

THE BULLETIN



Harold Wood, Hill Park Residents' Association

Est 2009. Representing the Interests of Harold Wood Ward

For up to date info visit our website: www.hwhpra.org.uk



Cllr Brian Eagling 01708 373027



Cllr Martin Goode 01708 373645



Cllr Darren Wise 01708 342369



LOOKING AFTER OUR COMMUNITY

JUNE 21



We were so shocked to hear about the incident that happened recently in Harold Wood and our condolences and sympathies go out to the family of the victim.

Following this we have started a petition to send to the Mayor of London to have more police in the area. We believe the Policing ratio for Harold Wood and Harold Hill is insufficient and more police officers should be allocated to these areas. Residents would also like to see more regular patrols, more 'stop and search' powers and more education about drug running (County Lines) to our young and vulnerable residents. We have contacted our Local Neighbourhood Police Team and asked for more Police Presence locally.

We would like to ask you to please sign our petition. The link can be found here on our website https://www.hwhpra. org. uk/2021/05/16/more-police-safer- streets/

CLLRS EAGLING, GOODE AND WISE

Update on Tyler's Wood

As reported in last month's bulletin, we are pleased to inform you that the Forestry Commission have agreed with the Council that the proposed site for planting trees should be moved as the original proposed site would have damaged the biodiversity of this area.

Dangerous situation resolved

After having contact with some of our new residents in Ravensbourne Crescent due to the Boundary Commission changes, a resident complained to us about a large, broken and damaged manhole cover on a grass play area for the children. She told us that she had complained to other political groups for over 3 years and they did not resolve this potentially dangerous issue. We got the issue resolved within 24 hours and the resident was delighted, telling us thank goodness the Harold Wood councillors are on board now and do care about us.



Keeping Residents Safe

The zebra crossing, which was agreed on the Kings Park development plan has now been installed for the safety of our residents. The funds for the crossing came from the \$106 development fund and if we had not kept monitoring and chasing up Council departments then the crossing may never have been installed as there is a time limit on when the monies must be spent.

Community Herb Garden



The herb garden looks great in Harold Wood Park, well done to Mike and Di and the Friends of Harold Wood Parks Committee members. See our website for further details.

https://www.hwhpra.org.uk/2021/05/17/friends-of-harold-wood-parks/

Harold Wood Station

Finally after years of delay, the entrance to Harold Wood Station via Station Road is now open and the plaza is really looking great.



Shepherd & Dog - Under New Ownership

This June, Array will open its doors in Harold Wood and we can't wait to welcome you in. The team have been working hard to bring this amazing project to life and now all we need is you.

We are so excited to launch a new restaurant, where families and friends can finally get together and catch up after what has been a very difficult 12 months for many. Community is so important to everyone in Essex, and we are so glad to be a brand-new part of that.

We're sure you are going to love Array just as much as we do and we are all counting down the days to opening.'



Tesco development update

As we go to press, at present no plans for 89 dwellings in Tesco Car park have been submitted. We will be monitoring and keeping a close eye on this situation.

St Peter's Church

In 1871, a small iron chapel was constructed in Church



Road. Affectionately known as 'The Old Tin Church', this became the first St. Peter's Church fellowship in the developing area of Harold Wood.

An amazing amount has happened since then both in Harold Wood and at St. Peter's. Now 150 years later, St. Peter's Church on Gubbins Lane (the 'Old Tin Church' having been demolished in 1969) is very much part of the Harold Wood



Then - 1871

Now - 2021

community. We are a loving church family of all different ages and backgrounds, celebrating through the generations the good news about Jesus Christ.

As part of our 150th Birthday celebrations, we'd love to invite

you to join us for five relaxed evenings of tea, coffee and conversation – 31st May to 4th June: 7:30 to 9pm - at 'The Hub' opposite St. Peter's on Gubbins Lane. The evenings are free and will include an informal interview with a current member of St. Peter's about their life and faith. For more information, and to book, please visit www.stpetersharoldwood.org/150 or contact the St.Peter's office:

Email: office@stpetersharoldwood.org or Telephone: 01708 342 080

Another Reminiscence for You

The original Woodstock Children's Home was in the house once owned by the Matthew's family. In 19th century and early 20th they were BIG in Harold Wood, owning this and two other large houses, one either side of Roslyn Avenue where it meets Squirrels Heath Road. One of these remains as Abbeyfields, the other demolished being replaced with Lynross.

The big house had stood on a small holding, later sold and developed as Briars Walk in 1963/4. We moved in 1964. I remember the Matthew's Grain Store, a very tall black wooden building - we used to buy paraffin and cat food there!

In 1972 under the new GLC development of children's services, a new Woodstock was built in the gardens of the big house (followed by the building of Peel Way and Holbrook) The old house was demolished and became the garden/play field of new Woodstock, however, the breeze block play room stayed. Woodstock

became a Childrens Assessment Centre under the aegis of Mr & Mrs Crane the superintendent and matron and had it's own school with visiting services of psychiatrist, psychologist and police! I was one of the new residential social workers.

We catered for troubled young people mainly from London Boroughs but often from further afield as places across the country were scarce. However, in the 80's residential care for children became unpopular being institutionalising and expensive. Foster Care came to the fore being more realistic and beneficial. Numbers dwindled and it closed 89/90. and was developed as the houses there today and a Day Centre for people with disabilities which has stood forlornly empty for several years in these financially straightened times. What a shame and waste. The land on Gubbins Lane was developed as flats as they are now.

DI HART

Really Caring about The Community

After reading a complaint on social media regarding the overflowing rubbish bins in the play area on the Kings Park estate your three local Councillors, Eagling, Goode and Wise attended the area and emptied the rubbish bins and tidied up.



Let There Be Light

On the anniversary of lockdown, I couldn't see any reason to celebrate, but got to thinking of its affect on

life. To my 3-year old great-grand daughter it's a third of her life, tho' hopefully she isn't aware of the good things she is missing. I feel robbed of something or other but at 94 it's debatable whether I would have been skiing, partying or jetting off somewhere anyway!

The low points have been not meeting friends and neighbours other than a brief pause to check on their sanity and exchanging invisible masked smiles. In the early days I'd ring somebody, yet even I ran out of chat, as I hadn't acquired any anecdotes, rumours or amusing incidents. Until I got my vaccination, I kept clear of groups and snuck into our local shop for essentials when it was quiet, getting out of the habit of mixing.

Seeking solace in the media was a waste of time. Each news bulletin piled on the agony and the pessimistic papers prattled on, echoing the TV news with how bad it was going to get. At least our Bulletin is a positive ray of sunshine and its optimism shines through. The kindness of neighbours has been comforting, but any attempt to get decent service from some businesses has been qualified by "it's because of Covid" To me this brings

back the excuse "Don't you know there's a war on" when one was fobbed off, 80 years ago.

The minority who walk three abreast round supermarkets or the park irritate me, but the volunteers who smoothed my way through the vaccination appointment were brilliant. The litter picking volunteers too are a credit to our society.

Putting things in perspective, my family and friends have been fortunate in not being seriously affected by this scourge, so the trivial annoyances I've experienced can be dismissed as unimportant and the whingeing of an ancient scribe.

DENNIS GOODWIN

Save our Bees

Pollination is one of natures most important functions so try to have pollinator friendly plants in your garden every month of the year. Bees and other pollinators like plants such as lilac, lavender, honeysuckle,

monads (bees balm), allium, poppies, wisteria etc. Early flowering plants are especially valuable for bumble bees coming out early to forage e.g. crocus bulbs and witch hazel.

The following web sites may be of some help if you wish: https://romfordbeekeepers.org/swarms and https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org

Harold Wood Primary School PTA presents..

A Summer Celebration with a
Euro Football themed twist. On
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