

THE BULLETIN

Harold Wood, Hill Park Residents' Association



Representing the Interests of Harold Wood Ward. LOOKING AFTER OUR COMMUNITY





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September 2025

We are not part of the HRA administration

Elvis Run

We was half expecting to see Elvis impersonators with their quiffs at this

event only to find 261 runners in running vests and shorts. Elvis is short for East London five Interclub Series where our very own local Harold Wood





Running Club raced against other local running clubs in Harold Wood Park in race 6 out of 9. One of the main sponsors was LA Services & Solutions Ltd - a local air conditioning supplier and maintainer. Andrew Wallington Exp (Estate Agent) supplied the water for the race and Tesco's provided the fruit. The HW running club also ran a cake stall to raise money for the Friends of Harold Wood Library. After race 6, both the Harold Men and the Harold Wood Women are leading their respective League 2.

It was a very pleasant evening to watch this race and perhaps next year the three of us will join the club on their run or perhaps on second thoughts, maybe not!

HAROLD WOOD COUNCILLORS

Andrew Wallington Estate Agents

We would like to introduce Andrew who has recently set up his own estate agents locally and we wish him every success in his new venture.



Oak Road Shops

Following a number of complaints from residents about constant flytipping and the general untidiness



at this location next to Creases Dry Cleaners. I contacted Robert Parish Ltd who are the managing agents for this site and they agreed to:

- Put new CCTV Warning signage up
- Installation of 4 new CCTV cameras
- Email/letter to be sent to all tenants reminding them not to fly-tip

My ward Colleagues (Cllr Eagling and Clír Goode and I) would like to thank the Managing Agents for taking these actions and we hope this will help to eradicate some of the constant flytipping in this area.

CLLR DARREN WISE

Columbine Way

Following complaints from some residents, I am pleased to say that the trees at the end of Columbine Way have been cut back though it is recognised that

there are many trees that do need to be pruned in Harold Wood and my colleague Cllr Goode has been pressing the council to prioritise Harold

Wood though no actual timescales have been given.

CLLR DARREN WISE

HAROLD WOOD WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

2025 is the 110th anniversary of the first Women's Institute meeting. Harold Wood WI has been meeting in its current form for 61 years. We meet at Harold Wood Memorial Hall on the 1st Wednesday of every month from 7:15pm to 10pm. We are a lively group of local women who enjoy friendship through talks, outings, creative events, Cuppa Club, Book Club to name a few. If you would like to join us please contact us at haroldwoodwi@gmail. com for further information.

Date for your Diary

Remembrance Sunday this year is 9th November and once again we will be having a service at the War Memorial outside the library building.

"MEN".. A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

TUESDAY, 9TH SEPTEMBER 2025 from 11:30AM

St. Peter's Church 'Men's Lunch' 2025/26 season begins as above.

We warmly invite any men around on this day to join us here in Harold Wood for a home cooked meal and an interesting talk/presentation.

We are pleased to report we have lined up some great guest speakers. For September, we look forward to hearing from DAVID BUSARI. David is one of St. Peter's 'Youth & Families Workers' and will be 'in conversation' with our Team Leader - Chris Knowles.

As this is our first lunch of the new season, EVERYONE NEEDS TO BOOK IN PLEASE. To book your place or for more details, please phone St. Peter's Welcome Desk on 01708 342080, or email: welcome.desk@ stpetersharoldwood.org.

Other Diary Dates for our Autumn season:

- 14th October Mission Theme;
- 11th November Remembrance



Theme:

2nd December (first Tues. of month) - Christmas lunch plus

We look forward to welcoming new and existing members – all are very welcome.

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

Havering Antiques Club

Harold Wood Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane, Chairman Mrs Chris Lovett 079 4736 7258

Annual Membership £40 – Guests £6 -7.30 for 7.45

Friday September 19th 2025 is AGM. Enrolment Evening and Speaker Ian Channell from Epping Forest Museum on Walter Spradbery – an Artist in War and Peace

Did you know that there's Ice Hockey in Romford?

With over 1200 people at their sell out games, the Romford Raiders are the best supported sports team in the Romford area with many supporters of the "Gold & Blue" still attending since their formation in 1987?

When Rom Valley Way Ice Rink closed in 2013, Ice Hockey had to move East until the Sapphire Ice and Leisure centre in Western Road was built in 2018.

This season the Romford Ice Hockey Supporters Club has launched. The RIHSC covers all Romford's Ice Hockey teams including the Romford Raiders, Romford Buccaneers and all Romford Ice Hockey Academy teams from U10 to U19s. Some current Raiders and Buccaneers players are products of the academy. Players and the team mascot 'Bruce' visited local schools during last season, promoting the Club, and you may have seen our volunteers at many local events. The Romford Raiders and Romford Buccaneers seasons start in September and if you have not been to a Hockey game before, give it a go. Raiders mainly play Sundays 5:15 with the Buccaneers



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Petition for CCTV in Station

We are launching a petition to try and get CCTV installed in Station Road as concerned residents, shoppers, and business owners have told us that they believe that the installation of CCTV is essential to enhance public safety, deter criminal activity, and support law enforcement efforts and assist Police with evidence where criminal activity has taken place. The Council have a new CCTV Control Centre based in Romford and the focus is on Romford and other Town Centres. We want Harold Wood included. If you wish to support the petition you can go online to our website where there are links to the petition https://www.hwhpra. org.uk/2025/08/06/petition-for-cctv-inharold-wood/ or you can click on this QR code.



Your support matters and we want to ensure that Harold Wood remains a safer and more welcoming place for everyone.

That's Entertainment!

In the 40's, cinemas were well attended, I went with each change of programme, Monday to Wednesday and again Thursday to Saturday. If there was an 'oldie' we fancied, we also went on Sundays after Sunday School! Looking back at the supposed great films of the war years, they were mostly escapism and fluffy musicals with a patriotic theme. Ideal for the time, but not at all 'classics'. I never saw the end of most of them in 1940, as the cinema was emptied when the slide came on the screen - "An Air Raid is in Progress". Often the action outside was better

One of my indelible memories is of rushing after a smoking Messerschmitt 110 being pursued by Polish RAF Spitfires. It came down about 200 yards away. Looking for souvenirs, I grabbed a flying boot, only to drop it, as there was a foot inside it! Mum wasn't aware what I was doing, as she was doing full time war work by then in the lamp factory, and I didn't think I was in any danger, I had no concept of death at that age. The summer of 1940 was spent in shelters

than the fate of Errol Flynn in the film!

during the dogfights and a frantic search for souvenirs afterwards. I had incendiary nose cones, bullets and vicious pieces of shrapnel. We ran messages from the Warden's post to outlying posts and the roads were littered with debris but it was part of the excitement at 14. When the night raids started, Mum drew the line at me being out, convincing me that my duty was to look after her! "

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