

We rely on your subscriptions to pay for the running of the association, including printing the *Town Crier*, so please take a few moments to try out the online system and pay this year's subscription - it's £5.00.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at our AGM in April (see the back page), but in the meantime if you see me on the High Street feel free to stop me for a chat! ♦

Graham Bartram, Chairman, ☎ 01895 673310

Education News

Susan Midgley

BISHOP RAMSEY SCHOOL'S ST CECILIA CONCERT

The school held its St Cecilia Concert in late November 2021. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic it had been impossible to hold what had previously been an annual event; the audience eagerly awaited the concert's opening. The audience was welcomed by Mr Britton, Deputy Head, who introduced the evening's host Pip Stock, a Year 13 student who has appeared in many shows throughout his time at Bishop Ramsey and who brings his own brand of humour to the proceedings.

Bishop Ramsey Jazz Band opened the concert with three lively performances – *Basin Street Blues*, *Satin Doll* and *Take The A Train*. Mr Swanepoel, music teacher, conducted the first item and accompanied the other two pieces on the piano. A beautifully haunting oboe solo performance of Leonard Bernstein's *Somewhere* by Malia Adolphus, Year 8, followed. Next on the programme was a vocal solo: *The Night We Met* performed by Olivia Kanaan, Year 10, who was accompanied on the guitar by Mr Swanepoel. Olivia's performance was followed by Canterbury Choir's rendition

of the soulful traditional spiritual *Wade in the Water*. The Choir is made up of students from all year groups in the school.

Maia Adolphus, Year 10, sister of Malia, next delighted the audience with a very accomplished solo saxophone performance of J.S.Bach's *Minuet 1 & 2* from *Cello Suite 1*. The programme then featured a fun performance of the number *When I Grow Up* from the musical *Matilda* by the Musical Theatre Club which was warmly applauded. The penultimate item was a piano solo by Alexander Williams, Year 12, who gave a beautifully professional performance of *Jingo No 3* from *Rock Preludes* by Christopher Norton. The concert ended with a rousing performance by the Bishop Ramsey Orchestra of *Symphony in G Major-Allegro* by Le Chevalier de Saint-Georges.

UXBRIDGE COLLEGE ENGLISH STUDENTS MEET POET BENJAMIN ZEPHANIAH

GCSE English students past and present were given the opportunity to meet poetry superstar Benjamin Zephaniah in a visit arranged as part of their resit programme. The Professor of Creative Writing at Brunel University chatted with the

students about writing poetry and using English to narrate one's life story.

The poet first shot to fame in the 1980s with his unique and accessible work which is strongly influenced by the music and poetry of Jamaica. More recently Benjamin, who is also severely dyslexic and did not learn literacy skills until he entered adult education, headed up the BAFTA-nominated Sky Arts series *Life & Rhymes*.

Benjamin said: *I really loved spending time with the students from Uxbridge College. They came to interview me but it was much more than that. I got to know quite a lot about them too and they were interesting and talented people. It was like hanging out with creative friends talking about life and sharing ideas. I wish all interviews were like that.*

Bianca Fanciullacci, Head of Cross College English and Maths GCSE, who arranged the visit, said: *This was a brilliant opportunity for our students to learn about the power of poetry at first hand – meeting Benjamin Zephaniah was definitely one of the highlights of their GCSE English learning. English and Maths resits are a key part of college life which are taught in addition to students' higher level courses and we make every effort to make them as lively and engaging as possible.*

The group are also on Level 3 Performing Arts courses based at Uxbridge College's Praxis Theatre at the Hayes campus. ♦



Maia & Malia Adolphus



Alexander Williams



Benjamin Zephaniah & English Students

✉ education@ruislipresidents.org.uk

Treasurer's Corner

Nick Potter

Many thanks for all your subscriptions and donations to enable us to function on your behalf. It is good to be able to report that we ended up with a surplus in 2021 (subject to certification), although this was mainly due to only being able to produce one issue of the *Town Crier*.

Subscriptions remain at £5, but please continue with your generous donations which are a very necessary part of our funding.

You can pay your subscription online at:

www.ruislipresidents.org.uk

and click on the yellow "Pay Your Subs" button in the menu bar. Alternatively, you can fill in the form below and either post it to Mail Boxes Etc, or drop it in to Mail Boxes Etc, near Ruislip Station, or to Chimsons Chemist (29 Victoria Road), near to Ruislip Manor Station. We hope this will now assist members in the Ruislip Manor area and save them some postage. ♦

Please detach and return this form if you wish to pay your RRA subscription by cash or cheque:



Post to: RRA, Box No. 231, Mail Boxes Etc, 161 High Street, Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 8JY
or hand deliver to Mail Boxes Etc or Chimsons Chemist (Ruislip Manor) in an envelope.

Please find enclosed £5.00 for the 2022 subscription and a donation of £ giving a total of £ which is paid by cash*/cheque* (* please circle method chosen)

Cheques should be made payable to 'Ruislip Residents' Association'. Please do not send coins by post, and avoid using staples or sellotape. The cashing of your cheque is proof of its receipt.

Name(s):

Address:

..... Post Code:

Please supply your email address if you are interested in helping to deliver the *Town Crier*.

Email address:

Ruislip Country Market

John Powell

© 01895 672706

Ruislip Country Market was established during WWII in about 1942 and apart from the branch in Balham, it is the only remaining Country Market in London.

Country Markets were originally set up by the Women's Institute during the Great War, encouraging people to grow produce to feed their family; any surplus could then be sold to help with domestic finances.

In 1998 legislation as regards charities meant that the Country Markets could no longer be under the auspices of the WI as commission was levied on stallholders to cover the cost of the building hire and provision of Public Liability Insurance. Country Markets are now run from the main office at Chesterfield in Derbyshire.

The Country Market is held in the community hut at the rear of the St Martin's Approach Car Park (30 minutes free parking for all) or accessible on foot from the

path by the Duck Pond which leads to the library.

It is run by volunteers and is open every Friday morning from 10.00 until 11.30am. (except for the Friday prior to Christmas and the first two Fridays in the New Year). Produce available includes: fresh eggs (from local barn-raised hens); cakes, scones and bread rolls; vegetables and fruit in season; honey & preserves and greetings cards.

We have a monthly visit from local authors with books for sale, all at very competitive prices.

Please come along to browse – you can find us on Facebook under Ruislip Country Market.

New members, particularly allotment holders, are most welcome, the joining fee is just 5p! ♦



Flood Risk in Ruislip

RUISLIP – PARK WOOD AND PINN MEADOWS FLOOD PARTNERSHIP

The Ruislip–Park Wood and Pinn Meadows Flood Partnership have been working together to understand the causes of flooding in the Ruislip area and to identify effective solutions to reduce the risk in the future. The following update provides a summary of the latest work, with a focus on the outcomes of the options assessment and what this means for the community.

This is an important phase of the project – to stay informed with all the latest information, please subscribe to our project webpage at:

🌐 followpinnfloodprojects.com/ruislippwpm



WHERE ARE WE NOW?

The project team have been working hard over the last few months to assess the project options and determine if there is

a viable option to manage flood risk for the community. The process is complex, involving many different technical, economic, and environmental factors.

For options to be taken forward and designed in more detail, they need to be both technically and financially achievable. The economic viability of an option is assessed by:

- ◆ Estimating the damages prevented by the option.
- ◆ Estimating the benefits added by the option.
- ◆ Estimating the cost of the option – this is refined as the design progresses.

Unfortunately, the results indicate that none of the defence options proposed have a sufficient cost-benefit ratio. The costs outweigh the benefits, so we cannot justify taking them forward. Although additional work was undertaken in the attempt to reduce costs and increase benefits, this did not make a sufficient difference to alter this conclusion.

On 3rd December 2021 the following recommendations were put to the Ruislip – Park

Wood and Pinn Meadows Project Board:

- ◆ The defence options are rejected.
- ◆ Options to strengthen community resilience including individual Property Flood Resilience (PFR) should be progressed further.
- ◆ The project should continue to work closely with partners to ensure their commitment to act to manage flood risk.

These recommendations were accepted by the project board. We understand that this is a disappointing outcome for the community and there is more detail on what this means for the future of the project in the rest of this update.

For a more detailed account of the story so far, including information on the appraisal process and options assessed, please download our storyboard via the 'key documents' section on the project webpage.

PROPERTY FLOOD RESILIENCE

As a result of the options assessment finding community defence options unviable, the project will now be focused on PFR. To take forward a PFR option, the Environment Agency has access to a national framework of PFR suppliers. In the coming months we will work with them to identify which properties in the area would most benefit from PFR.

In the context of PFR there is a difference between resistance measures and

resilience measures and we are exploring both. Resistance includes measures which reduce the risk of water getting into a property. Resilience is about reducing the impact of flooding should water get inside the property.

Resistance measures often involve preventing water entering the property in the first place and includes a combination of products. It can include flood boards and doors, flood barriers to stop water coming through doorways (see picture below), air brick covers, non-return valves, pumps and toilet bungs. These measures can also allow you time to move possessions from ground level as well as to get people to a place of safety if a flood is expected to exceed the resistance measures.

Resilience measures aim to ensure that damage is minimised if water does get inside the property and that you can get back into your home or business as quickly as possible. Examples of resilience measures include using flood resistant coatings on walls, placing plug sockets higher up on the wall, tiled floors and installing concrete floors instead of wooden floorboards.

Further examples of different products and techniques that are used can be found on the National Flood Forum website:

🌐 nationalfloodforum.org.uk/about-flooding/reducing-your-risk/protecting-your-property/



We will need to engage with individual property owners in the coming months about which PFR measures may be suitable for their property and how to progress these for each property.

NEXT STEPS

Given the project has not identified a viable defence option – the Project Team will now focus on the following:

- ◆ Assess the potential for Property Flood Resilience to be rolled out for qualifying parts of the community and set the criteria for providing this.
- ◆ Continue to work with project partners including Thames Water, the London Borough of Hillingdon and local councillors to determine what other smaller scale measures could be taken forward for localised areas of flooding.
- ◆ Targeted engagement during 2022 to include meetings with local flood action groups and emails to our mailing lists.

ENGAGEMENT

Over the last couple of years, Covid has posed restrictions on face-to-face engagement. Unfortunately, this has meant

we have not been able to hold public consultation events as we would normally do. Although the situation appears to be improving, we will continue to use our engagement portal – Engagement HQ – as the main hub for information related to the River Pinn projects. It is one of the leading platforms and has been used by public organisations across the world. This contains all the detail you need to know and how to get involved through various interactive tools and features. Please find everything related to the portal at:

followpinnfloodprojects.com

REPORTING FLOODING

After an event, where there has been significant flooding (internal property flooding) local councils have a duty to undertake a Flood Investigation so please report issues to them.

Please report flooding of any type to Hillingdon Council using the form on their website:

www.hillingdon.gov.uk/flooding



They will ask if you are happy to share the data you provide with the Environment

Agency and other partner organisations in order that we can better understand the flooding issues.

It is also important, if you have been flooded from a public sewer to complete Thames Water's sewer flooding questionnaire on their website and return it to them at the address on the form:

📧 www.thameswater.co.uk/media-library/home/help/emergencies/flooding



HOW YOU CAN HELP US

- ◆ Champion the need for managing flood risk locally.
- ◆ Help us identify additional sources of funding.
- ◆ Tell us how you have been impacted by flooding.
- ◆ Share your knowledge of the local area with us.

If you want more information or want to get involved, please contact:

Environment Agency:

✉ RuislipPWPM@environment-agency.gov.uk

Hillingdon Council:

✉ flooding@hillingdon.gov.uk ◆



Environment Agency



One example of Property Flood Resilience - a flood barrier protecting two doors. The barrier can be disassembled and stored when not needed.

CONTACT NUMBERS

Environment Agency customer service line for general enquiries:

☎ 03706 506 506

Environment Agency Incident hotline to report flooding or other environmental incidents:

☎ 0800 80 70 60

Floodline to sign up to receive flood warnings:

☎ 03459 88 11 88

Chief Road Steward

Alan Jones

At the Committee meeting in January this year, I made the decision to stand down as Chief Road Steward. I have been deliberating about retiring from this role for some months as unfortunately age is catching up with me. I am on the waiting list for a knee replacement.

I have really enjoyed my role as Chief Road Steward, meeting many lovely people. The first few years it was very time-consuming until Alan Wenman came on the scene. He has been such a great help to me.

In the meantime, I will endeavour to recruit a new Chief Road Steward by September to show him the ropes. My replacement will need to have transport and access to a garage or shed to store the magazines until distribution.

Thank you all for your help, friendship and camaraderie over the last seven years. I will miss you all when the time comes at the end of this year. ♦



Alan Jones & Alan Wenman



What 10,000 copies of the *Town Crier* look like!

Annual General Meeting

*7.45pm, Thursday, 28th April 2022
The Great Barn, Manor Farm, Ruistlip*

At long last life is starting to get back to normal in the UK, so we are going to hold a traditional in-person public meeting. We have swapped our two meetings so the AGM comes earlier in the year. As the Winston Churchill Hall is not guaranteed to be available in April, we are going to meet in the Great Barn.



Doors will open at 7.30pm, with the meeting starting at 7.45pm. We will have a talk by Wing Commander Paula Willmot from RAF Northolt. This will be followed by our AGM and elections; ending with an open

forum for questions from our members. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided.

Please note that any nominations for the election must reach the Secretary by Thursday, 7th April 2022 to be valid. ♦

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Talk by Wing Commander Paula Willmot on RAF Northolt
3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2021
4. Chairman's Report
5. Treasurer's Report and Annual Accounts
6. Election of Chairman and Executive Committee 2022-2023
7. Open Forum - with questions to a panel of RRA representatives
8. Any Other Business
9. Close of Business

The meeting will end at 10pm. Please send any items for the Open Forum to the Secretary by Thursday, 21st April ♦

Ruislip Woods Expansion

Graeme Shaw

Ruislip Woods have been in public ownership for less than 100 years. Ruislip Residents' Association is one of the organisations working to ensure these treasured woodlands continue to serve their immediate neighbouring communities and those further afield.

In the mid 1930s RRA (then called Ruislip Ratepayers) were in negotiations with King's College, Cambridge, who had indicated they were willing to sell 'the Woods' that had come into their ownership through a path that dates back to William I gifting them to Ernulf de Hesdin in the aftermath of the Norman Conquest. The many owners are detailed in Eileen Bowl't's *The Goodliest Place in Middlesex: Being a History of the Ancient Parish of Ruislip* ISBN: 978-0-907869-11-5.

A number of transactions, starting with Park Wood, resulted in Copse Wood, Mad Bess Wood and Bayhurst Wood being made open to the public in 1938. One piece of woodland, which remained in private ownership, was omitted from these purchases, the most north westerly triangle of Copse Wood.

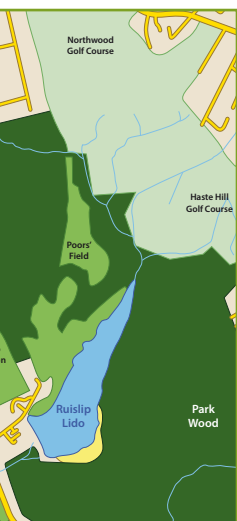
The Long Term Management Plan for Ruislip Woods, adopted by the London Borough of Hillingdon (LBH) in 1982, made the recommendation that this last wood be purchased and included in the public open space. This tract of woodland was not under the management of the Local Authority, although it was responsible for maintaining the bridlepaths (R65 and R189) and footpath (R63).



In 2013, two Trustees of the Ruislip Woods Trust (RWT), contacted the descendents of the original owners and made an unsuccessful bid for the wood. Discussions restarted in January 2020. Protracted negotiations, based upon independent valuations, resulted in the purchase of the wood for £88,000 on the 7th October 2020. Ownership was immediately transferred to LBH.

These additional 29.1 acres presented both an opportunity and a challenge. The exist-

ing 726 acres of Ruislip Woods had been declared London's first National Nature Reserve in May 1997, and had been managed to maintain the habitats described in the many Sites of Scientific Interest, (SSSI) ever since. The 'new' woodland had been unmanaged for at least 80 years. These 29.1



acres had the same sort of woodland structure (overgrown), Hornbeam coppice under Oak standards, but also a lot of Cherry Laurel (that may have been planted for game bird cover), and Holly, two species that can thrive under the shadows of the uninterrupted full tree canopy of the towering Oaks. They in turn prevent daylight reaching the woodland floor limiting the number and density of ground species.

There were clearly two requirements:

- ◆ additional labour was required to aid the London Borough of Hillingdon Green Spaces employees who work in Ruislip Woods;
- ◆ a dialogue was needed with Natural England (the Government body with statutory responsibility for the designation and enforcement of the landscape in England & Wales), to find out if the newly purchased woods could be incorporated into Ruislip Woods NNR on the 25th anniversary.

In Autumn 2020, a £40M Green Recovery Fund was announced by the Department of the Environment, administered by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Natural England and the Environment Agency. A joint bid by LBH and Groundwork South was awarded £190K, to include a Project Manager and Green Team Supervisor, and workforce that could spend up to two days per week in the addition to Copse Wood, removing the unwanted species.

A steering group was set up in December 2020 consisting of representatives from the LBH, Ruislip Woods Trust, Buckinghamshire County Council, Groundwork South and the Colne Valley Park, to monitor and guide the practical works.

The Ruislip Woods Management Advisory Group (representing the residents' associations for Northwood, Northwood Hills, Harefield, Eastcote and Ruislip), user groups and three councillors wrote to Natural England, to notify them of the possibility of a London National Nature Reserve being enlarged on the 25th anniversary of its designation.

Natural England were enthusiastic, but would need its own survey of the newly purchased woodland, a management plan, and clear evidence of the woodland being managed for the increased biodiversity that typifies a National Nature Reserve. All this was going on as various Covid restrictions

limited outdoor activities, then limited the numbers that could 'meet' outdoors, limiting the number of times the Ruislip Woods Mid-week Volunteers could meet to help remove the Cherry Laurel and Holly.

There were some positive factors:

- ◆ ownership by the Local Authority, with a track record of delivering on successive 5-year Management Plans, consented by Natural England, all within the 25-year and Long Term Management Plan for Ruislip Woods NNR,
- ◆ adjacency, just across a bridlepath, from a woodland that does show the expected bio-diversity for an NNR,
- ◆ existing designation as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Natural England commissioned a survey in July 2021, and the conclusions, in part, were: *'[the 29.1 acres] provides a strong link between the existing NNR and the local community in the built-up areas to the north, and there are clear opportunities for local involvement in management, educational use and ecological surveys, all of which would support the case for extension of the NNR to cover this part of the site.'*

Management work on the 29.1 acres has continued, with further removal of Cherry Laurel and Holly, not just cutting down the trunks, but the removal of the root systems to prevent re-growth. The disturbed ground is more likely to support the ger-

mination of seeds brought in by insects, birds and mammals, encouraged by sunlight reaching ground level. The practise of 'singling', rather than complete coppicing of the Hornbeam means the stool is less likely to die of shock, and the mature stem can produce bountiful quantities of seeds.

More recent correspondence with Natural England, has confirmed that the Designation Team is working to allow the Ruislip Woods National Nature Reserve to celebrate its 25th anniversary with the announcement that it has been enlarged from 725 to 755 acres.

You can support the work of the Ruislip Woods Trust by joining, or donating:

🌐 www.ruislipwoodstrust.org.uk

You can help with the new section by volunteering with the Ruislip Woods Mid-week volunteers. Please contact the Woodland Officer on email:

✉ rhutton@hillingdon.gov.uk

THE FUTURE

Natural England noted that the SSSI status was granted in 1950. That means 2025 will be the 75th anniversary, so work is underway to make this a meaningful celebration. ◆

RRA Centenary Trees Project

Pat Wardle

Regular readers of the *Town Crier* will be aware that the RRA is aiming to plant 100 trees in Ruislip and Ruislip Manor to celebrate our Centenary. Sir David Attenborough encourages us to plant trees for the benefit of our children and generally to improve the environment. There are two main issues that we face. The first is funding for this project (many thanks to those businesses and individuals that have already contributed) and secondly finding appropriate places to plant the trees. So far we have planted trees in many of Ruislip's schools and continue to seek other planting opportunities with the Hillingdon's Green Spaces Team. If you have any ideas for sites for planting please contact:

✉ secretary2@ruislipresidents.org.uk

In 2021 RRA applied to be part of the Co-op's community causes scheme for our area and we were successful along with Coteford Junior School and Singing for Breathing.

If you shop with the Co-op, either in a store or online, you can adopt our cause and earn finances for our tree planting project which would otherwise go elsewhere in the country. We aim to plant at

least one 18-tree orchard of mixed fruit heritage varieties. This will encourage wildlife, enhance the area where the trees will be planted, and provide fruit for all.

You can join the Co-op for £1. Once you have become a member you can adopt the tree planting scheme to benefit from any purchases that you make. 2p for every £1 you spend goes into your Co-op Membership account, the Co-op will give the same amount to support community organisations and local causes. If you adopt our cause we will use the funding to plant trees. The RRA is and always has been a completely voluntary organisation and any funds received will be spent on the project - none of this money goes on administration.

You can find out more about Co-op causes at:

🌐 www.co-op.co.uk ♦



Planning Update

Susan Browne

Despite Covid-19, the building world has still been busy, as can be seen by the number of applications shown below.

Please note that the shop names are for location purposes and do not necessarily

mean that those firms are the party applying for planning permission.

The table below gives planning applications and appeals that have been refused recently: ♦

REFUSALS WITHIN CONSERVATION AREAS AND ASLCS

Address	Application
60 High Street (Old Smartex) 4131/APP/2021/2250	Insertion of roof windows and rear elevation first floor windows
Land Forming part of 2 Arlington Drive 74323/APP/2021/2509 & 2511	Two separate applications for: Erection of a detached dwelling with associated parking and landscaping
5 Poplars Close 61775/APP/2021/2588	Part single; part two storey front, side and rear extension including front porch and Juliet Balcony at first floor and new side gate.
28 Manor Road 75898/APP/2021/1062	1-storey rear extension, conversion of roofspace to habitable use to include a front dormer, 4 rooflights and rear roof alteration from hipped to gable end. Relocation of side entry door to front elevation and internal layout remodelling.
55A Kingsend 11012/APP/2021/2984	Part two storey, part single storey rear extension, conversion of roof space to habitable accommodation to include rear dormers and alterations to existing front porch
24 Wood Lane 24891/APP/2021/4264	Erection of a single storey rear outbuilding (garden annex structure).
12 South Drive 13950/APP/2021/4433	Erection of a single storey side extension
69 High Street (above and behind Vodaphone) 1983/APP/2021/550 Appeal Ref 9625 dismissed on 28/01/22	Extension at the front of the property above the shopfront to provide 1 x self-contained flat above (Use Class C3) at second floor level, and erection of a new three storey building at the rear of the property to provide 2 x self-contained flats (Use Class C3) above an open loading bay; with associated bin and cycle store.
98 Manor Way 5801/APP/2021/4234	Part single storey/part two storey side/rear extension

REFUSALS OUTSIDE CONSERVATION AREAS AND ASLCS

Address	Application
31 St Martin's Approach 76252/APP/2021/2256	Part two storey, part single storey side extension, part two storey, part single storey rear extension and open porch to the front.
Neyland Court, Pembroke Rd 76364/APP/2021/1569	Demolition of existing garage block and construction of detached building to accommodate new management office accommodation above replacement parking spaces.
31 St Martin's Approach 76252/APP/2021/4001	Erection of a single storey side and rear extensions, two storey rear extensions, and open porch / canopy.
Neyland Court, Pembroke Rd 76364/APP/2021/1569 Appeal Ref 9484 dismissed on 14/12/21	Demolition of existing garage block and construction of detached building to accommodate new management office accommodation above replacement parking spaces.
Land Adjacent to Wood Lane 76889/APP/2021/4322	The installation of a 15 metre high, monopole tower, associated radio-equipment housing including one cabinet that will wrap around the base of the mast and ancillary development hitherto.
28 Westcote Rise 74683/APP/2021/1567	Single storey side extension and conversion of roof space to habitable use to include a rear dormer and 5 rooflights.
30 Broadwood Avenue 24259/APP/2021/4083	Erection of a single and double storey rear extensions and conversion of roof space to habitable use including the erection of a dormer to the rear and two front roof lights.
17 Broadwood Avenue 14578/APP/2022/30	Erection of a new build replacement dwelling house.



BritishRedCross

150 years

Ruislip & Eastcote Arts and Crafters have been busy again and produced a special postbox topper to highlight the British Red Cross/DEC appeal for Ukraine. It features Ukraine's national flower, the sunflower.

Donate at  <https://bit.ly/3hzMtO3>



Ruislip & Eastcote Lunch Clubs

Steve McBain

www.rnfa.org.uk

On your own and a bit fed up with your own company? We all know how difficult the last two years have been with the lockdowns and how many of us have suffered with being on our own for days at a time. If you are over 60 then we can offer some way of reducing the loneliness that you may have experienced, and maybe still are. By the way, if you are a couple, you can still enjoy what is on offer.

The Elm Park Club on Park Way in Ruislip Manor and the Tudor Club on Field End Road in Eastcote are lunch and social clubs for the over 60s where you can have lunch with the company of others every weekday. At present, the clubs offer a 3-course lunch, cooked on the premises, for £4.50 for residents of Hillingdon. Two afternoons a week activities offered include bingo, arts & craft and quizzes. Every month there is an extra activity, either an entertainer visiting the club or an outing to places of interest. These events often take place on a Saturday to offer you another day when you are not home alone.



Elm Park Club, Ruislip Manor



Tudor Club, Eastcote

Unlike other local boroughs, Hillingdon recognises the benefits of such lunch and social clubs and, as a local charity, they support us with a grant to subsidise the cost of the meal for residents. Our small team of part-time employees and volunteers provide the support that many of you want and need.



If you are interested in joining either club just call in, visit our website (see above) or ring ☎01895 634962 for Elm Park Club or ☎020 8866 8603 for the Tudor Club. We look forward to seeing you. ♦

u3a **learn, laugh, live**

Many of us come to a time of life when we feel the need to turn over a new leaf, discover new interests and explore them with new friends.

One approach is to join a local organisation that enables its members to do just these things. All we ask is that our members are no longer in full-time employment.



Hillingdon u3a is a self-help group of people **providing educational, creative and leisure opportunities to its members in a friendly, social environment**, thereby contributing to the overall health and wellbeing of our members.

We are a learning cooperative which draws upon the knowledge, experience and skills of our own members to organise and provide a wide range of subject Interest Groups.

Around one third of our over 850 members live in and around Ruislip. With a choice of some 80 different Interest Groups, our members can pursue an amazing range of topics; some groups are academic, some creative, some practical and others recreational. But all are social!

These Interest Groups typically get together for meetings in either members' houses or local church and community halls.

Hillingdon u3a also has an active social programme (monthly meetings and walks, periodic theatre and concert visits, etc.) and issues regular newsletters. **And what's amazing is that the membership subscription is £20 per annum, working out at under 40p per week!**

Hillingdon **u3a**
www.u3asites.org.uk/hillingdon
T: 07532 268002
[Facebook.com/u3auk](https://www.facebook.com/u3auk)

u3a.org.uk

RUISLIP RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.45pm, Thursday, 28th April 2022

The Great Barn

Bury Street, Ruislip HA4 7SU

Doors open at 7.30pm

The Guest Speaker will be Wing Commander Paula Willmot from RAF Northolt, followed by the Annual General Meeting and an Open Forum, with questions to a panel of RRA representatives. The meeting will end at 10pm

Coffee, tea and biscuits will be served

Open Forum items to the Secretary by Thursday, 21st April 2022

The next meeting is on the 29th September 2022