

# *Ruislip* Residents' Association **TOWN CRIER**

May 2015

[www.ruislipresidents.org.uk](http://www.ruislipresidents.org.uk)



## **Eastcote House Gardens**

News on the re-opening and Summer Picnic

## **Middlesex - lost but not forgotten**

by Eileen Bowlt

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You may notice that we do not have articles from Nick Hurd MP, MP for West & East Ruislip Wards, nor from Sir John Randall's successor, Boris Johnson MP, the new MP for Manor Ward - we asked both but the election got in the way of copy deadlines. Hopefully they will be contributing to the next edition of *Town Crier* - Editor

# Editorial

## *2015 Subscriptions - Too Pretty To Cut Up?*

Firstly, thanks to those residents who have already paid their subscriptions, especially to those who included a donation. However, our decision to put the application form on the inside back page of the February *Town Crier*, rather than include it as an insert, has turned out to be a mistake, as the response was only half that of last year. Maybe people were reluctant to cut up their *Town Crier*? So we have included a separate insert with this edition. If you live in a road where we have a Road Steward who is able to collect your subscription at the door, the insert may not be present. If you have any queries, you can contact Brian Cowley at:

✉ [membership@ruislipresidents.org.uk](mailto:membership@ruislipresidents.org.uk)

A prospective new editor has volunteered to work on the next edition of the *Town Crier*, with a view to taking it over longer term, so in the meantime I am staying on for another issue.

*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

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

Patricia Wardle

### WEBSITE

John Swindells

### PLANNING

Mike Hodge

### WOODLANDS

Vacant

### **FRIENDS OF EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDEN**

[www.eastcotehousegardens.weebly.com](http://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: May 1st, 8th, 14th; June 5th, 12th, 18th;  
July 3rd, 10th, 16th; August 7th, 14th, 20th; September 4th, 11th, 17th.

Summer Picnic  
June 6th 11am - 4pm

### **HILLINGDON DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY**

Lecture Programme Mid 2015

Wednesdays at 2.00pm, Winston Churchill Hall - admission £6 to non-members

13 May	The Treasures and Palaces of St Petersburg	Edward Saunders
10 June	Tangled Lives: Admiral Lord Nelson, Emma Lady Hamilton and Sir William Hamilton - collector of the Portland Vase	Anthea Bryant
8 July	Wright of Derby: Painter of Light	Eveline Eaton
12 August	The Art of Waterloo	Peter Warwick
9 September	AGM & The Art of the American Civil War	Tricha Passes

### **RUISLIP, NORTHWOOD & EASTCOTE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

Lecture Programme 2015

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

21 September	From Shillibeer to Borismaster: The Story of the London Bus	John Wagstaff London HA
19 October	Rogers of Eastcote House: An 18th Century Lady of Property	Eileen Bowl RNELHS



# Chairman's Message

RRA



It's Spring already! The blossom has been and gone, but there is a reminder of it on the front cover.

This is the second edition of the *Town Crier* in the new look, and so far feedback from residents is that they like the new style. Our only downside has been that people do not like cutting up the newsletter, and so our subscription renewals have fallen. Hopefully you may see the separate form with this edition that will solve the problem.

Months after the Post Office moved we have finally persuaded the Royal Mail to install a lovely new red postbox outside the new Post Office. Hopefully the new one is also more disabled-friendly, being at a normal height. Sainsbury's have bought the lease of the old Post Office and plan to open a Sainsbury's Local. They are also going to redo the shop front, replacing the metal cladding.

The postponed roadworks on Ruislip High Street arrived in March and will hopefully have finished by the time you read this. It has been a painful process, especially for the shops and restaurants on the High Street. The council have made a good job

of minimising traffic disruption and the diversions seemed to have worked, both for traffic and the buses, but nevertheless trade has suffered very badly. Now that the work is done, I am sure that they would welcome you back to your old favorite haunts. Over the next few weeks we will be working with Ruislip Chamber of Commerce to come up with ideas to boost trade on the High Street.

HS2 rumbles on, with the Select Committee members visiting Denham, Harefield, Ickenham and Ruislip in January and I believe they were impressed, not only by the beautiful landscape of the Colne Valley, but by the level of support for the StopHS2 campaign. Ickenham residents made a special effort to be visible with their banners, and on a couple of occasions the Committee's bus stopped so that they could talk to the protestors. The Transport Secretary also announced that the Heathrow Spur has now been dropped. Local people who petitioned against HS2 are likely to have their appearance before the Select Committee in the next couple of months.

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

# Committee Vacancies

## *Can you offer your services?*

The Ruislip Residents' Association Executive Committee meets on the first Wednesday evening of each month to discuss issues of importance to the residents of Ruislip. It is non-political and through links with a wide range of community contacts, MPs, councillors, council officers, the police, health services, 'Friends of' groups and local transport services, the Association is able to represent the views and concerns of Ruislip residents, and is often able to influence the decision-making processes.

For example, the Executive Committee worked with Ruislip Chamber of Commerce to persuade the council to delay the High Street roadworks until after Christmas.



Some of O'Hara's Team on the Roadworks

Each member of the Executive Committee is responsible for a specific area of concern. The Executive Committee receives reports from its members to keep it up to date with local issues. There are currently vacancies on the Executive for residents with a strong interest in the following areas:

Police Liaison  
Environment

Conservation  
Woodlands

Being part of the Executive, enables you to contribute to the community and working as part of a group enables greater achievements than working as an individual. Maybe you have recently retired and are looking for something to occupy you? This could be the solution!

If you believe that you have the energy and interest to fulfill one of these roles, or if you would like to know more, then please contact our Chairman, Graham Bartram:

 [chairman@ruislipresidents.org.uk](mailto:chairman@ruislipresidents.org.uk)

or you can use the 'contact us' facility on the website:

<http://www.ruislipresidents.org.uk>. ♦

# A Cornucopia of Culture

*Graham Bartram*

Ruislip really is blessed when it comes to cultural facilities. We have an excellent theatre in Winston Churchill Hall, and of course the Compass Theatre in Ickenham. You can find out what is on at the two theatres at the Hillingdon Theatres website:

<http://www.hillingdontheatres.uk>.

Many of the productions are put on by the area's thriving amateur dramatics groups, and the ticket prices tend to be very reasonable. So why not take advantage of all these facilities and go and see a show or concert?

## **Society of Ruislip Artists 70th Anniversary Outdoor Exhibition**

**Manor Farm, 10am Saturday, 30th May**

The society celebrates its 70th anniversary with an exhibition of paintings of different media and subjects by members who are all local artists.

## **Smokey Joe's Cafe**

**Winston Churchill Theatre, 7.45pm Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 11th, 12th and 13th June; 2.30pm Saturday, 13th June**

*Tickets £14.00/£10.00 in advance*

The classic Broadway revue Smokey Joe's Café is a fantastic, highly energetic compilation show, using the songs of Leiber and

Stoller including *Jailhouse Rock*, *Stand By Me*, *Pearl's a Singer*, *Hound Dog*, *I Who Have Nothing* and more. Book at:

<http://starlighttytc.ticketsource.co.uk>.

## **Bugsy Malone**

**Compass Theatre, 7.30pm Friday and Saturday, 19th and 20th June**

*Tickets £5.00/£3.00 in advance, £7 on the door*

Members of 360 Youth Theatre perform their summer show.

## **Junior Encore Concert**

**Sacred Heart Primary, 7.00pm Friday, 3rd July**

*Tickets £6.00/£3.00 in advance/on the door*

A concert showcasing our 'Stars of the Future' performing a wide and varied programme of music. The groups taking part are Junior Band, Junior Strings, Fiddlesticks, Repertoire Strings and Orchestra.

## **Medieval Festival**

**Manor Farm, Sunday, 16th August**

Featuring an authentic programme of medieval entertainments, from horseback jousting to living history re-enactments provided by professional re-enactors, the festival offers the chance to step back in history. ♦

# Middlesex Lost But Not Forgotten

*Eileen Bowlt*

50 years ago Middlesex County Council and London County Council merged to become the Greater London Council, since when the word Middlesex has been eradicated from official records and largely forgotten. Even Pevsner's *Buildings of Middlesex* (1950) has been superseded by volumes entitled London North and London North-West.

Middlesex appears for the first time in a charter of 704, being land of the Middle Saxons. When the Domesday Book was written in 1086 it was a county, divided into the Hundreds of Edmonton, Gore, Ossulstone, Spelthorne, Elthorne and Hounslow, each containing manors and vills bearing the names of places, familiar to us today. The City of London lies within the ancient county as does the Liberty of Westminster, both in Ossulstone Hundred.

The county was bounded on the east, south and west by the Rivers Lee, Thames and Colne and on the north by the properties of St Alban's Abbey (the hilly ridge that now divides Middlesex from Hertfordshire).

The county was small in extent, but populous, and from medieval times on-

wards, constantly busy with merchants and tradesmen passing through the rural fringes to attend business in the City and people going to the Courts of King's Bench and Common Pleas that were held in Westminster Hall. The Bishop of Worcester had a rest house at Hillingdon (Bishopshalt School is now on the site), where he could stay on his journeys to Parliamentary sessions.

The farmers and smallholders in outer Middlesex villages took their goods to those London markets – Cheapside, Newgate, Gracechurch and Leadenhall - that allowed them trading space. In the 19th century rural Middlesex supplied London with hay, milk, market-garden produce, kindlewood and bricks and tiles. Ruislip (Northwood & Eastcote were part of Ruislip) specialised in hay and kindlewood. Bricks and tiles being made locally met only local needs.

Local Government outside the City and Westminster was in the hands of Middlesex Magistrates, some of whom lived in Westminster and served on both commissions. They sat at Petty Sessions and



supervised the work of the parish vestries. Middlesex Sessions records survive from 1549 and the county built a sessions house at the bottom of St John's Street in Clerkenwell in 1612. It was named Hicks Hall after Sir Baptist Hicks who paid for it. It was replaced in 1782 by the rather heavy, but handsome building designed by John Rogers, which stands at the western end of Clerkenwell Green today, now a centre for corporate events.

Two regiments of Foot, the 57th and 77th were formed in the 18th century, representing West Middlesex and East Middlesex respectively. They merged in 1881 becoming the Duke of Cambridge's own (Middlesex Regiment). The year after the GLC came into being, the Middlesex Regiment was amalgamated with other regiments associated with Surrey and Kent to become part of The Queen's Regiment.

The formation of the County of London (LCC) in 1889, removed a large urban area from Middlesex, leaving the rest to be the new Administrative County of Middlesex. The Clerkenwell Sessions House was handed over to the LCC in return for use of a former Westminster Guildhall in Little Sanctuary. A new beautiful and highly decorative building designed by J S Gibson was erected in 1911-13 in Parliament Square and named the Middlesex Guildhall. Quarter Sessions were held there until 1972. The building has recently

become the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom.

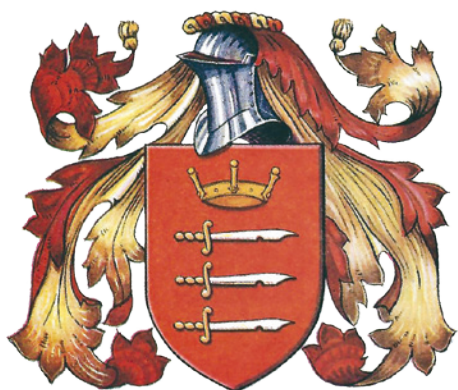


**The Arms of Ruislip-Northwood Urban District Council (the motto means "Not to go forward is to go backwards")**

Ruislip Vestry continued to be the local authority here and became a Parish Council within the Uxbridge Rural District in 1895. Its limited powers were particularly irksome to the newcomers who had settled in the Northwood part of the parish after the opening of Northwood Station and the laying out of the Eastbury Estate for development in 1887. 2,500 people, mainly drawn from the business and professional class, were living in Northwood by 1901, while the other 1000 inhabitants, divided

roughly equally between Ruislip and Eastcote, still worked on the land or serviced the gentry houses. Largely due to pressure from Northwood the Ruislip-Northwood Urban District Council came into being on 30 September 1904, three months after the opening of Ruislip Station.

The Middlesex County Council provided many services, including schools, libraries and child welfare clinics, often on the same site. Lady Banks School in Ruislip Manor is a very good example of the type of school being erected by the Education Committee. It was designed in a modern style by W.T. Curtis and H. W. Burchett. The smaller building beside the school originally housed a clinic on the ground floor and a public library upstairs.



**The Arms of Middlesex County Council  
(as granted in 1910)**

The MCC promoted pride in the county, embellishing buildings, official documents and school exercise books with the County Arms

– a Saxon crown above three Saxon seaxes – reminding us that Middlesex sprang from the kingdom of the East Saxons.

The new Greater London Council, which was replaced in 1986 by the Greater London Authority, was composed of London Boroughs.

The old Hundred of Elthorne in 1086 comprised Ruislip, Harefield, Ickenham, Northolt, Cowley, Colham, Hillingdon, Greenford, Hayes, West Drayton, Dawley, Hanwell, Cranford, Harmondsworth and Harlington. Readers will notice that most of Elthorne, except Northolt, Greenford, and Hanwell, makes up the London Borough of Hillingdon that came into being on 1 April 1965. It would perhaps have been more appropriate to call it the Borough of Elthorne, rather than give it the name of just one of the manors.

It is surprising to find by reading old Town Criers, that members of the Ruislip Residents' Association in the early 1960s (apparently with no sense or knowledge of history) wanted the Ruislip-Northwood Urban District to be joined with Harrow (which had been in the Hundred of Gore) because they believed that Ruislip-Northwood shared more characteristics with Harrow than with Uxbridge and surrounding area. Their dream has been partially realised with the recent redrawing of the Parliamentary Constituencies! ♦

# Annual General Meeting

*7.45pm, Wednesday, 17th June 2015*

*Winston Churchill Hall, Pinn Way, Ruislip HA4 7QL*

## AGENDA

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Talk on "The Hillingdon Hospitals - Now and in the Future"
3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2014
4. Chairman's Report
5. Treasurer's Report and Annual Accounts
6. Election of Chairman and Executive Committee 2015-2016
7. Open Forum - with questions to a panel of RRA representatives  
(Items to the Secretary by Wednesday, 10th June)
8. Any Other Business
9. 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, Thursday, 22nd October 2015, Winston Churchill Hall ♦



**The Winston Churchill Hall**



**The Foyer**

# Education News

*Susan Midgley*

## PRESENTATION OF THE MEMORIAL ALBUM TO THE MAYOR

On Friday, January 16th the completed photograph album to commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of WW1 was presented to the Mayor, Cllr Catherine Dann, at Manor Farm Library, Ruislip. The album was a joint project funded by the Ruislip Residents' Association and compiled by gifted and talented students from Bishop Ramsey C of E Secondary School led by Mr Andy Jeffries supported by Miss Elaine Neal, the school's senior librarian and Mrs Susan Midgley from RRA.



**The Presentation**

The ceremony was also attended by the Mayoress, Mrs Rita Kilroy, Cllr Becky Haggar, Graham Bartram, Chairman of RRA, Joan Davis, Vice-President of RRA and other members of the committee.

After some short speeches, two students presented the album to the Mayor who received it on behalf of the local residents. Refreshments were then served by the library manager, Christine Etherington and her staff.

The album will be on display at Manor Farm Library for several months. Hopefully local residents will take the opportunity to view it.

## BISHOP WINNINGTON INGRAM C OF E JUNIOR SCHOOL'S CHOIR PERFORM AT O<sub>2</sub> ARENA

On Monday, January 26th the school's choir was among 7,386 primary school children singing in *The Young Voices Concert* at the O<sub>2</sub> Arena. This concert series is the largest of its kind in the world. The London venue had performances for five consecutive days to accommodate all the schools in the south of England who wished to take part. Concerts are also performed in Birmingham, Sheffield and Manchester.

It was a truly amazing experience to see so many children performing in unison. BWI's choir had been rehearsing for

weeks and on the day of the concert all the choirs involved arrived at the O2 Arena in the morning so they could rehearse together under the direction of the conductor, Mr David Lawrence.



**The Choirs in the O2 Arena**

The concerts have supported a variety of charities over the years. The 2015 concerts were raising money for Save the Children.

A concert on such a large scale does not come together without a great deal of hard work. Special congratulations should go to the pupils of the choir and to the adults from the school who worked tirelessly to make the occasion such a success; Mrs A Wright, Deputy Head, Mrs E Kimsey, HLTA, Mrs F Allen, Mrs M Cleary and Mrs J Evans.

### **BWI PUPILS HELP OUT AT A MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP**

As part of their community links Year 5 pupils help out at St Martin's Mother and Toddler Group. The group is run by Mrs. Birch and is held in the church hall every Friday morning.

The three or five pupils are chosen each week by their class teacher and spend about one and a half hours with the toddlers. The pupils are escorted to and from school and supervised at the group by Mrs Dawn Braithwaite.

The pupils help the toddlers with a variety of activities including: crafts, puzzles, playing with toys and reading stories. There has been very good feedback from parents who report that their toddlers really enjoy interacting with the older children. The experience is also beneficial to the pupils as it improves their communication skills and builds their confidence.



**The Mother & Toddler Group**

This is certainly an excellent way for pupils to develop outside the classroom environment.

Residents may read fuller reports on the above by visiting the Education section on the RRA website.

 [education@ruislipresidents.org.uk](mailto:education@ruislipresidents.org.uk) 



# Police Points

*Inspector Rob Bryan*



## CRIME PREVENTION REGISTER

Dear readers, I want to encourage you all to join the Hillingdon Police Crime

Prevention Register.

The register contains details of local residents and businesses who want to receive regular crime prevention messages directly from the police. To get on the register is really simple. Just send your name and contact e-mail address to:

 [XHMailbox.partnership@met.police.uk](mailto:XHMailbox.partnership@met.police.uk)

You will then be e-mailed a link to register in full, which takes about three minutes. Once registered, your details will be included on the register and specific crime prevention messages will be e-mailed to you. The messages range from general crime prevention advice to specific information about particular problems. At present, about 5,000 people across Hillingdon are signed up. Not many compared to the size of the population so the system is under utilised. If readers of the *Town Crier* signed up we could see a very big uplift in those numbers.

## MET TRACE

Police in Hillingdon Borough will soon be distributing free kits containing invisible traceable liquid to over 8,500 homes. Known as Met Trace, this is the world's largest roll-out of an innovative 'traceable liquid' to reduce burglary rates across London. The programme, which will run over three years, will provide homes in burglary hotspots with a free kit containing an invisible traceable liquid, allowing owners to mark their possessions with a unique forensic code and to display warning stickers to deter burglars. Police can then use this code to trace the items should they ever be stolen and to link suspects to crime scenes.



**The Met Trace Kit**

The liquid is virtually impossible to remove and can only be viewed under UV

light and has already been proven to reduce burglary rates.

The technology has a significant deterrent effect and it is predicted the roll-out could prevent over 7,000 residential burglaries across London, saving the Met almost £5 million and freeing up 140,000 police hours (equivalent to 17,400 police working days). Burglary is a horrible crime and we will do all we can to reduce offences including utilising Met Trace to create a hostile environment for burglars. The roll-out will begin in July so watch the local press for more details.

### **CAR CRIME REDUCTIONS**

Sgt Jonno Shard who looks after Cavenish and Manor wards has just run a successful initiative to reduce motor vehicle crime in the north of the Borough.



#### **Don't Make It Easy For Them!**

The initiative, which involved crime prevention as well as targeting known offenders led to a reduction of 56% against the same period last year. This is great news for us locally and Sgt Shard is now

being tasked with rolling his methods out across Hillingdon to ensure those reductions occur elsewhere.

### **AGGRESSIVE MOPED RIDING**

There is a growing problem with moped riders who ride aggressively, often in groups. In recent months we have had incidents of these riders running down elderly pedestrians and riding off. Someone will get badly hurt one day. These youngsters ride around full of bravado but if they were to be convicted for seriously hurting someone, it would impact on the rest of their lives.

If your child has a moped and you know they ride around in these small gangs, then step up and take that moped from them. They will hurt someone and they will be convicted. Stop them before that becomes a reality.

If you know who owns these mopeds, let us know. The mopeds have to display registration plates. If you are in a position to safely record the number plates of these bikes, please let us have them. You can drop me a line or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. We will then work to seize them before they can do any harm. If we all work together on this, maybe we can make a difference.

As always, if you want to contact me directly, the quickest way is at:

 [rob.bryan@met.police.uk](mailto:rob.bryan@met.police.uk) 

# Health Matters

*Joan Davis*

## NATIONAL ISSUES

### Monitor's Foundation Trusts' Review:

The sector failed to meet many targets. A&E attendances were up by 8% on last year and bed occupancy by 2%. Of small and medium acute FTs, 78% are in deficit, most overspending on agency staff. Our local hospitals are not alone in finding the world tough!

### Victory in Campaign to Cancel Diabetic

**Fines:** Poor communication led many diabetics without a valid medical exemption certificate to claim free prescriptions for years without any problems, but since September 2014 thousands were suddenly fined up to £100! They are now to be reimbursed.

## REGIONAL ISSUES

### Development of NW London Excellence

**Centre:** The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS FT will work with The National Skills Academy for Health to develop this regional hub. It will develop training for healthcare support workers including community care, dementia support, medicine management, recognition of abuse, and clinical skills courses. It will link education and training providers with employers from the public, independent and voluntary healthcare sectors.

**London Ambulance Service:** Too few paramedics and slow hospital handover times contribute to the LAS failing to reach callers within target times.

**NHS 111 Telephone Service:** Call back problems have caused concern. A recruitment programme is in place to recruit more clinicians to the service.

## HILLINGDON CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP

**Prime Minister's Challenge Fund:** Wave 1 funding was used in Hillingdon to establish six GP networks, two in each locality and to fund electronic prescribing and IT work to allow patients to see their records. Now work is underway so that, with patient's consent, GPs can view records from other practices in their network, to assist evening or weekend access when needed.

**Finances:** With help from NHS North West London, Hillingdon CCG now forecasts a £3.3m surplus at year end but the underlying position appears to be a deficit of £7.7m – instead of the recurrent balance originally planned.

**Budget 2015-16:** Hillingdon CCG received 7.7% below its target allocation for 2014-15, so it will get a higher than average increase of 7.6% for 2015-16.

**Better Care Fund:** Hillingdon Council and Hillingdon CCG are now developing financial arrangements for their pooled fund of £17.991K. The aim is to improve community care and reduce emergency admissions to hospital and long term residential care. The plan's focus is on seven day working, dementia care, social isolation, avoiding falls, rapid response and intermediate care, and end of life care. It will support telecare, third sector providers in the community - including care homes, GP Networks, and increased support for carers. It will work with Public Health, the Library Service, and the Sports and Leisure Service to keep people active mentally and physically.

**HILLINGDON HOSPITAL NHS FT Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection report:** The CQC's 2014 inspection of THH led to an overall rating "Requires Improvement", which was disappointing, but many other trust's have had similar ratings. THH is dealing with its main shortcomings swiftly, but some factors are outside its control such as old buildings for which it has no money, and recruitment of permanent staff instead of using agency staff, which it has been trying to do for many months.

**Accident and Emergency Department issues:** In February there was a marked decrease in total attendances, although still 3% higher than last year, but patient flows were compromised by an outbreak of norovirus which closed four wards for 8 days. The majority of target breaches were due to lack of bed availability, partially due to an unexplained increase in patients' length of stay.

**Finances:** The end of February financial position remained on course for a deficit of £1m at year end. The Continuity of Services Risk Rating was still 3.

**Car parking:** From 1st April at both Hillingdon and Mount Vernon sites the charge is £1.50 per hour. It is intended that all car parking sites will become "pay on exit", but this will take some time to implement.

**Staffing issues:** The THH staff turnover at 11% is lower than any of the surrounding hospitals. Recruitment continues both in UK and abroad.

**Integrated Care:** From April or May social workers will be on site seven days a week and a social worker will be based in the new acute medical unit (AMU) working alongside THH discharge coordinators and therapists to identify on admission the anticipated patient's discharge needs. ♦

# Councillors' Comments

*Cllr John Riley*

Eastcote and East Ruislip Ward – Catherine Dann, Nick Denys, Becky Haggar  
 Manor Ward – Michael Markham, Douglas Mills, Susan O'Brien  
 West Ruislip Ward – Philip Corthorne, Brian Crowe, John Riley



## THE 2015 ELECTION

I apologise for mentioning this but you will quickly see why. I am writing this very late at night with one day to go before

the election. Over the past several weeks I and my colleagues have visited many other constituencies and seen many diverse communities. We have met hundreds of voters and residents, delivered thousands of leaflets in certain areas, canvassed and generally been out and about. And now it is down to one day with even more frantic activity, doing everything we can to do what we believe is politically best and right.

It is of course rather interesting, I have no idea what the election of 2015 will deliver, by the time you read this we will all know. The shape of the next five years of political direction will be known, probably, and short term destinies will have been settled. The election result may be a complete

shock to some or a great relief to others. It may herald a time of great change or even, for some, great dismay. In this sense waiting for Thursday 7th May is, for a politician, very exciting. What will the people decide?



**Candidates for Ruislip, Northwood and Pinner attend a Hustling at the Pinner Liberal Synagogue (the Labour candidate was unable to attend due to illness)**

## HS2

On another unknown subject in terms of outcome, HS2 continues to provide a significant aspect in our lives. Many groups, organisations and others are preparing to present their petitions to the Parliamentary Committee and your councillors and



Council will in one form or another be presenting powerful petitions to the Committee. Great thanks and tributes must go to our fellow residents who have led the way with the principled and exceptional No Campaign. We can only hope that all this effort, this coming together of many people across our community will have the desired effect and that we can all contribute to halting this awful project.



**Cllr Philip Corthorne discussing HS2 with Lottie Jones (Stop HS2), Robert Syms (Chair, HS2 Select Committee) and Ian Mearns (HS2 Select Committee)**

## RUISLIP HIGH STREET

Again by the time you read this the High Street may have been finished, I hope so. We recognise that this important and detailed undertaking has been an inconvenience to many residents and business people. However there is no doubt that the work needed doing and the extent of the work was there for all to see. Hopefully with the extent of the excavation and the quality of the new substructure and surface, this work will last for many years to come.



**OK I admit it, I made this one up, not the sentiment, just the road sign - Editor**

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Your Councillors continue to deal with a variety of issues and concerns raised by residents and we continue to be inspired by the range and variety of the issues brought to us. Some matters are very individual, others have a wider application that we can carry over to other residents' needs. Parking and traffic related matters are always a constant concern. The ability to balance the volume of car ownership with the limited space we have in our wards for domestic and business parking is a constant dilemma.

We are delighted to be able to report that as Councillors we are once again able to look to support a number of projects with funding from our Ward Budgets. As in the past we are able to assist local schools, scouting, cadet and other youth organisations together with as many other groups, societies and residents' smaller concerns. It is a great pleasure to be able to help in this way, using sound financial management and *Putting Our Residents First*. ♦

# Planning Update

*Mike Hodge & John Williams*

**PEMBROKE HOUSE, 5-9 PEMBROKE ROAD:** Enforcement notices issued by the local authority in respect of unauthorised works whereby without planning permission the change of use of the second and third floors from business use to residential use and similarly the erection of railings and gates have both been appealed by the appellant to the Planning Inspectorate.

**15 KINGSEND:** The proposal to erect a single storey rear infill extension involving raising roof of existing side/rear elements and conversion of attached garage to habitable use involving alterations to front elevation has been approved although there was some disquiet locally with the plans.

**9 ICKENHAM ROAD:** The proposal to raise the roof and install a rear dormer to create a first floor and habitable roofspace so as to construct a 1-bed self contained flat was refused on 12 January. The Association had reservations as to these changes in a conservation area. The decision has been appealed to the the Planning Inspectorate for a final decision.

**THE GEORGE HARVESTER:** The efforts of our local counsellors have paid off and a new traditional-style sign showing King George has been placed on the front elevation. They have also replaced the main sign with a hanging sign. There is still work to be done to the front apron of the building.

**48 HIGH STREET:** Sainsbury have put in an application to redevelop the old post office premises. The general view appears to be that almost anything would be preferable to the present run-down look of the building.

**116-118 HIGH STREET:** There is a proposal to change the use of these premises from Class A1 (Shops) to *Sui Generis* - to be used as a sunbed salon.

**5-7 KINGSEND:** The two derelict dwellings are no longer in the ownership of Waitrose but have been acquired by a developer who put in a planning application in June 2014. This was refused on a number of grounds but could be appealed (which would have to be by 19 June 2015 the appeal deadline). Should this be appealed

and fail it is hoped that acceptable alternative plans could be put forward.

**44 RESERVOIR ROAD:** The Council are to re-open a planning enforcement case, as presented with further evidence that the unauthorised works carried out to the roof are not in fact 'permitted development'. They have still to decide as to the best way to proceed.

**44 HIGH STREET:** Proposed change of use from a former coffee shop and patisserie to a dental clinic.

**BISHOP RAMSEY SCHOOL:** The application for floodlights was withdrawn with no plans to resubmit following significant local opposition - including from RRA. However a separate application to extend their sports hall was approved.

**77 EASTCOTE ROAD:** The original application to enlarge the existing day care centre for children having been refused by the council was appealed to The Planning Inspectorate but they have upheld the original decision and the appeal has been dismissed. The applicant has till 28 August to reinstate the building to its original residential use.

**8 WINDMILL HILL:** The Enforcement Notice requiring the building to be restored to its original condition has expired and the council has now commenced proceedings.

**RESIDENTS' PLANNING FORUM:** These meetings between local residents' associations and council officers are held every four months to discuss topical planning issues and changes in legislation and be updated on major planning developments in the borough. Your residents' association attend these meetings so as to keep fully informed of current planning policy and be that better positioned to help local residents with any planning concerns.

**DRAFT LOCAL PLAN PART 2:** As reported in the last issue we had some concerns as to the level of protection council officers were proposing for several large areas of local green space. Cllr Philip Corthorne kindly arranged for us, together with a representative of Friends of Pinn Meadows, to meet him and a senior planning officer to discuss these concerns. After a further review officers decided their proposals provided adequate protection and the draft plan was approved by Cabinet last March. There will now be a further public consultation on some minor changes that have been made to the draft since the last consultation and then the Plan will be ready for submission to the Secretary of State for final approval. Part of this process will involve consideration of the Plan by a Planning Inspector at which point there is an opportunity for further representations to be made. ♦

# Eastcote House Gardens

*Lesley Crowcroft, Friends of Eastcote House Gardens*



The Friends of Eastcote House Gardens [FEHG] formed in 2008 to weed the Walled Garden. Seven years later they are still weeding!

## RESTORATION PROJECT

Over and above the weeding, a transformation of the gardens, buildings and Long Meadow Conservation Area, has taken place.



**Eastcote House Walled Garden before the FEHG got to work**

The Heritage Lottery Fund [HLF] funded restoration works are almost finished; 12th June is the latest estimate for completion. The main works to the listed buildings are complete and will be officially opened by

the Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr Catherine Dann, on 12th May 2015 at 3pm. The Tea Rooms will be opening late June/early July.

As well as Hillingdon Council, the FEHG have supplied match funding for the restoration project. £150,000 was asked for by the HLF. £125,000 is in volunteer hours, the remaining £25,000 in cash. The restoration fund was launched four years ago and £24,615 has been raised, leaving £385 to go.

## SUMMER PICNIC

The annual Community Picnic will take place on Saturday June 6th 11am 'til 4pm. Admission is free. There will be Classic Cars, The Northwood Royal Naval Volunteer Band, St Lawrence Players, a Dog Show run by Eastcote branch RSPCA, Tug of War, Refreshments, plus many more stalls and activities for children. There will not be any parking at the gardens, so please walk or use public transport.

The Picnic will see the launch of the FEHG Community Archive's first publication. *Eastcote House and Gardens: The People and the Place* by local author Andy P. Weller. Andy is a FEHG volunteer and this is a labour of love.

Andy traced those who have owned, rented, worked and volunteered at Eastcote House for 500 years. Contemporary stories from the 1950s have been gathered for this book. The second publication, *Secret Eastcote*, is currently being researched, by Andy and gathers together some surprising facts concerning Eastcote's importance throughout WWII, the Cold War and beyond. It is due to be published in late 2015. Also on sale will be the EHG 2016 calendar.

## ARCHÆOLOGY

The Archæologists are back: June 29th until July 12th. This is a community dig and all are welcome to take part. If digging around in trenches is not your idea of fun there are always many finds to wash. Digging takes place every day except Mondays, so please come along,

who knows what you will find. Last year some flint foundations were uncovered. It is believed that these are the foundations of Hopkyttes, the cottage recorded on the land in 1495, and work in this area will continue this year. The Open Day with guided tours, and the finds displayed, will take place on Sunday June 12th.

We hope to see you at the Picnic and/or the dig, or just visiting to see the gardens and have a cup of tea.

The volunteer gardeners meet on the 1st & 2nd Fridays and 3rd Thursday of each month starting at 9.30am (page 4). Countryside Conservation is the 4th Thursday of each month starting at 9.30am. Tools, refreshments and good company are provided.

[www.eastcotehousegardens.weebly.com](http://www.eastcotehousegardens.weebly.com) ♦





# RUISLIP RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

# ANNUAL

# GENERAL MEETING

7.45pm, Wednesday, 17th June 2015

Winston Churchill Hall

Pinn Way, Ruislip HA4 7QL

Doors open at 7.30pm

The talk will be on

"The Millingdon Hospitals - Now and in the future"

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 Wednesday, 10th June 2015

The next meeting is on the 22nd October 2015