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## LOOKING AFTER OUR COMMUNITY OCTOBER 22

### Queen Elizabeth II - Rest in Peace



It is with great sadness that we received news of the passing away of our Head of State Queen Elizabeth II. Our condolences and sympathies from Harold Wood Councillors and

residents are with the Royal Family at this time.

As we heard of the sad loss to the country, a new King succeeded to the Throne and we wish King Charles III every success in his role. God Save the King.



### Date for your Diary

**Remembrance Sunday -  
13th November 2022**

All are welcome at the Memorial outside the library, Station Road. We are gathering at 10.40am and you are welcome to lay a wreath or flowers if you wish. We look forward to seeing you.



### -----Council Updates -----

#### New Administration

Following the election in May 2022, a new administration at the Town Hall was formed to run the council for the next 4 years. The current administration is a coalition between the HRA – Havering Residents Association and the Labour party. (Please note the Harold Wood Hill Park Residents Association has no affiliation to the HRA and are separate entities). The HRA strongly stated in their election material that they would not do a deal with any National Party and that change was coming.

Lo and behold, one month after the election, they could not wait to form an administration and coalition with Labour so they could take control. They managed this by offering the Labour Party 2 Cabinet Positions, 1 Committee Chair, 4 Vice-Chairs and also the Mayoralty. The HRA only managed to get 2 of their candidates elected and the others that were elected were all under the name of their respective residents' association names which have been around for many years prior to the formation of the HRA. Since the announcement of the coalition one of the HRA councillors quit their group and will now be an independent as he did not wish to be involved with Labour and National Policies.

The current breakdown of councillors in the Town Hall are:

- HRA (comprising other Residents Associations) – 22 councillors
- Labour Party - 9 councillors
- Conservatives – 20 councillors
- Harold Wood Hill Park Residents Association – 3 councillors
- Independent – 1 councillor

55 councillors elected in total, but only 28 councillors needed to form a majority.

We shall be monitoring the progress of the coalition over the next few months as they will need to make fundamental budget savings. Change indeed has come, and we are seeing that some of their decisions will start affecting our residents in Harold Wood such as the removal of the free 1 hour car parking (see separate story) if it goes ahead. The new leadership and administration may have been in power for 100 days plus but so far there are no improvements.

### Is the free 1 hr on street Car Parking coming to an End?

The Havering Residents Association (HRA)/ Labour Coalition Council Administration are looking to stop the free 1 hour on street car parking within the borough as well as

removing the 20% discount for users that use the RINGO App. As published in the council forward plan, they are looking to remove the following:

- The removal of the 20% discount in all Council Car Parks where payment is made via the cashless app;
- The removal of the one hour free on-street parking at all Pay & Display locations borough wide;
- To resume a charge of £1.50 for 0-1 hour parking at all on-street Pay & Display locations.

<https://democracy.havering.gov.uk/mglssueHistoryHome.aspx...>

This will be devastating for the shops in Harold Wood and Harold Hill along with a number of other shopping areas in the borough especially now in the current climate that our residents are facing with the cost-of-living crisis.

The Harold Wood Councillors fought so hard to keep the 1 hour free parking in Harold Wood and Harold Hill and supported the free 1 hour free on street parking in other areas and we submitted a motion to try and stop this at the September Council meeting, but this was voted against by the HRA/Labour administration.

Our message to the administration is simple

### KEEP THE FREE ONE HOUR ON-STREET CAR PARKING

CLLR BRIAN EAGLING, CLLR MARTIN GOODE, CLLR DARREN WISE

### Weekly Waste Collections coming to an end?

The Cabinet Member Cllr Barry Mugglestone, was unable to commit to keeping the refuse collections weekly following a question asked at the Council meeting on 7th September. We may therefore find the Borough moving to fortnightly collections next year!

### Mugged off by Mugglestone on Road Safety Issues

We raised a question asking the cabinet member Cllr Barry Mugglestone, about taking action on road safety issues in Shepherds Hill, Warley Road, Nags Head Lane and Hall Lane junction due to a number of accidents in this area and he was non-committal on this saying he was talking to TFL. When we requested a timeline for implementation, he could not answer this.

### Residents Please Be Vigilant

It has been reported to us by a resident that a drone has been seen flying around



back gardens in the Ewan Road area. If any of you have any information of what premises this is being launched from please report to us or the police.

CLLLRS. EAGLING, GOODE AND WISE

## Haivering Antique Collectors Club & Speaker



Friday 21st October - Leeanne Westwood on Valence House 7.30pm for 7.45pm

Harold Wood Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood.

New members welcome - Annual Membership £35, Guests £5. Further details contact Chairman Mrs Chris Lovett 07947 367 258

## Rainbow Bridge, Harold Wood Park

We have heard from the Council's Planning department and they have confirmed that permission for the new bridge is not required as the works can be undertaken as per Part 12 of the General Permitted Development Order.

Forestry England are now starting the tender process to appoint a contractor. They then expect a lead in time of approx two months to allow for manufacture and delivery. This will mean works could start before the end of the year and would be complete in one week.

We will keep you informed of any further progress.

## Albert Law RIP

We were saddened to hear that one of our residents Albert Law had passed away. Albert delivered the Bulletin for many years for us and was a great supporter. We shall miss him and our heartfelt sympathies and condolences go out to his wife Marjorie and family.

CLLRS BRIAN EAGLING, MARTIN GOODE, DARREN WISE

## In Loving Memory of Helen Taylor R.I.P.

Following the passing of my partner earlier this year. The neighbours of Sussex Avenue presented me with a collection for the Funeral. I decided to approach the Harold Wood



Library to donate this so local people could benefit. With the help of Melanie the manager we purchased a large carpet so that families could sit in comfort and not on the parquet flooring with the children.

Really good to see this now being used.

I Would like to thank all the residents of Sussex Avenue and our 3 local councillors for all their help during this difficult time.

Thank You

JOHN TAYLOR

## YOGA at KINGSLAND HALL HAROLD WOOD

Weekly Yoga group at Kingsland Scout Hall, Harold Wood (Behind Delaneys Estate Agents). Suitable for Complete Beginners - as well as experienced, who may need a gentler style due to health issues.

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## MEN'S LUNCH

Our new season of lunches is now well under way, and a warm welcome awaits you at our next event, held at St. Peter's Church, Harold Wood on:

TUESDAY, 11TH OCTOBER - DOORS OPEN 11.30am.

Following lunch, we are very much looking forward to hearing from our special guest -

MATTHEW STRATTON

Matthew is the Lead Pastor at Romford Evangelical Free Church, Brentwood Road, Romford, and it will be great to welcome him in October.

To book your place on the 11th; check if you booked in last time; or for more details, please phone St. Peter's Welcome Desk on 01708 342080, or email:

[welcome.desk@stpetersharoldwood.org](mailto:welcome.desk@stpetersharoldwood.org), or visit the website:

[www.stpetersharoldwood.org](http://www.stpetersharoldwood.org). (type 'Men's Lunch' into the search box).

ALSO, PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO LET US KNOW A.S.A.P. IF YOU NEED TO CANCEL.

We look forward to welcoming you.

JULIAN HARRIS, CHRIS KNOWLES, AND ALL THE MEN'S LUNCH TEAM



## MONEY OR YOUR LIFE

Youth seems to be addicted to American things, Burgers, Coke and more recently Halloween. I accept, in my day, I too was captivated with American cars, swing music and Hollywood. I realise now it's the commercial interests that import this stuff without any clamour from the public.

Halloween was taken to the US by the Pilgrim Fathers, though it was already established here since the time of the Celts. The church here called it All-Hallows Eve and Christianised it.

What came back is hardly Christian, but worshipped at least by the shops.

Bonfire Night provides sufficient opportunity for our young to be a nuisance, so another excuse to bang on doors and scare the elderly is not needed.

What irks me is the nasty sideline that slipped in with Halloween, i.e. Trick or Treat.

This didn't go over with the founding Fathers, but is as American as chewing gum and isn't part of our culture with its threat of violence if you don't cough up a treat.

As a kid, I admit standing with our guy at

the railway station where we'd intimidate homecoming commuters, but not to the point of kicking them in the shins!

Maybe the Yanks got the idea from their insurance adverts which are mostly based on the threat of the direst things happening unless one signs up today and gives them money.

What began as a celebration of the end of summer and remembering the dead, has become almost "Stick'em up!" Hand over your wallet, or your dead!"

DENNIS GOODWIN

## Dates for your diary

Harold Wood Primary School PTA Fireworks Display Friday 4th November 6.00-9.00 (display at 7.30) rides, live DJ, hot food and much more for you to enjoy pop the date in your diary more details to follow....

Harold Wood Primary School PTA Winter Wonderland Saturday 26th November 11.30-3.30 free entry. Live DJ, Santa's grotto, games, snow globe, hot food, mulled wine and much much more.



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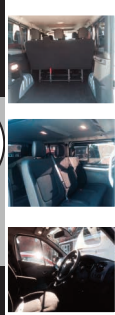
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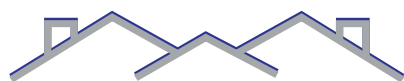
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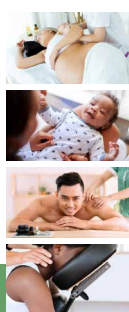
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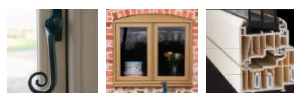
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