

Ruislip Residents' Association **TOWN CRIER**

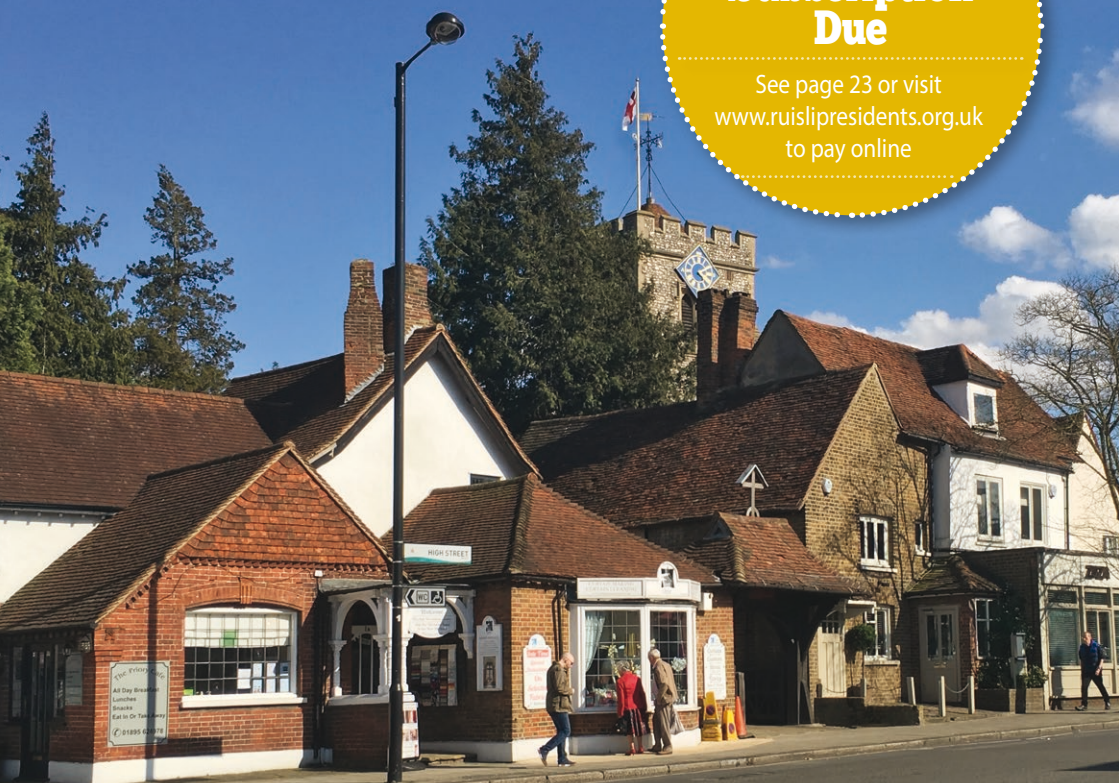
March 2019

www.ruislipresidents.org.uk



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Centenary of the Ruislip Residents' Association

Read about our history in an eight-page article by Eileen Bowlt

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Editorial

This is our Centenary edition

We made it to 100 years old! In this edition of the *Town Crier* we have an excellent article on the history of Ruislip Residents' Association from 1919 to today by Eileen Bowlt, the eminent local historian.

Our Centenary is shared by Ruislip Bowls Club, who have kindly supplied an ode to mark our joint anniversary – its on page 19. We wish them the best for their Centenary!

Don't forget that this year's subscriptions are now due and there is an article about them by our Hon. Treasurer, John Hawley on page 23.

We also have our normal coverage of conservation, education, health, planning and police.

And no editorial would be complete without a plea for more volunteers! Look at the vacancies on the right for ideas.

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

Vacant

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EDUCATION

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Vacant

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MEMBERSHIP

Vacant

TRAFFIC & PARKING

Vacant

HS2

Phil Taylor

WEBSITE & IT

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FRIENDS OF EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDEN

www.eastcotehousegardens.weebly.com

Eastcote House Volunteer Gardeners meet on the 1st Friday, 2nd Friday and 3rd Thursday of every month, at 9.30am.

Everyone welcome - tools and refreshments provided - no experience necessary.

Meet in the car park at Eastcote House Gardens.

Gardening dates: March 1st, 8th, 21st; April 5th, 12th, 18th; May 3rd, 10th, 16th; June 7th, 14th, 20th; July 5th, 12th, 18th; August 2nd, 9th, 15th.

Conservation dates: March 28th; April 25th; May 23rd; June 27th; July 25th; August 22nd.

The Gardens Café is now open daily from 8.30am (10am on Sunday) until 2.00pm.

THE ARTS SOCIETY, HILLINGDON

Lecture Programme March-August 2019

Wednesdays at 2.00pm, Winston Churchill Hall - admission £7 to non-members

13 March	Zaha Hadid Architectural Superstar	Colin Davies
8 May	Christopher Marlowe - Poet & Spy	Giles Ramsey
12 June	Heatherwick - A Modern Leonardo	Ian Swankie
10 July	French Impressionists in London	Jenifer Toynbee-Holmes
14 August	John Russell - An Australian Impressionist	Lucrezia Walker

RUISLIP, NORTHWOOD & EASTCOTE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Lecture Programme February-April 2019

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

18 February	Saxons at the Adelphi, Strand	Douglas Killock
18 March	Trent Park's Secret History	Helen Fry
29 April	Londoners and the preservation of open spaces	Mark Gorman

Chairman's Message

RRA



One hundred years ago, in February 1919, a group of residents of Ruislip and Eastcote decided that if they wanted to

preserve the rural surroundings of their homes and have more say about the area they lived in, they would need to form an association – and so they created the Ruislip & Eastcote Association. Now 100 years later we are celebrating Ruislip Residents' Association's Centenary (Eastcote formed its own residents' association in 1930). That is quite an achievement, indeed the National Organisation of Residents' Associations believe we are probably the oldest association of our kind in the country!

During that time we have tried to represent the interests of the people of Ruislip in a range of areas, including conservation, planning, education, police, environment, etc. We have had some great successes, but also some failures. Eileen Bowlit has kindly written an article about our history which highlights both (it starts on page 11).

It's membership subscription time and now you can pay it online on our website: <http://www.ruislipresidents.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.

HS2 has decided to cause more pain in Ruislip. They want to run a high-voltage power supply from Rayner's Lane to West Ruislip, via (in our area) Westholme Gardens, Manor Way, Midcroft and then along Ickenham Road. The idea is that the route is going via residential streets to minimise traffic problems, but the Ickenham Road can hardly be described as a residential road - a main artery would be closer to the truth. We are still trying to persuade them to get their electricity from the West, from where the cables would run over fields, or to run it along the Metropolitan and Central lines. You should be able to find out more on HS2's community website: <http://hs2inhillington.commonplace.is> but I can't find much there about it - hopefully it will appear soon as the project is due to kick-off in Spring!

I hope to see as many of you as possible at our meeting 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

TOP AWARD FOR UXBRIDGE COLLEGE WHEELCHAIR SLALOM CHAMPION

Student **James Hillier** has been honoured for his sporting achievements with the Panathlon's top annual honour for competitors in London and Essex. James, 16, was named the tenth winner of the Jack Petchey Outstanding Achievement Award for his achievements with Pantathlon, a charity that gives more than 17,500 children and young people with disabilities and special needs an opportunity to take part in competitive sport each year.

He competed with a group from his previous school, Ruislip High School, in events including Powerchair Slalom and beanbag throwing. Competitors in the slalom have to manoeuvre a high performance electric wheelchair through a set of obstacles as fast as possible; in the beanbag competition they have to hit a target.

James's prize was presented to him by Panathlon Ambassador and Paralympic swimming gold medallist, Liz Johnson and Gemma Juma from the Jack Petchey Foundation at a ceremony which took place at John Lewis, Stratford City.

James said, "I will never forget that day. I never realised that I'd win – I couldn't believe it. My mum cried and my dad nearly cried too! I would like to thank everyone who came on the night and everyone who has supported me in doing sport. I would love to enter more competitions."

Access to Further Education student, James, who is quadriplegic and has cerebral palsy, also loves trampolining and has been part of the Brunel University wheelchair basketball club.

BISHOP RAMSEY'S EVENING OF DRAMA

Towards the end of the Autumn Term 2018 the school's Drama Department presented An Evening of Drama to showcase the department's extra-curricular activities. The comperes for the evening, **Rachel Dunleavey** and **Nathan Pike**, both Year 11 students, introduced all the items on the programme with clever and amusing rhyming couplets composed by the students and much appreciated by the audience.

The first part of the evening was devoted to School Poetry which consisted of scenes from *Please Mrs Butler* by Allan Ahl-

berg which portrayed a variety of school scenarios in rhyme. Many of the scenes were between students and their teachers with a very funny response from the teacher. All the scenes were performed by members of the **Drama Club**.

After the interval the programme brought a more serious tone to the evening. To commemorate one hundred years since the end of WW1 there was a performance of the final scene of *Journey's End* by R C Sheriff, directed by Year 9 student **Katie Hall** who has been a member of the Drama Club since Year 7. This is a very powerful scene which movingly depicts the death of a young officer who had recently joined his battalion straight from public school at the age of eighteen as well as the destruction of the trench, dugout and all the personnel. The brutal fighting was cleverly represented by vivid mimed actions.

This was followed by what was described by Nathan as *the opening and a fight* from Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* directed by **Rachel Dunleavy, Nathan Pike** and **Hannah Dowsett** and performed by students who originally performed this extract at the Harrow Arts Centre as part of the Shakespeare Schools' Festival.

The Glee Club brought the evening to a lively close with their performance of *Oh Mama, Welcome to the Sixties* from the musical *Hairspray*.



**Gemma Juma, James Hillier
& Liz Johnson**



**Hosts for Bishop Ramsey's Evening of
Drama – Rachel & Nathan**

The students were supported by **Miss Carroll**, the school's new Head of Drama and her team who will soon be casting and rehearsing for the school's summer term production of *The Addams Family*.

At the time of publication Christmas seems in the dim, distant past but I hope that our readers would still like to read about some of the entertainment our local primary schools presented at the end of last term.

BISHOP WINNINGTON-INGRAM'S NURSERY CLASS PERFORM A CHRISTMAS POEM

BWI's **Rainbow Class**, a class of three year old children, performed their delightful **Christmas Poem**, beautifully read by **Mrs Michael**, Nursery Teacher. The poem tells the story of the first Christmas. The children acted out the parts of the story from the announcement to Mary that she was to give birth to a baby called Jesus, the Son of God, the journey to Bethlehem, the birth in the stable surrounded by animals, the arrival of the shepherds and finally the three kings with their gifts.

The show contained many of the well known Christmas carols and songs which the children sang enthusiastically; it was amazing that children so young knew all the words. When the various animals appeared the children had great fun during their songs making the relevant animal noises much to the amusement of the audience. When the whole story had been

told, all the children sang to the audience *We Wish You A Merry Christmas*, as well as signing the words.

The costumes were amazingly colourful, especially those of the three kings; however, Mary and Joseph, the angels, the shepherds and all the animals also had fantastic costumes which made the show very special. However, the most special thing was the children.

When the show closed, **Mrs Gill Westbrook**, Headteacher, congratulated the children and teachers. There was a retiring collection for the school's charity of the year – Trinity – which supports homeless people. The audience was informed that a group of Year 6 pupils had been to London to deliver warm clothing to those sleeping rough. This was a great way for children to experience the true meaning of Christmas.

LADY BANKES JUNIOR SCHOOL'S YEARS 5 AND 6 CHRISTMAS SHOW

The show began by sharing with the audience the many ways that Christmas is celebrated around the world. It also celebrated the diversity of the intake of Lady Bankes Junior School with a pupil representative holding the flag of his/her country and explaining their specific traditions. The countries represented were: Egypt, Romania, France, Poland, Vietnam, China, Russia, Jamaica and South Africa.

This was followed by pupils singing *Silent Night* accompanied by others playing ukuleles and a guitar. Then the story of Christmas began. Suddenly the audience became very much aware of the innkeeper who snored loudly at various stages of the traditional story. The pupils acted out the story of the birth of Jesus in the stable and sang *Away In A Manger*. The sleeping innkeeper was finally awakened by the brightly shining star which guided the shepherds and the kings to the stable. There was more singing of *Walk Down The Lonesome Road* (representing Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem) and *While Shepherds Watched*. The audience was once again entertained by the ukuleles, guitar and singers who performed *Joy of the Birth of Jesus*. The innkeeper finally woke up and appeared in the stable with all the other visitors and was delighted to see the Holy Baby.

The whole cast then sang to the audience *We Wish You A Merry Christmas* and finally gave a joyful performance of *Rocking Around The Christmas Tree* with actions. **Mrs Kate Needs**, Headteacher, congratulated everyone who was concerned in the preparation of a fantastic show, commenting that she was very proud of all the pupils. The audience was then rewarded with an encore of the final song. Everyone left the school hall filled with the spirit of Christmas.



The Three Kings from BWI's Christmas Poem



The Main Characters from Lady Bankes Infant School's Christmas Show

INSIDE RUISLIP HIGH SCHOOL

It has been a few years since I have had any communication from Ruislip High School, so I was delighted that a chance meeting with **Dr Martina Lecky**, Headteacher, at one of our local Primary School's Christmas assemblies, led to an invitation to visit the school and re-establish contact.

On Tuesday, January 29th. I was shown round the school by two delightful Year 9 School Ambassadors, **Skyla Bitar** and **Anna Guld**. It soon became obvious that the girls were genuinely proud and happy to be members of their school; they were very well-informed about all aspects of the school, answered my questions intelligently and were eager to show me some of the more original features. They also told me that the TV comedy series *The Inbetweeners* had been filmed in the school!

As the school building is relatively new, taking its first intake of Year 7 students in 2006, it provides a bright, open aspect in which students learn in a calm and purposeful environment. As we walked along the various subject corridors two things particularly impressed me; these were the murals and the classroom names. Each mural, painted by students with the advice and assistance from the Head of Art. As well as being colourful and eye-catching they help to reinforce students' learning. Instead of classrooms having numbers, they are named after innova-

tors, artists, authors, etc. appropriate to the subject being taught within. On the outside of each door is a framed picture and details of the individual which is an effective way of enhancing learning for visitors as well as students.

Following my tour Dr Lecky was kind enough to spare some of her valuable time to meet with me in her office to share some information concerning her school. By September 2020 the extension to the present building will be complete which means that the school will be able to offer overall between 1,300 and 1,350 places. As part of the expansion, the school is opening two special resource provisions: one for students with a physical disability, the other for high-functioning autistic students.



I am very pleased that in future residents will be able to read reports of the activities of Ruislip High School on the Education page of our website and in the *Town Crier*. We are very fortunate to have two Outstanding (Ofsted rating) secondary schools in Ruislip as well as others in the local area.

 education@ruislipresidents.org.uk 

Our History & Centenary

Eileen Bowlt

Happy birthday to Ruislip Residents' Association! When it was inaugurated as the Ruislip & Eastcote Association in February 1919 it represented a very different place from the one we live in today. At a public meeting held at the Church Rooms in Bury Street, Mr Brassington of *Greyfriars*, Church Avenue was elected chairman, Mr Upcroft treasurer and Mr Paige secretary. The committee was composed of three representatives of Ruislip Village, Mr Speed, Mr Lee, a solicitor who lived in a new house in Sharps Lane, just above The George, Shatford Ewer, farmer; Ruislip Common by Mr Huxley; Ruislip Manor by Messrs Cattle and Fogarty; Eastcote by Messrs Powell and Sidney. Prior to the meeting the 'burning issue' being discussed had been the extortionate utility bills from Pinner Gas Company, the Colne Valley Water Company and the Northwood Electric Light Company.

The first item on the agenda was the name of the Association. Ruislip and Eastcote was chosen in preference to Eastcote and Ruislip. One senses a power struggle in the background. Eastcote became independent in 1930.

THE ASSOCIATION'S AREA IN 1919

Ancients and Squatters - the population was divided into newcomers, people who had moved into new houses built on the Park Estate and Kingsend Avenue, whose menfolk worked in Town and country folk whose roots lay in Ruislip and tended to work as farm labourers. Newcomers became known as *Squatters* who 'ran to the station each morning with the shaving lather still on their faces' and retaliated by referring to the rural group as *Ancients*.



The Oaks in around 1900



The same scene today

At the time the Village consisted of little more than the historic buildings around the northern end of the High Street and the bottom of Bury Street, with the addition of a new parade of shops between King Edward's Road and Ickenham Road. Errand boys collected orders early in the morning, which were delivered in time for the meat, fish and vegetables to be prepared for lunch.

Ruislip Common had a pub, the *Six Bells*, and a chapel, a handful of cottages on Reservoir Road, a few more in Withy Lane, the relatively new Page's Cottages dating from 1906 at the bottom of Ducks Hill and the old Workhouse Cottages (now a single house). The destitute in 1919 could find shelter in the Union Workhouse at

Hillingdon. Hillingdon Hospital developed from its infirmary.



Ruislip Manor Cottage Society cottages on Windmill Way

Ruislip Manor was the name given to the Windmill Hill / Manor Way area and the few houses standing there had been built by the Ruislip Manor Cottage Society between 1911 and 1914. The Manor Halt (now Ruislip Manor Station) had been closed since the beginning of the Great War, but as there was not a single house south of the line, except right down in South Ruislip, very few people were inconvenienced.



Ruislip Manor Station on Victoria Road, shown in 1933 before it was rebuilt in 1938

The residents of Eastcote still lived in farms and cottages along Eastcote High Road and the streets leading north from it and in the northern part of Field End Road. East-

cote Station opened in 1906, but development did not begin until August 1909, when British Freehold started selling plots of land on the former Field End House Farm, at £3 down. The balance could be paid off interest free at the rate of 10 shillings a month. Lime Grove and the avenues with tree names were developed in this way.

Around the perimeter of Ruislip Village stood several working farms, Manor Farm, Hill Farm at Little King's End, Primrose Hill Farm off the top of Wood Lane, Fieldend Farm at the bottom and Sherley's Farm (Old Barn Hotel) just south of the station. All of these were either worked by or on behalf of members of the Ewer family. Wilkins Farm (Woolworth's was later built on the site) was said to be in West End Road, as the High Street at the time extended only as far as Ickenham Road, and there were other farms farther down West End Road, New Pond, Old Pond, Priors and Glebe. Hundred Acres Farm had been taken into Northolt Aerodrome. Several cottages in Bury Street, like Cannonsbridge Farm, were known as farms, although hay dealers, smallholders and market gardeners lived in them.

Thousands of trippers poured into Ruislip and Eastcote on summer weekends, strolled along the winding tree-shaded lanes and found refreshments at popular tea gardens, such as the Poplars, Orchard Bungalow (now The Orchard), King's End Farm and the Eastcote Pavilion and less

sophisticated entertainment at the Village Sweet Shop at the end of the High Street and in cottage gardens, like the one at Bury Farm, where trestle tables were erected in the garden and teas served on fine weekend afternoons. The Orchard Bungalow prospered and had a storey added, becoming a favourite resort for unmarried couples to spend naughty weekends in the country. They arrived on foot from the station and ran the gauntlet of Ruislip youngsters.



The Village Sweet Shop on left, Hayley's Shop on right – Mrs Haley later ran it as a toy shop

Although the ancient parish had become the Ruislip-Northwood Urban district in 1904, Ruislip could still be said to be a country village in 1919 albeit one that was already changing and destined to become a thriving suburb within the next ten years. The population trebled between 1930 and the outbreak of the Second World War making it the fastest growing place in the country. Ruislip was developed as a Garden Suburb, in accordance with the

Town Planning Scheme produced by the forward-looking councillors in 1914, which incorporated the King's College plan for the demesne lands. A small council estate known as Clack Village (Field Way, Field Close and Hill Lane) was about to be built to provide decent accommodation for the agricultural labourers, because the cottages around the village centre where they lived were in a shocking state of decay, their owners expecting them to be demolished on health grounds, as a forerunner to new developments. Apparently bed legs protruded through the ceiling into the room below of one of the cottages in front of the church. The cottages were repaired and are now offices. The beauty of the long timber-framed building of which they form part can be admired from the churchyard.

THE TOWN PLAN

A main axial road was intended to run from the top of Copse Wood to South Ruislip with a main shopping centre at its junction with Eastcote Road and public buildings crowning Windmill Hill. The Reservoir and Pinn were to become recreational areas, with aquatic sports on the one and football, cricket grounds and ornamental gardens alongside the other.

Large houses at a density of three and a half to the acre were to be built in Copse Wood and four to the acre in Park Wood. Medium sized houses (eight to the acre) were envisaged between the Pinn and the railway and small houses (10 to the acre) to the south. An area was set aside for industry in South Ruislip.



The centre of Ruislip village in about 1915

The plan was drawn in accordance with the Garden Suburb principles and embodied many excellent features, low-density houses, good-sized gardens, landscaped streets and space for churches, schools and public amenities. It was also horrifying in its complete disregard for every ancient building except St Martin's church, and the planned wholesale destruction of most of the woodland. Manor Farm, with its medieval Great Barn and other farm buildings was to be torn down to make way for houses and workshops. All the 16th century buildings at the end of the High Street (all in a pretty bad state at the time) were also to be demolished as part of the plan.

WHO WANTED AN ASSOCIATION?

An eventual population of 70,000 was expected in the whole Ruislip-Northwood Urban District. By 1919 about 4,000 people lived in Ruislip and Eastcote and 5,500 in Northwood, some 3,000 of those in Ruislip and Eastcote being newcomers living in the developing roads.

The 'Squatters', mainly professional and businessmen had come to Ruislip to find rural peace and fresh air for their families within easy reach of Town, but had not bargained for the concomitant muddy and unlit roads. Wellingtons necessary for passing Wilkins Farm had to be left at the station all day! The inhabitants of King's End had to pick their way round water-

filled potholes with the aid of a candle lamp to get to meetings at the Church Rooms. By the time the war ended the novelty of country living was wearing off; they outnumbered the Ancients by 4:1 and they wanted better amenities and value for their rates.

As every member of the committee with the exception of Shatford Ewer was a Squatter, it was obvious by whom and for whom the new association had been formed.

EARLY CONCERNS

The residents wanted improved train services; they were disturbed by wilful damage to trees and shrubs, worried by motor lorries in the High Street and wished to help the station staff to improve the station flower beds. By and large the early years of the Association saw a concentration on the improvement of suburban amenities such as cheaper water from the Colne Valley Water Company, cheaper gas and a better supply from the Pinner Gas Company and cheaper electricity from the Northwood Electric Company. Residents wanted a proper post office, which at the time was at Hailey's shop at the entrance to Manor Farm – it was built in 1926 – and a council office open one day a week in Ruislip, where they could pay their rates, without making the difficult journey to Northwood. There was no direct connection by public transport.

Above all, the people of Ruislip wanted a public hall which could be reached safely and meetings and other activities held in comfort. The Church Rooms were difficult of access on dark evenings because Bury Street had neither lighting nor pavements. It was also narrower than now, so such traffic as there was endangered pedestrians. The residents were reluctant to lose their tree-lined narrow lanes, or to allow anything to damage the trees. Single decker buses only were permitted on some routes to prevent such a catastrophe.

The Association took it upon itself to provide entertainment, not to mention instruction, and the winter months were enlivened by lantern slide lectures (Mr F.H. Mansford on Westminster Abbey, Dr Fountain on Astrology) talks, whist drives and mock trials! The still flourishing Ruislip Operatic Society grew out of a self-supporting Musical Society founded by a sub-committee in 1923 under the leadership of Mr R.E. Humphriss. The committee also organised day trips to places of 'outstanding interest' such as the Mansion House, Houses of Parliament, Eton College, Windsor Castle.

The Association's determination to keep the rates as low as possible – one point on which Ancients and Squatters agreed, led to some strange decisions. Residents were unanimous in thinking that the introduction of a bus service between Harrow and Uxbridge via Pinner and Eastcote

would be a good thing, useful for wounded soldiers, old people and children. The Association urged the Council to oppose the service on the grounds that even single decker buses damaged the tree-lined narrow lanes which would increase costs.

NEW CONCERNS

During the 1920s the Association minutes first mention threats to "the village atmosphere", by road widening, demolition of ancient buildings and excessive new building, particularly over the woods. Building was taking place in the northern part of Copse Wood. From 1923 onwards, "conservation" as well as "improvement" came into the association's vocabulary and a new era began. In an article in the 1969 *Town Crier*, Mr I. Wild, chairman in 1932-4 recalled that the Association really came to life in 1927 galvanised by what was regarded as a catastrophe, the sudden and unsuspected felling of elm trees bordering the High Street, prior to building by A.E.A Prowting. The Association expressed dismay and indignation too late to be effective, but henceforth became much more militant under the leadership of Mr Hooper, first as chairman and then as president.

PARK WOOD & MANOR FARM

Mr Hooper led the negotiations with King's College which ended in the preservation of Park Wood and Manor Farm in 1932, which must surely be the Association's greatest achievement.



The handover ceremony in 1932 with the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres speaking - the economist John Maynard Keynes is leaning against the podium

Without the woodland (what was left of Copse Wood and the whole of Mad Bess Wood were purchased for preservation as public open spaces in 1936), Manor Farm and the village centre, Ruislip today would be little different from hundreds of other suburbs. Thanks to the Association's work Ruislip has a rich heritage.

IS RUISLIP UNIQUE?

It has part of what was probably a village earthwork (at the bottom of Manor Farm orchard), a moated site scheduled as a motte & bailey castle, a medieval church close by, a 13th century timber-framed Great Barn, and early 16th century Manor Farm house, a 16th century Little Barn (the Library), 18th and 19th century farm buildings (the Guide Hut and the Stables) and a pond that dates at latest from the mid-16th century. Other 16th century buildings stand on both sides of the High Street and on the corner of Eastcote Road.

The earthworks that separate the Park (mentioned in the Domesday Book) from the rest of the woodland in the 11th century can still be seen in Park Wood.

Where else can you find this combination of earthworks and historic buildings? It almost looks as if Ruislip might be unique and had it not been for the work of this Association, everything except the church would by now have been long gone. Those of us who live in and appreciate Ruislip can only bless the earlier members for the work they did and regard it as a sacred duty to preserve every inch of the woods and Manor Farm for posterity.

In 1930 the Association published Cattle's *Short History of Ruislip* to inform the public about the area's fascinating history and in 1955 L.E. Morris's *History of Ruislip* which incorporated more recent scholarship. Now there is an Interpretation Centre at Manor Farm House, bringing the ancient history to life.

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

This Association prompted the negotiations by which Ruislip-Northwood Urban District Council acquired Ruislip Lido in 1951, to forestall the exploiting of the site by commercial interests. Alas the ultra-modern buildings designed by George Smith were damaged by fire in June 1993 and replaced under the sharp eyes of the Association.



The Art Deco Lido buildings from 1936

Opposition to the D-ring road in the 1950s continued against Ringway 3 (as it was then called) in the 1970s. It would have cut across Ruislip Golf Course and crossed Breakspear Road North and Breakspear Road South, cutting through the Green Belt. The road was eventually dropped in favour of the M25 motorway.

The 1970s also brought threats of a National Exhibition centre, again on the Green Belt, in the fields south of Ickenham, near Northolt Airport. The Hillingdon Alliance of Residents' Associations briefed Counsel to oppose the proposal at a public inquiry held over four weeks at the Winston Churchill Hall in 1971.

Over the last 25 years the Association has opposed the placing of the ambulance station on the edge of the Pinn Fields, on the grounds that it would not be central. Ruislip Police Station nearly closed down, but with assistance from volunteers still opens part-time.

Residents successfully opposed the removal of radiotherapy treatment from Mount Vernon to Watford General. Inap-

propriately placed telephone masts have been resited at the Residents' behest. Eastcote Hockey Club (with few members from Eastcote) was prevented from taking over part of the Pinn Fields.

Several of the cottages and farmhouses have almost been swamped by over development in their gardens. However, the Ruislip Village Conservation Area has been extended to cover the whole High Street in recognition of Ruislip's importance as a Metroland suburb.

Ruislip will never again be a country village, but thanks to the work of the Ruislip Residents' Association it is a pleasant residential suburb with an ancient centre. Let us hope that the Association will continue, with the support of ever more members, well into the next century.

HERE'S TO THE NEXT 100 YEARS!

Here we are at the centenary of the Residents' Association. Ruislip is still a popular place to live, going by the number of people wanting to acquire property in the vicinity, causing pressure to allow the building of flats. This policy has been generally opposed by the RRA on the grounds that Ruislip should adhere to the Garden Suburb ideal, with low rise family houses and gardens still being the ideal, but accepts that flats cater for the needs of a large number of people who have not got family commitments. ♦

Ruislip Bowls Club

Ken Scott

AN ODE TO CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

To Ruislip Residents' Association we say "congratulations",
Ruislip Bowls Club share your centenary celebrations.

We thought that 'Town Crier' readers would like to know,
that our Club was also created 100 years ago.

People formed a club to play tennis and bowls;
they had a plan and they set some goals.

This happened on 29th March 1919

and Ruislip soon had its first bowling green.

In Wood Lane was where the club had its base;

Waitrose is there nowin its place.

There were two tennis courts and a bowling green;
on Sunday afternoons, twenty bowlers could be seen.

Eight club matches were played the following year;
who they were against is not at all clear.

The Club had two sections; one for each sport,
but there was tension between bowlers and those on the court.

So, after much discussion and preparation,
it was decided to have a clear separation.

By 1924, club matches had risen to sixteen;

bowls had become more popular than it had ever been!

Many years later, we are now in 1938,

the bowlers thought that a new location would be great.

They asked the Council, well it couldn't do any harm!

and soon an ideal location was offered at Manor Farm.

The land was once a Rickyard, haystacks of different sizes;
for which the tenant farmer won several prizes.

Ruislip-Northwood Urban District Council helped us out;
they came up trumps, without a doubt.

On 11th May 1940, there was a special match that day;
the first at Manor Farm, we had Yiewsley to play.

We have a great location but the Club needed more
and in 1999 we got a kitchen and an equipment store.

By 2017 the facilities were rather outdated.

The Council agreed and we are pleased that they stated
that the clubhouse would be refurbished and extended.

By March 2018, our wait had ended.

We have a lovely new clubhouse, with much more space;
at Manor Farm we have such a great base.

Our bowls green is superb and our bowlers say
that at Manor Farm, we have a great place to play.

Members help look after the green and spend many hours
looking after the garden, the borders and the flowers.

We have a well organised club with many different roles;
we have social events as well as play bowls.

If you are passing our club, come in and take a seat
and watch us bowling, whilst resting your feet.

To Ruislip Residents' Association we would like to say
"we hope you have a Happy 100th Birthday!" ♦



Conservation Concerns

Paul Mitchell

This is a summary of the planning applications received during the second half of 2018 within the Ruislip Conservation Areas and Areas of Special Local Character. This is intended to help residents understand the scale and nature of the planning activity, indicate why applications have been refused by the Council, and highlight any key trends.

In total, within the Ruislip Conservation Areas (CAs) and Areas of Special Local Character (ASLCs), 41 planning applications were received during the second half of 2018 (some of which were multiple related ones at the same site). This figure is 10% down on the same period in 2017. Of those 41 applications, 14 were approved, 18 refused, and the remaining 9 remained undecided as at end January 2019. Two of the applications had gone to appeal at that time.

The trend towards higher rates of refusals continues strongly with over half (56%) of all decisions going that way in the second half of 2018. This compares with 34% in the first half of 2018 and just 24% in the second half of 2017. Each refusal follows detailed consideration and consultation and is supported by specific reasons for refusal, cross-

referenced to relevant policies. I think the refusal rate of over 50% indicates how seriously the Council is taking the preservation of the character of our CAs and ASLCs.

The locations of the 41 applications were widespread across the area but the roads with the most applications were Ruislip High St (11) followed by Manor Way (6) and Sharps Ln (5). The most common types of application were for an extension (18), with roof conversions and combined extensions/roof conversions next most popular (7).

The 18 refused applications were of various types (ie. roof conversions, extensions, raising of roof, signage and other), but the common core reason for refusal was the impact on the character and appearance of the specific locality of the site. This was evident in the reasons for refusal quoted - whether it was due to the size and design of the extension or loft conversion, overlooking adjacent properties, or the visual intrusiveness of the proposed new signs. In addition, where the application included the creation of new residential accommodation, the reasons for refusal generally included the fact that the proposed

accommodation would be substandard for future residents. We continually monitor all applications as they arrive and have submitted our concerns and/or sugges-

tions to the Council whenever we felt it appropriate. Between us we are striving to retain the character of the area without resisting positive proposals. ♦

Address	Application
63 High Street 3317/APP/2018/4277	Removal of 1 ATM and reinstatement of elevation to match the existing elevation
70 High Street 3862/ADV/2018/45	1 x internally illuminated fascia sign and 1 x internally illuminated projecting sign
83 High Street 74247/ADV/2018/69	Installation of 1 internally illuminated fascia sign, 1 internally illuminated projector sign and 1 non illuminated wall mounted sign
106 High Street 57788/APP/2018/4056	Change of use from Use Class A1 (Retail) to mixed use Class A1/D2 (Yoga Studio)
Land rear of 155 High Street 21000/APP/2018/3110	Application for a non-material amendment to planning permission 21000/APP/2015/3095 involving amendment to roof design and to elevational details
38 Sharps Lane 74288/APP/2018/3851	1 storey side extension and conversion of roofspace to habitable use to include a rear dormer, side dormer and 2 front rooflights
43 Sharps Lane 74067/APP/2018/2964	Installation of solid wall insulation
114 Sharps Lane 36829/APP/2018/4193	First floor rear extension and conversion of garage to habitable use to include front extension
9 Ickenham Road 70106/APP/2018/3352	Single storey rear extension to existing shop and addition of a first floor to create a 1-bed self contained flat
29 Ickenham Road 52934/APP/2018/3085	Replacement of windows and replacement render (part retrospective)
21 Bury Street 60079/APP/2018/3617	Conversion of roof space to habitable use to include a rear dormer, a side dormer and 1 rear roof light (Resubmission).
King Edwards Road Clinic, 19 King Edwards Road 10741/APP/2018/3691	Raising of roof to create habitable roof space and change of use from surgery (Use Class D1) to a mixed use comprising surgery and 1 x 1 and 1 x 2 bed self-contained flats (Use Class D1/C3) (resubmission)
28b Kingsend 73975/APP/2018/2700	Single storey rear extension (application for a Certificate of Lawful Development)
22 Manor Road 67681/APP/2018/3456	Single storey rear extension with habitable roof space, involving addition of 4 x side dormers, and porch to side
100 Manor Way 74017/APP/2018/2764 74017/APP/2018/2790	Conversion of roofspace to habitable use to include a side dormer, 2 x side and 1 x front rooflights, and conversion of rear roof from hip to gable end, with a new gable end window., single storey rear extension, single storey side extension and alterations to garage roof
100 Manor Way 74017/APP/2018/3593	Single storey rear/side extension involving installation of a new roof to existing garage.
128D & 130D Manor Way 73728/APP/2018/2718	Raising of roof to add 2 studio flats, ground floor infill extension, single storey front extension and conversion of 2 x 1 bed flats to 2 x studio flats (resubmission)

Health Matters

Joan Davis

THE HILLINGDON HOSPITALS NHS FT

Extension of A&E Department at Hillingdon Hospital: The extension was completed on time on November 21st. Further phases of the project to develop improved waiting space and collocation of the Urgent Treatment Centre commence in 2019, for completion early in the summer.

Increased opening hours in the Ambulatory Emergency Care Unit: This now opens 8am to 8pm, to increase the number of patients assessed and treated without admission.

Increase in parking charges: There was an increase of 10p on each parking tariff from 1st January 2019. These parking charges are lower than in many other NHS Trusts.

Major senior staff changes: The new Chief Executive, Sarah Tedford, arrived in November. The Chief Operating Officer, the Finance Director and the Medical Director leave late January / early February.

NORTH WEST LONDON JOINT CCGS

Overview: The eight CCGs of NW London now work as a single commissioning unit with a joint financial strategy. They first met with delegated powers in December.

Each CCG retains local legal responsibilities, so they now meet quarterly rather than monthly. Meetings of the Joint Committee move around the territory and are held in public.

Hospital Funding: NW London hospitals received some capital funding in December. There was no funding for the regional Shaping a Healthier Future programme, but that announcement is expected separately and soon.

HILLINGDON CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP (CCG)

Hillingdon CCG's Financial Report: At end of November 2018 the CCG was on target towards its planned £0.2m in-year surplus at year end in March 2019. ♦

Treasurer's Corner

John Hawley

Thanks to all of you who continued in membership of the Association in 2018. There was a good response to the second 'call' for subscriptions in the September *Town Crier* and more online payments were made. All the online 'glitches' appear to have been sorted.

We have raised the subscriptions to £5 this year, following a few years of deficits, but we still need your generous donations to fund around £6,000 of expenditure annually and we may need to make a few extra provisions for the Centenary of the Association in 2019. We no longer use road stewards for subscription collections, just online and through Mail Boxes Etc. (MBE) in Ruislip High Street, so the cost of collection is a relatively new item of expenditure.

About half our members have used MBE and often combine their visit with posting items, at no extra cost, in their post box or purchasing stamps and getting parcels weighed.

If you paid in the latter half of the year, you may still an-

swer this call now to pay up for 2019 as our financial year starts on January 1st and this is the baseline for all purposes.

In these days when it is difficult to get volunteers for local clubs and societies, it is vital that we at least fund them adequately. It would be good if the Association was still around one hundred years from now.

If you used MBE last year, please consider the online option. If you still use MBE, I would be grateful for no staples, pins, tape etc. and make sure that cheques are signed. The subscription form is overleaf.

To use the online payment system, visit: <http://www.ruislipresidents.org.uk>, and choose 'Online Membership Payment' from the 'About Us' menu. This will take you to the payment system, which is on a

secure part of our website (you should see a padlock symbol appear near the page's address or title). Just follow the instructions.

Many thanks in anticipation. ♦ Form overleaf >>

RUISLIP Residents' Association
 Ruislip Residents' Association - Ruislip, Middlesex

Membership Payments

You can now pay your Ruislip Residents' Association membership fee of £5.00 per annum online, using the form below.

1. Enter your email address and all payment details. Pay the amount.
2. We will look up all the members in Ruislip that have that postcode and display them in a drop-down menu.
3. Choose your address from the menu and click 'Next' the screen.
4. We will tell you Payment for this address is due this year, next year, or the year after - just to make you're already paid!
5. You can either opt for a debit card or credit card, and your membership is now due this year.
6. A small input box will open for you to input your card details. We accept Visa, Mastercard or Amex.
7. Click 'Pay with Card'.
8. Your payment is successful you will receive an email receipt otherwise you will not see a confirmation of what you want doing.
9. You will find on your email and App on our membership records, and your email system. If you wish change the information and then click 'Change', otherwise close the window or click 'Home' in the navigation bar above to return to the home website.

Please note that the card details part of this process is handled by our payment processor, P-Stripe, and we do not hold records, or even see, any of your card details. This is for your security.

1. EMAIL ADDRESS & POSTCODE
 Email address: _____ Postcode: _____

The Online Payment System

Scams - Be Aware

John Hawley

We were pleased to welcome Mark Mulla-ly from NatWest Bank when he gave a talk on Scams at the AGM. From all Mark said, one thing stuck out: *"If it seems too good to be true – it probably is!"* Who has not been seduced by phone calls, leaflets, emails or texts saying that we have won millions on lotteries we never even entered?

A lot of what we were told was targeted at older members who, sadly, are more easily 'conned' because they don't want to give offence. Everyone, not just the elderly, must be on constant guard in this electronic age.

It is difficult to get rid of anyone on the doorstep, particularly if they are offering

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



To: Hon. Treasurer, Ruislip Residents' Association,
Mail Boxes Etc. Box No. 231, 113 High Street, Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 8JN

Please find enclosed £5.00 for the 2019 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:

We are always looking for volunteers, so please supply your email address if you are interested in helping to deliver the *Town Crier*.

Email address:

a service, so put the chain on the door when answering or, better still, look out of the window and, if you don't recognise the person, shake your head and don't open the door. If someone offers to clear your gutters for £10 you are likely to be told the roof is damaged and that they can repair it for "only" £2,000! The tiles will have been pulled off by the caller (believe me – it happened to me). Bank employees are all alerted to older people rushing in with requests to withdraw money for roofing or repairs late in the day and take them aside for counselling. I witnessed this recently at NatWest, Ruislip.

If you find an email with a request for personal details, you should think very carefully about replying. You can hover the cursor over any reply link and it will reveal, in a little 'hover box', the origin of the sender. Remember that callers from the bank may be hoaxers. Even if they do call, banks and other financial institutions will NEVER ask for passwords and pin

numbers. If there is any doubt, hang up and call your bank with the phone numbers on your statement. Hoax calls are also made from, supposedly HMRC, saying that tax is due. Hang up – HMRC never do that!

Almost nobody should answer the door after sundown unless family or friends are expected. If the bell goes, put the chain on, if not on already, and ask who it is. How many people just turn up on chance after sundown?

Much of this is common sense, but that often fails us when we are presented with calls for services, money or worrying emails and calls.

A call to family or, in extremis, a solicitor or accountant may be necessary if we feel overwhelmed.

There is plenty of guidance online on scams and how to respond - or not! ♦



The Arts Society

The Arts Society (previously the National Association of Decorative & Fine Arts Societies – NADFAS) is a leading arts education charity with a global network of 385 local Societies, which bring people together through a shared curiosity for the arts. Their events provide welcoming places – locally, nationally and globally – for everyone to hear expert lecturers share their specialist knowledge about the arts.



Two of the branches, Hillingdon and Moor Park, hold some of their lectures in the Winston Churchill Hall. Hillingdon's lecture list is given on the Community Noticeboard on page 4 as usual, but we were unaware that the Moor Park branch hold morning lectures in Ruislip, which are also open to visitors for a small donation of £5.00. So, by way of introduction, here are some of their upcoming morning lectures. Each lecture starts at 10:50am, with coffee and tea available from 10:15am.

Wednesday 20th March

"250 years of The Royal Academy"

Rosalind Whyte

Exploring the history and role of one of Britain's most cultural bodies in the devel-

opment of British art. How its characters became embroiled in intrigue and controversy.

Wednesday 17th April

"How to Read the English Country Church: Pre Christian era to the Tudors"

Rev. Nicholas Henderson

It is possible to 'read' the passage of time, of movements, cultures and peoples in the architecture and art forms evident in many of our older English country churches. This lecture takes us from the pre-Christian era, through the arrival of

the Romans to the 16th century and the epoch-changing Tudors. Simple indicators are given to help identify churches with Roman and Saxon origins. The great flowering of the Romanesque and Gothic architecture that followed the invasion by the Normans in the 11th century are explained with illustrated examples. In the high Middle Ages and the tumultuous changes of the Reformation we can see the architectural and structural evidence of a period of great change.

Wednesday 15th May

"Zaha Hadid"

Anthea Streeter

Before her untimely death, Dame Zaha Hadid was one of the most distinguished architects in the world. She was also a talented designer. Her work is exciting because she developed a new form of architecture, setting it free by rejecting 90 degree angles. Her early abstract paintings are of particular interest, in which she revealed her visionary world where there is no definition, lines converge and gravity disappears – all conceived before the advent of advanced computer software. From her early sharp-angled buildings she developed a fluid architecture where floors, ceilings and walls – and even furniture – form part of the overall design. Thus many of her later structures are extruded to the most extreme organic shapes, in what she called a "seamless fluidity".

Wednesday 19th June

"A Journey around the Coast of Cornwall"

Catherine Wallace

Preceded by the Society's AGM

This lecture takes you on a journey through time around the coast of Cornwall. We will examine paintings and engravings made in the 18th and early 19th centuries by artists such as J.M.W. Turner, Clarkson Stansfield and William Daniell through the era of impressionism and expressionism with artists such as Terrick Williams and Oskar Kokoschka to contemporary artists such as Jamie Medlin and Andrew Tozer.

Free car parking is available at Winston Churchill Hall.

For further lectures and more information visit www.moorparkdfas.com. ♦



The Winston Churchill Hall

Police Points

Brian Gunn



Since my last report many of our residents will have signed up to the OWL (On-line Watch Link) system. If you haven't signed up to it yet I would definitely urge you to do so. Thanks to the efforts of the Community coordinators and their Deputies and our residents already using the system, a great deal of information and intelligence about what is happening in our Area is being used to help local police track and catch criminals. Not only that, but the posts from the Community coordinators also contain helpful information for our residents – including correcting misleading information/rumours! I make no apology for including below a sample of recent posts as examples:

"Can I flag up please we are starting to see an increase in the theft of high end cars particularly BMW & Audi models.

These are being taken by professional thieves. Many makes are fitted with a factory fitted tracking system. Thieves know this and find the unit and cut it.

I strongly recommend you consider a magnetic tracking device such as we recommended last year supplied by AutomatrixMtrack. They do a discount for our residents on OWL/HNW of 10% Code WANW18."

"Could I just make the position clear please the course of action that should be taken if your vehicle is Lost or Stolen ("LOS").

Please alert the Police ASAP of the vehicle registration number, referred to as the VRM (vehicle registration mark).

If it has just been taken, it's crime in progress and therefore dial 999 please.

Then to comply with current data protection legislation send me a message on OWL with your express permission for a HNW search for your vehicle to take place. I will require a Police reference to authenticate action."

"CCTV (Ring doorbells included):

We have just concluded correspondence with the Office of the Information Commissioner (ICO) updating our understanding and confirming the legal position on all matters relating to data protection.

The only matter that we will all have to comply with is if you own CCTV (which includes RING doorbells) that you are now required to affix a sign on your property stating that you have CCTV recording. There is a small yellow sticker that does the job perfectly and shortly we will update our Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch website

showing what you will require.

It's interesting that the ICO stated that this is "of course a good crime prevention measure" and I would agree. You may also of course consider putting up a sticker even if you do not have CCTV. I think the cost is around £1.50 for this item.

To re-confirm the position regarding domestic properties that have CCTV looking into a public area, you are no longer required to register with the ICO or pay the £35 fee."

These are just a flavour of recent posts and if you haven't signed up yet you can do so by registering on the OWL website at:
<https://owl.co.uk>

OTHER MATTERS



I have been attending local Safer Neighbourhood meetings. Unfortunately there are still some reports of anti-social behaviour by youths – particularly on the Pembroke Park Estate but the police are aware and are dealing with these reports. Sadly, there has also been an increase in both burglaries and thefts - again residents are urged to ensure that house doors, windows and vehicles are always properly secured when leaving as well as overnight - and that applies to sheds and garages too. An increase in thefts from shops has also been noticeable although the police have had several positive results with arrests being made. One individual responsible for thefts in Eastcote and three other offenders in Ruislip have now received prison sentences!

Other helpful items you will find on OWL posts are the dates for crime prevention meetings – by the time you read this the police will already have held a Crime Prevention Initiative Day (5th February) with a stall at Boots on Ruislip High St and patrols thereafter. I hope many of you will have seen this on the day. Also, of course information about dates for "cuppa with a copper" at the various venues around our Area are posted on the OWL website - another good reason to register!



Finally we extend a warm welcome to the new Sergeant for the West Ruislip Safer Neighbourhood Team – Sgt Jim Last.

 police@ruislipresidents.org.uk

West Ruislip

Sgt James Last, PC Aran Johnstone, PC Darren Roe, PCSO Paul Brighton
 westruislip.snt@met.police.uk
 020 8721 2547

Eastcote & East Ruislip

Sgt Damian Keyes, PC Satnam Kang, PC Andrew Murphy, PCSO Gemma Robinson
 eastcote.snt@met.police.uk
 020 8721 2548

Manor

Sgt Damian Keyes, PC Andrew Phillips, PC Ajay Shah, PCSO Gurbinder Sandhu
 manorward.snt@met.police.uk
 020 8721 2549 ♦

Planning Update

John Williams

7 LARNE ROAD: An application was submitted proposing to effectively convert the bungalow into a two storey house. As the road is comprised of single storey and chalet bungalows we felt the proposal was out of character with the area and wrote to the Council supporting local residents objections. The application has since been refused.



7 Larne Road

2ND/9TH RUISLIP SCOUT HUT, LADYGATE LANE: An application has been submitted to redevelop the site with five three storey houses. There are concerns about the impact on the adjacent block of flats at Larchmont, the properties in St Margaret's Road and the general area. It is also proposed to relocate the Scouts to a new facility at the Scout site in St Catherine's Road. We therefore wrote to the Council supporting residents concerns and also requesting that any approval should be conditional on the alternative facilities at St Catherine's Road being available. A decision is due by 14/03/19.

ST CATHERINE'S ROAD SCOUT HUT: An application for a new building has recently been submitted. We feel this would visually be an improvement to the street scene as the existing buildings on the site appear to be in poor shape. The roof design is slightly unusual but we understand that there has been no objection from local residents and so we do not propose to comment. A decision is due by 05/03/19.

PEMBROKE HOUSE, 5-9 PEMBROKE ROAD: An Appeal has been lodged against the refusal by the Council for a two-storey structure in the car park which would retain the existing car parking and provide office accommodation at first floor level. It is intended to write to the Planning Inspectorate in support of the Council's decision.

ROTARY HOUSE, BREAKSPEAR ROAD: An application has been submitted to add a third floor to create 4 x 1 - bed self contained dwellings. At the time of writing, and in the absence of any comment from local residents, we have yet to take a view on the application. A decision is due by 08/04/19. ♦

Houses of Parliament Visit

Vivien Alcorn

Ruislip Residents will be pleased to know that we have another opportunity to go on a guided tour of the Houses of Parliament, thanks to a Special Permit sent from the office of Rt Hon. Nick Hurd MP.

The trip will take place on Monday, 3rd June, travelling by tube from Ruislip Station. 24 places are available - two per RRA member household - and will be reserved on a first come, first served basis. If you would like to be included, please contact me by email at:

✉ social@ruislipresidents.org.uk

Please include a phone number (if possible a mobile one), and state whether you would like one or two places reserved. Confirmation and further details will be sent once all places are allocated. NB: Please let me know if you unsuccessfully applied for a previous trip. ♦



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RUISLIP RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING



7.45pm, Thursday, 25th April 2019

Winston Churchill Hall

Pinn Way, Ruislip HA4 7QL

Doors open at 7.30pm

The Guest Speaker will be Cllr John Riley (West Ruislip ward) talking about his work and experiences as a local councillor followed by an Open Forum, with questions to a panel of RRA representatives. The meeting will end at 10pm

Wine, fruit juices and snacks will be served

Open Forum items to the Secretary by Thursday, 18th April 2019

The next meeting is on the 26th September 2019