



Ruislip Residents' Association

TOWN CRIER

The Voice of Ruislip Residents
September 2014

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Pinn Meadows Picnic?

(see page 22)



Back to normal in Windmill Hill!

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RUISLIP RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT: Brian Cowley

VICE-PRESIDENTS: Joan Davis Peter Lansdown

Officers		Executive Committee Members	
Chairman	Graham Bartram	Vivien Alcorn	John Swindells
Vice-Chairman	Mike Hodge	Jaqueline Bolton	John Williams
Treasurer	John Hawley	Susan Midgley	
Secretary	Pamela Edwards		
Chief Road Steward	Jack Greiller		
Deputy Ch. Rd. Stwd.	Vacant		
Responsibility	Committee Member	Responsibility	Committee Member
Community Activities	Jaqueline Bolton	Police Liaison	Vacant
Conservation	Vacant	Public Transport	Graham Bartram
Education	Susan Midgley	RAF Northolt Liaison	Peter Lansdown
Environment	Vacant	Ruislip Lido	Peter Lansdown
Health	Joan Davis	Ruislip Retail Area	Pamela Edwards
Manor Retail Area	Joan Davis	Social Activities	Vivien Alcorn
Membership	Brian Cowley	Traffic & Parking	Brian Cowley
Minutes Secretary	Vacant	Website	John Swindells
Planning	Mike Hodge	Woodlands	Vacant

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RUISLIP RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION - GENERAL MEETING
7.45 pm, Thursday, 23rd October 2014
Winston Churchill Hall, Pinn Way, Ruislip HA4 7QL
(Doors open at 7.30pm)

Agenda

1. Welcome and apologies
2. Urgent reports from representatives
3. Guest Speakers: Head Teachers Paul Lake, Warrender Primary School and George Knox, Lady Bankes Junior School
"Education Today"
4. Presentation of the 100th Anniversary of the WWI Project, sponsored by the RRA
5. Open Forum - questions to a panel of RRA representatives
6. Any other business
7. Close of business

Followed by informal discussions - wine, fruit juices and snacks will be served
The meeting will end at 10pm

Next Meeting: 7.45pm, Wednesday, 18th February 2015,
Ruislip Social Club, Grosvenor Vale, Ruislip Manor
(Agenda items to the Secretary by Tuesday, 27th January 2015)

EDITORIAL (*Peter Lansdown*)

We welcome a new police inspector, Rob Bryan, to the area (*page 14*). We hope to see him around and definitely at a future Residents' meeting.

In the last issue I commented on the problem of the non-roundabout in Windmill Hill. Firstly, I want to thank all those readers who took the trouble to contact both the Town Crier and the Council about this matter - much appreciated. Over 40 emails/letters were received and I ensured that the Council received copies of all the points raised. We obviously made some impact, as the proposed changes were quickly reversed! (*see front page*)

(*cont. on page 17*)

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Lunchtime Concerts of Classical Music St. Martin's Church Hall, Ruislip (at corner of High Street & Eastcote Road)

Admission Free - Wednesdays in 2014 at 12.15 pm

September 24th

Ashley Fripp: piano

October 29th

Mengyang Pan: piano

November 26th

Jeannette Ager: mezzo soprano/Viv McLean: piano

These concerts last about one hour. Retiring collection after each concert to defray expenses. Further information from the Parish Office, 01895 625456, Mondays to Fridays, 0930 to 1200.

FRIENDS OF EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDEN

(www.eastcotehousegardens.weebly.com)

Eastcote House Volunteer Gardeners meet on the 1st Friday, 2nd Saturday and 3rd Thursday of every month, at 9.30 am (10.00 am on Saturdays)
Everyone welcome - tools and refreshments provided - no experience necessary.
Meet in the car park at Eastcote House Gardens.

Gardening dates: September 5th, 13th, 18th October 3rd, 11th, 16th
November 7th, 8th, 20th December 5th, 13th, 18th

Ruislip, Northwood & Eastcote Local History Society Lecture Programme 2014-2015

Meetings held in St Martin's Church Hall, 8.15pm. Visitors welcome.

20 October	A Tale of Two Villages: Harmondsworth and Ruislip	Colin Bowlt RNELHS
17 November	Down in the Dumps: The Curse of the Suburban Waste Tips 1920-1950	Peter Hounsell London Historian and Author
19 January	The Story of the John Tradescants: Their Museum and Botanical Collecting	Jon Newman
16 February	An American President in Ealing: The John Quincy Adams Diaries	Paul Fitzmaurice

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE *(Graham Bartram)*

Our AGM in June was one of our most successful meetings in ages. I'm glad so many of our members could come, especially as Eileen Bowlt gave us a very interesting and informative talk on the original plans for a Garden Suburb in Ruislip-Northwood and how the Residents' Association (or Ratepayers' Association as it then was) stopped the development with the help of King's College, Cambridge.



I hope this is a good sign for our October meeting when two local Head Teachers, Paul Lake of Warrender Primary School and George Knox of Lady Bankes Junior School will be talking on Education Today. Come along and find out what is happening from those who work at the coalface, as we used to say in Derbyshire - no one works at that coalface anymore.

The Post Office has continued to be a headache, putting in daft planning applications that just waste everyone's time. It has now moved into the old Sony Centre, and the convenience store is much reduced in size. As usual they didn't do things in the correct order, so they only applied for a licence to sell alcohol a couple of days before they moved. So they won't be selling alcohol until sometime in October. They also don't seem to have applied for the necessary advertising consent for their new shop sign! Royal Mail have been contacted about moving the postbox nearer to the PO. Now we just need to worry about what the old Post Office will become.

The HS2 petitioning stage has started in Parliament, and I have attended many of the Committee's meetings to find out more about how the whole process works and the individuals involved. Our petition is unlikely to be heard until later next year, if not 2016! The petitioners from Hillingdon are all keeping in touch with each other to make sure that we are supporting each other's petitions and not arguing against them. This is all being coordinated by the Borough Solicitor, Raj Alagh. He has been working hard to support the petitioners from the beginning.

The work on the Metropolitan line was completed on schedule, with only a few hitches, such as the unexpected closure of the car park and toilets - small details that TfL forgot to tell us about. There will still be occasional weekend closures on the line as the new signalling work continues.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at our meeting in October (see page 3), 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

FROM OUR MP FOR MANOR WARD - SIR JOHN RANDALL

As I reflect on how our lives have changed over the years, it seems that the pace of innovative technology accelerates at an ever increasing speed. Some things that are now features in our daily lives would have seemed science fiction fantasy only a generation ago. Mobile phones have transformed from huge brick like contraptions to pocket sized models that have become an essential part of life for an ever increasing number of people. Computers too, have metamorphosed into slim portable devices.

Many of these advances genuinely enhance our lives, but are we becoming slaves to them, albeit unwittingly? It is incredible that we cannot only talk across the continents on our mobile phones, but can now see the caller on the screen. Certainly a boon to nervous parents, as I can personally testify. I'm not sure that I would have been so happy to have been tracked around the Balkans when I was travelling in my student vacations. They can also however be a distraction and family life is often disrupted by the constant glancing at these addictive items. In the House of Commons we can now read emails, tweet and "google" while attending debates. It might make the less interesting ones go by quicker, but it is undoubtedly distracting.

More to the point we were promised that we were to have more and more leisure time with this increase in technology. What has been the reality? Emails can be sent twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Even Christmas Day is not exempt. Of course, one could simply ignore them. However I hear the siren voices calling to me. "Read me, I might be important." So inevitably I succumb.

I don't think that we have really worked out appropriate behaviour and an acceptable code of practice for our new found ability to converse with the world at large at all times. We know that we should switch off phones in the theatre or cinema, but we still see people checking their screens surreptitiously. Should restaurants have different areas as they used to for smoking and no smoking customers? Cameras in phones now mean that people can stealthily take photos where and when it was previously taboo.

What we must acknowledge is that our lives have been changed irrevocably. For example, online shopping is inevitably taking a huge toll on our high streets. Personally I would hate a world without cheques. We should be very concerned for those people who have don't have access to this brave new world and will be left increasingly isolated.

FROM OUR MP FOR WEST AND EAST RUISLIP WARDS - NICK HURD

I do not know if HS2 will go ahead, but if it does the issue of traffic will be a primary concern for many residents. For many months I have been working with Hillingdon Against HS2, the London Borough of Hillingdon and HS2 to try and get some straight answers to a simple question; "Will HS2 HGVs be using the High Street; Bury Street and Ladygate Lane?". It has been very hard to get an answer that we can trust.



I have had letters from the top of the organisation that seemed to tell me different things and we have discovered that one of the key maps in the Environmental Statement was wrong. As of writing, this seems to be the answer to the question, that traffic accessing the Breakspear Road South Underbridge Satellite Compound will not use Swakeleys Road, the High Road Ickenham, Ickenham Road, High Street or Bury Street other than in "exceptional circumstances." Regarding Ladygate Lane, we have been told that it is "not intended that HS2 vehicles would use that route". Instead, HS2 traffic models have predicted "displacement of a small number of non-HS2 vehicles into Ladygate Lane." In other words, they predict that some other vehicles would opt to use that route due to additional HS2 traffic elsewhere. Residents can view all the correspondence on my website.

I don't think this shambolic episode reflects well on HS2 and I will be writing to the Chairman, and also the Secretary of State for Transport, to say so. It is staggering to me that an organisation being trusted with so much public money could be this incompetent. In a way, I hope that this is all irrelevant in that my priority is to work with the London Borough of Hillingdon and constituents to win the argument for extending the tunnel. Back in June, I visited a Crossrail tunnel portal site to see firsthand the construction impact. It is one thing to look at a map or mock ups; quite another to see the reality close up. It reinforced my long-standing view that we need to see the tunnel extended so that West Ruislip and Ickenham can be spared the disruption and blight. The first step is to persuade the Government to drop the idea of a Heathrow spur which will reduce the cost of the tunnel extension that we need. The position of your MP on HS2 remains the same. If we do not get satisfactory mitigation and compensation' then I will vote against HS2 before it leaves Parliament. Residents can follow news and updates on my website; <http://www.nickhurd.com/>

A rather splendid Ruislip house was going to be auctioned and the details were advertised in the press. Here they are: 'the premises consist of a genteel dwelling-house, containing eight bed-chambers, a drawing room, a dinner hall, parlour, kitchen, and a pleasure and kitchen garden of about two acres, disposed in a pleasing manner in lawns, serpentine walks etc, refreshed with fish ponds and enclosed with a brickwall on the north and south sides, and Chinese gates and palisades on the west. The gardens are beautifully cropped and planted and the walls clothed with the choicest fruit trees'.

Words like 'genteel' are not usually found in the vocabulary of today's Estate Agents, nor do they spell 'cloathed' with an 'a', so this house, actually described as a villa, was up for sale a long time ago, in June 1776 to be precise. The advert appeared in the London Evening Post. The situation was 'truly pleasing', the prospects 'rich and luxurious', 'the air salutary' and the neighbourhood 'social and polite'. This last Jane Austenish phrase presumably means that any gentleman who 'laid out his blunt' on the property, would not find himself isolated from his peers. So where was this house - on a hill perhaps, with plenty of gentry houses in the vicinity? In fact it was a house called Fine Bush, on the corner of Fine Bush Lane and

Breakspear Road North, then called Harefield Lane. Swakeleys, Breakspears, Harefield Park (now the Hospital), Harefield House, Harefield Place (Australian War Cemetery now on site) and Eastcote House were all within dining distance.

'Two tenements' (cottages) had been built on the site in the 1760s by James Banister of Knightsbridge and the fine villa described in the auction details, was put up for sale in 1776 by Daniel Bott, a timber merchant of Shadwell. James Banister's son was a tallow Chandler in Shadwell and his grandson, who sold the property to Daniel Bott in 1770, lived in Cripplegate. Mr Bott had obtained a mortgage of £315 from his wife's uncle, John Irish, a gentleman from Kingsland, in the parish of Islington, and he it was who wrought the transformation' spending 'upwards of £3000' in the process. Did he borrow more money? £3000 is roughly equivalent to £400,000 in today's money.

No local connection with James Banister has been found so far, so why did a gentleman of Knightsbridge build two cottages in Harefield Lane in the first place? Could it have been an investment? This part of Ruislip was St Catherine's Manor and in the 1760s the woodland, now generally referred to as Mad Bess, and the land to the south was

HISTORY: A RATHER SPLENDID HOUSE *(continued)*

open common with a few houses at Tile Kilns, so the new cottages look like an encroachment on common land. The only road access was Harefield Lane which connected via Ickenham and Long Lane with the Uxbridge Road to London, so perhaps it is not too surprising to find that the site was always connected with people whose main business interests were in or near London. Fine Bush Lane and Breakspear Road from the top of Bury Street were laid out following the enclosure of the common land in St Catherine's Manor in 1769. Could the enclosure have prompted Daniel Bott to make such a major investment? Prior to that the only way from Ruislip was by rough tracks across the common.

Daniel Bott combined the two cottages, laid out the grounds and surrounded them with a brick wall and significantly put his fashionable Chinese gates in the palisade along Harefield Lane, where they could be

admired by travellers passing on their way to Breakspears, or Harefield Park.

Fine Bush had a relatively short life, appearing on the first OS map of Middlesex (1821), but on no later maps. It is not recorded in a Terrier of 1837. Amazingly, not a vestige remains of this prestigious dwelling, neither in field or hedgerow. Passers by today see a field, perhaps with a couple of horses grazing - see photograph below - and would never guess that so elegant a residence had once stood there. What would an archaeological excavation reveal?

However, the intriguing name survives. What does it mean? Gorse bushes and thorn scrub would have been scattered around the surrounding common, providing a 'fine' setting for the estate. Can any reader suggest a better derivation?



The area today

EDUCATION MATTERS *(Susan Midgley)*

Lady Bankes Junior School's Sports Day There is nothing like a Sports Day for bringing the whole school community together. That was certainly the case on the morning of July 15th as pupils, teaching and non-teaching staff, parents, grandparents and visitors gathered on the sports field to witness the competitiveness of the pupils from the four Houses: Blue, Green, Red and Yellow.

All the competitors were *corralled* in their House groups in the middle of the field. Each group displayed a banner declaring their House loyalty and had cheer leaders, who encouraged them to chant loudly in support of their teams. This created a great atmosphere, even before the proceedings began.

The morning began with the long jump, javelin (the spongy variety) and sprint finals. Mr. Knox, the Head Teacher, was the official starter for the sprint and long distance running races.. Blue House was the winner and the House Captains were presented with a cup by Mr. Knox at the end of the event.

This was a really fun occasion, enjoyed by both competitors and spectators. Congratulations to all the pupils who took part and to the school staff for their excellent organisation.

Musical Evening at Bishop Winnington-Ingram Junior School On Wednesday, July 9th, BWI and Harlyn Primary School came together to produce a very entertaining musical evening, featuring performances from a range of talented musicians and singers.

The evening began with the joint choirs singing *Happy* by Pharrell Williams, which put the audience in the mood for the excellent performances that followed.

The instrumentalists included drummers, pianists, a violinist, a clarinetist and a trumpeter. Some of the talented pupils had composed their own pieces. Vocalists also gave some polished performances. One memorable solo singer was **Ella Stanbridge**, who sang *Someone Like You* by Adele. She accompanied herself on the piano and was supported by her father on Bass.

One of the outstanding performances of the evening was given by pianist **Jack Fitzgerald** who played *I Giorni (The Days)* by his favourite Italian composer, Ludovico Einaudi. Jack played with such confidence, beautifully conveying the emotion of the piece as the audience, both children and adults, listened in awed silent appreciation. Jack is also BWI's Musician of the Year for 2014.

Project to Commemorate the Centenary of the Outbreak of WW1 - Update

Bishop Ramsey students have now completed their research and are ready to assemble the photograph album containing pictures of the graves, memorials and, in some cases, memorial scrolls for all those men whose names are on the Ruislip war memorial. There are families with local names still living in the area, e.g. Lavender - (the two names on the memorial are Thomas Lavender and William Lavender, whose full name was Arthur William Lavender). If there are any residents who believe they may be related to any of the men I would love to hear from you at

smidgley@hotmail.co.uk.

It is planned that the completed album will be on show at the General Meeting on Thursday, October 23rd. at Winston Churchill Hall (*see page 3 for details*). Hopefully residents will come along to see pictures of the final resting places of these brave local young men. Sadly some have no known graves, but we have included pictures of the foreign memorials on which their names appear.

DON'T FORGET!

GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, 23rd October

COME ALONG and JOIN US

GUEST SPEAKERS - Head Teachers

Paul Lake and George Knox

ASK YOUR BURNING QUESTIONS!

HS2 Heathrow Planning

Transport Traffic Parking

(see page 3 for details)

EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDENS *(Lesley Crowcroft)*

The Restoration works at Eastcote House Gardens started 11th August 2014 and are due to end March/April 2015. The car park is closed to all vehicles, until further notice. There is still pedestrian access through the Gardens.

The Friends of Eastcote House Gardens will not be able to hold any public events until 2015. June 6th 2015 will see our reopening picnic – please make a date in your diaries. Gardening volunteers sessions will continue on the 1st Friday, 2nd Saturday and 3rd Thursday of each month. The 4th Thursday is Countryside Conservation.

Works to improve the river in Long Meadow have been completed, so has the dipping platform on EHG side of the river. Why not wander along the Celandine Route and have a look.

For more information about the progress of the restoration works go to www.eastcotehousegardens.weebly.com

HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT AND ELIZABETH TOWER *(Vivien Alcorn)*

Following on from our successful trips this year to the Houses of Parliament and the Elizabeth Tower (Big Ben), we've been fortunate to receive another Special Permit for the Tower, courtesy of Sir John Randall, for early next year.

This is for intrepid climbers who would like to experience the view from the top of the Elizabeth Tower and hear the chimes of Big Ben.

The tour will take place on Friday, February 27th.

Places are limited and will be allocated to Residents on a 'first come, first served' basis – 2 per household.

If you would like to be included, please send an email to valcorn@blueyonder.co.uk – and include a contact phone number.

The list will close at the end of October.

SHENLEY PARK (*Geoff Brown - Friends of Shenley Park*))

Shenley Park is a vibrant, welcoming area immediately adjacent to the bustling Ruislip Manor High Street (Victoria Road), accessed from Shenley Avenue and Willow Grove. The park has been owned by the Council since 1937, when it was acquired by the then the Ruislip and Northwood Urban District Council with a contribution of £753, 6 shillings and 8 pence (one third of the purchase price) from the County of Middlesex towards the expense of acquiring the land “with a view to laying out as an open space for recreation in perpetuity” of 3.12 acres.

The park is managed for a wide range of users. The park features a children’s playground and an outdoor gym, as well as a circular path popular with walkers. The park has been host to well attended community events, such as the Bandstand marathon to mark the end of the London Olympics and an Easter Egg hunt.

The Friends of Shenley Park (the Friends) are a small group of volunteers committed to the well-being and future of Shenley Park in Ruislip Manor. Our primary aim is to advise the London Borough of Hillingdon (the Council) on the development and management of Shenley Park and the preservation and development of its ecological and social quality, to ensure its continued use by the public for leisure and recreational pursuits. The Friends act in the best interests of Shenley Park for the benefit of the Community.

The Friends of Shenley Park began in 2009, when local residents, concerned with a proposal to install a youth shelter in the park, got together to lobby against the plans. Following a petition hearing with the Cabinet Lead for the Environment, the proposal was rejected. However the Council recognised the benefit of engaging with local residents about the future of the park and continued to consider and act on residents’ views and suggestions for improvements to the park. This led to the formal establishment of the Friends of Shenley Park, when the Friends group’s constitution was formally adopted in 2012. The Friends hold public meetings in Ruislip Manor Library, attended by local Councillors and Council staff and have an ongoing productive relationship with the Council’s Green Spaces team.

The Friends were successful in winning the "People’s Choice Award", which enabled the financing of new playground equipment for young children up to the age of six. We also persuaded the Council to install CCTV within the park, which has, at the very least, provided a disincentive for anti-social behaviour in the area.

The Friends have been instrumental in the creation of new flower beds and seating by the main Shenley Avenue entrance, which we continue to maintain throughout the
(continued on page 16)

POLICE POINTS *(Rob Bryan)*

New inspector for Hillingdon North cluster

Inspector Rob Bryan has recently taken up post as the new cluster inspector for the north of the Borough.

Rob has 25 years police service and has been a resident of Hillingdon for the last 22 years. He has previous experience of Safer Neighbourhoods Policing in both Hounslow and Southall and in 2007 he won the Community Police Officer of the Year Award.



Rob says "I have worked in local policing before in the good old days of 1-2-3 on each ward. Times have definitely changed and I know I will have my hands full trying to squeeze every last piece of visibility from the resources I do have. I will not be making bold and unachievable promises. What I will promise you is that I will do my very best to put officers back on the beat, targeting crime and anti-social behaviour.

As a Hillingdon resident, and a previous victim of burglary and motor vehicle crime myself, I really do understand your concerns. They are my concerns too! As a police officer I also appreciate why abstractions occur, and the compromises we make to balance competing demands. I believe that makes me well qualified to take up this post".

Rob's first job will be to speak to Ward Panel Chairs across the cluster, and, where no panel exists, ensure one is set up. He will be speaking with his local police teams to ensure they are holding regular and meaningful public meetings, so that there is easy access to your officers. He is keen to introduce himself in person at Residents' Association and Neighbourhood Watch meetings. If you would like him to attend your next meeting, please e-mail him with the date and time.

Rob says "Contact me if you want to discuss any issue. I will get back to you as soon as I can". He can be contacted on 07500 097182 or by e-mail him rob.bryan@met.pnn.police.uk

COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS *(John Riley)*

Eastcote and East Ruislip Ward – Catherine Dann, Nick Denys, Becky Haggar

Manor Ward – Douglas Mills, Michael Markham, Susan O'Brien

West Ruislip Ward – Philip Corthorne, Brian Crowe, John Riley

In writing this column in September I notice the time has just flown by since the election in May. After all the hard work leading up to the local election and afterwards, we continue Putting our Residents First. Cllr. Dann, as you will know, is our new Mayor (picture on page 23) and the mix of new and established



Councillors means that, in our area, we have Cllrs. in the Cabinet, and as Committee Chairmen, together with those of great experience, and the fresh and innovative ideas that come from newly elected Council Members.

There has been a great deal going on in our area and the neighbouring areas to us. Northwood Hills High Street is now refurbished and an "Open Day" was held to introduce residents and visitors to the new look. Many of the shops had pavement displays or seating and there was a real festive mood about the shopping street. With the refurbishment of the Manor and the new shops and other retail units in Ruislip High Street, these local shopping areas are a significant credit to our residents and demonstrate the practical commitment the Council and Conservative Administration have to local businesses.

The Summer always brings about great change, especially in households with young people; getting exam results, leaving school and moving on to the next stage in their lives, be it University, work or other pursuits. We congratulate all our young people who took exams this summer and wish them well in whatever they do.

The Council's Chrysalis funded projects continue to enhance the local area with the completion of the new woodland footpath from Oak Avenue and the Soldiers Return to The Greenway. This new footpath brings a welcome relief to residents who use the path, especially coming up to the winter months when, because of its construction, the path will continue to be accessible despite the weather conditions. Much of the intrusive vegetation has been cut back, making access easier. *(Editor's note: this path is in the Ickenham RA area)*

Now that many of our roads have been resurfaced, we are turning to look at "pavement" resurfacing and look forward to our residents making suggestions for improvements, where this is possible.

SHENLEY PARK *(continued from page 13)*

season. This was made possible through Council Ward funding with the tremendous support given by our local councillors. We continue to enjoy their support and they are keen to support future initiatives within the park.

The Friends' ultimate objective is to obtain Green Flag status for Shenley Park, but consider there is considerable work still to be done to the park before achieving this goal. We would welcome engagement by all local residents, particularly those who are interested in their local area or enjoy using the park and want to help to continue to improve this attractive open space for the benefit of all.

We continue to actively seek volunteers without which we cannot continue to fulfil our future projects and initiatives. If anyone is interested in joining the group they can contact Chairman Geoff Brown on 07931 561020 or our Secretary Louise Speke on 07966 220995. Our website is <http://www.friendsofshenleypark.org.uk> where we can be contacted via email.

TRAFFIC *(Brian Cowley)*

Revised Road Markings at the Traffic Island in Windmill Hill

I'm pleased to report that In view of all the comments received from residents, the Council agreed to remove the solid white lines and remark the hatching with a broken white line, as it had been prior to April This was carried out on 2nd September.

Consultation on possible 'No Entry' restriction into Bembridge Gardens

Following the consultation in May, the proposal to install a barrier at the junction of Bembridge Gardens & Chichester Avenue will not be implemented.

Ruislip Chamber of Commerce



Ruislip Family Day - Saturday 29th November

Santa will be in his grotto in
John Sanders from 10.30am onwards.

The children's annual Treasure Hunt will be
taking place with many prizes to be won.

There will also be kiddies' rides in the
High Street and lots more.

CONTACTING THE MEMBERSHIP *(Brian Cowley)*

Members who pay subscriptions direct to the Treasurer have the opportunity, should they so wish, to send me their e-mail address. They could then receive an edited version of the reports made by our Committee members to each monthly meeting. I would like to make this facility available to many more members, including those who pay subscriptions at the door to their Road Steward. If you would like to be added to the contact list, please email me at :

membership@ruislipresidents.org.uk .

Please also provide your name and address so that your current membership status can be checked.

PHARMACY2U *(John Hawley)*

Some local residents have received letters from this company inviting people to sign up for home delivery of medicines. Whilst it is for everyone requiring medication to decide how they receive it, various factors need to be taken into account:

- (1) You could be denied the advice of the local pharmacist.
- (2) Pharmacies, with all the other services they provide, could close.
- (3) Many local pharmacies, in any case, run a 'collect' service from local GPs and need only phone call from a patient to get repeat prescriptions.

Some elderly people have family, friends and neighbours who collect and deliver their prescriptions, thus providing essential weekly or monthly contact.

Ruislip Manor alone has three pharmacies which might be under threat. Do we want our high streets denuded of essential and friendly services?

Make your choice very carefully.

EDITORIAL *(cont. from page 3)*

A different way of having prescriptions delivered is being offered. The RRA is concerned that residents should be aware of some of the considerations (*see above*).

In the last issue of the Town Crier mention was made of a project to commemorate the outbreak of WWI, sponsored by the RRA. On page 11 you will find an update on this. It is hoped to have the results on view at the General Meeting in October

HEALTH MATTERS *(Joan Davis)*

Hillingdon Clinical Commissioning Group Issues

Finance At end of July, the CCG had a £0.03m surplus and forecast break even at year end against its plan, but with an underlying deficit of £18.7m.

Hillingdon CCG's Out of Hospital Strategy: Three hubs will support increased healthcare in the community. The Hesa site in Hayes Town covers Hayes and Harlington. An Uxbridge hub is to be developed in 2015-16. A North Hillingdon hub is not expected until 2018-19.

Integration of Services The eight North West London CCGs and seven local authorities, but not Hillingdon, are pioneers. Each CCG has its own integration plans but they will share lessons and joint elements. The North Hillingdon pilot covers 1000 patients aged over 75 years with long-term conditions.

Local Whole System Integration The CCG, Hillingdon Council, hospitals, community services, GPs and the voluntary sector are working together to improve health and social care services, avoid acute admissions, provide seven day services, and earlier hospital discharge. This work is supported by the Better Care Fund - £15.642m from the CCG and £2.349m from the Council.

London Ambulance Service arrival to handover waits at hospitals In June there were 56 waits of over 30 minutes at Northwick Park and 201 at Hillingdon hospitals, with five over an hour at Northwick Park and six at Hillingdon.

Prime Minister's Challenge Fund This Fund is being used to develop NW London GP networks - but Hillingdon GP networks are being set up as private businesses, which can be bought and sold. We are calling for public representation on the committee overseeing these networks.

Northwood and Pinner Community Hospital Hillingdon CCG has decided not to use the Northwood and Pinner Hospital site for local health services and has confirmed this to NHS Property Services. The Community Voice, of which we are a member, is now working on possible uses for the site.

Hillingdon Hospital Issues

Finances The £0.4m deficit at end of the first Quarter was due to emergency activity being 25% above plan. Beds opened last winter have had to stay open despite contractually low payment for this unusually high activity. The Trust may still break-even at year end, but it risks having a deficit up to £2.3m, in which it would not be alone. One in four NHS Trusts expect a deficit at year end.

Preparations for winter An award of £503k is reducing waiting times for planned activities, to improve pathways for next winter. Additional lists over weekends and better theatre utilisation are expected to benefit 367 patients. A further award of £1.2m is to support emergency services and 7-day working.

Ebola Due to the proximity of Heathrow Airport, there are concerns about potential ebola carriers being brought to Hillingdon Hospital's A&E. Full procedures are in place and the London Ambulance Service is fully informed.

NW London's "Shaping a Healthier Future" There are plans for extra births at Hillingdon, to support a safe transition from Ealing Hospital services, which are to be downgraded. The Outline Business Case for a two-storey extension at the front of the present Hillingdon maternity block to hold the enlarged service is expected at the Board's October meeting.

Nurse recruitment The Trust holds recruitment days monthly, has a stand at the Royal College of Nursing's Fair and recruits overseas. A Watford press advert offers work at Mount Vernon. Third year student nurses are offered jobs. Bucks New University input is simplifying recruitment. Accommodation units at Mount Vernon are being refurbished. All to acquire more nurses!

Estate Issues Cost of backlog maintenance is now estimated to total £17.5m plus £40m for the 1960s Hillingdon Hospital Tower and Podium.

New Macmillan Cancer Information Centre at Hillingdon Hospital This provides information on cancer diagnosis and treatment to patients, families and carers, also advice on financial support, how to talk to children, etc.

League of Friends support In 2013-14 the Friends donated over £70k for equipment, e.g. a patient hoist, a bladder scanner and specialist beds

New MRI Scanner The official opening was on 17th July. The scanner is already providing scans for 500 patients a month.

Beaconsfield East This rehabilitation ward has been refurbished to make it user friendly for dementia patients – with imaginative use of colour, sensory devices and large airy rooms opening onto a fantastic garden. The same architect is now working on children's A&E., which is good news.

Planning application for a decked car park at Hillingdon Hospital: Erection for of a temporary decked car park (5 years) above the existing car park is now planned, together with 16 additional surface spaces.

New services at Mount Vernon: Over the year ahead an increase in orthopaedics, gynaecology and other surgical specialties is expected. The old Daniels Ward started a new life in July as the Daniel's Rehabilitation Unit, specialising in rehabilitation for patients with brain or spinal cord injury.

HEALTH MATTERS DID YOU KNOW? *(Joan Davis)*

Hillingdon Community Health:

This is part of Central & North West London FT. It has around 1,000 staff working in Hillingdon homes, schools, GP practices, and health centres. In 2013 it supported the physical health needs of 72,000 people, almost 25% of Hillingdon, with hospital care for 561 patients. It provides the rapid response service, speech and language therapy, specialist community dentistry, adult district nursing, school nursing service, health visiting, wheel chair service, specialist community paediatricians and community based palliative care.

Other Central & North West London services in Hillingdon

CNWL provides all our mental health services and has its own hospital facilities, called the Woodlands, on the Hillingdon Hospital site. Hawthorne Ward, at the Woodlands, provides beds for community health patients. A Hillingdon Healthwatch survey showed that patients are very satisfied with the new ward and feel welcome and safe there.

New NHS charges from 1st April 2014

Dental charges:

Band 1 £18.50 - Examination, diagnosis, scale and polish

Band 2 £50.50 - Band 1 plus fillings and extractions

Band 3 £219 - Band 2 plus crowns, dentures and bridges

Prescription charges:

£8.05 for each drug / appliance.

A 3 month prescription prepayment certificate is £29.10

A year's certificate is £104

First London Ambulance Service 'super paramedics':

Super paramedics are now treating the most seriously ill and injured patients.

They can administer powerful drugs previously given only by doctors.

Cancer is a top NHS priority in London

This is because UK survival rates are, internationally, below the best.

NHS Continuing Healthcare

Funding is assessed under the National Eligibility Criteria.

Any challenge is referred to the Health Ombudsman.

Although views of the patient and family are taken into account, there is no way for them to "top up" the financial provision agreed by their CCG.

PLANNING UPDATE *(Mike Hodge/John Williams)*

136 High Street (formerly Delhi Spice) Up market estate agents, Foxtons, have acquired this site and are likely to provide stiff competition to existing agents already in the town. They have a planning application in for a new shop front and associated internal and external signage.

Rotary House, Breakspear Road A planning application for part change from business to residential incorporating 4 x 2-bed self contained flats, having been refused by the council, has been appealed to the Secretary of State. Other would-be developers of this type of change will be watching the outcome of this planning appeal with some interest.

43-45 and 130 High Street Similarly both of these applications for change of use of office space to residential development are still at planning approval awaited stage and the decisions may well inform us of the Council's thinking on such proposals.

Post Office The old post office has now relocated to Sony's previous site and the new post office is up and running. It has a small grocery presence and has also applied for a liquor licence. The old site is being gutted and at the time of this article it was not known as to what type of business may acquire the site. The existing mail letterbox has been retained at this time and is operating normally.

44 Reservoir Road The proposed extension has been refused. Planning officers' attention was also drawn to possible unauthorised works to the original roof.

7-9 Bury Street Unauthorised works have been reported and drawn to the attention of the local planners.

147 Cornwall Road The planning application submitted to develop land forming part of 147 which proposes the construction of 1 x two storey and 1 x two storey with habitable roof space 2-bed detached dwellings together with associated works is still awaiting decision. Ruislip Residents' Association have supported local neighbours' concerns as to this proposed development.

LOCAL PLAN Publication of the draft consultation document delayed yet again until September 2014. This will include the council's proposals for allocation and designation of important sites and development management policies.

ARTICLE 4 DIRECTION This is intended to exclude Hillingdon from the rules allowing larger single storey extensions to dwellings. It is due to become effective on 22 September provided that the Secretary of State does not revoke it.

FRIENDS OF PINN MEADOWS (FOPM) *(Rob Cousins)*

The public consultation regarding Hillingdon's Local Plan Part 2 (www.hillingdon.gov.uk/lpp2) is scheduled to begin at the end of September and proposes to remove Pinn Meadows and other cherished sites such as Eastcote House Gardens and Manor Farm from Hillingdon's Green Chain and designate them instead as Metropolitan Open Land. Whilst designation as Metropolitan Open Land is welcomed, the removal from the Green Chain is not and we feel that Hillingdon Council, who purport to want to provide maximum protection for their Green Spaces, should follow the lead of other London Boroughs, such as Southwark, who have dual designation of Green Chain and Metropolitan Open Land status for all of their Green Chain sites.

The Council also proposes to weaken the wording of the existing Green Chain policy from "Any proposals for development in Green Chains will be firmly resisted unless.." to "Development in Green Chains will only be supported if.....".

These issues were raised with Council Officers at the LBH Residents Planning Forum on 26th June. They advised that the reason for changes to Green Chain designation was to bring its policies more in line with Government policy, which was to weaken protection for Green Spaces. However, other London Councils haven't felt the need to take these measures. Indeed, the Planning Inspector when he reported on Hillingdon's current Green Chain policy in July 2012 stated, "With regard to open space and recreation provision generally, to "green corridors" and to biodiversity matters, I find that the Policies and provisions are well justified, will be effective and are consistent with the London Plan and the Framework. No significant issues have been raised that cause me to question the Plan's soundness in these respects, and therefore no main modifications are needed.

We are therefore asking all our supporters to join us in responding to the public consultation and urge the Council to retain the Green Chain designation for Pinn Meadows and to keep the existing Green Chain policy to give the greatest possible protection from any future development. Please see our website (www.fopm.org.uk) for details on how you can respond to the public consultation with your views.

Other news together with the Council's Countryside Conservation Officers, we held a Scything Festival and Picnic on Pinn Meadows on Saturday, 5th July, with many people trying their hand at the ancient art of scything before joining residents and their families on the fields for a big picnic, which was also attended by the Mayor (*picture on front page*).

(Editor's Note: The views expressed above are those of the Friends of Pinn Meadows)

Hillingdon's Mayor - 2014-2015
Cllr. Catherine Dann



Bishop Winnington-Ingram Junior School
Jack Fitzgerald
(see page 10)



Lady Banks Junior Sports Day
The winning House Captains
(see page 10)

Medieval Festival 2014



Photo: Megan Williams

