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# THE BULLETIN

## Harold Wood, Hill Park Residents' Association

**Representing the Interests of Harold Wood Ward.**

**LOOKING AFTER OUR COMMUNITY**

Est 2009

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



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**November 2026**

## IN MEMORY OF DENNIS GOODWIN R.I.P - 8TH SEPTEMBER 1926 TO 1ST OCTOBER 2026

We were so sad to hear that Dennis Goodwin had passed away. He wrote articles for the Bulletin for many years, sharing his life experiences from childhood, the war years, his jobs and adventures. He was a wonderful man who celebrated his 100th. Birthday on 8th September 2026 and we will truly miss him. The article below is the last article that he provided to us before he passed away and we print this with the permission of his family.

Cllrs. Eagling, Goode and Wise

## In the doldrums

"By October 1944, it seemed the war was dragging on after the euphoria of the invasion in June. The setback in Arnhem in September, underlined the fact that there was still a long way to go and I viewed my imminent call-up with mixed feelings. I had wanted the glamour of flying, but it wasn't to be. The Army didn't excite me, school pals were already fighting and dying in France and I had no desire to get at the enemy. Most of my friends had joined up, so the old gang friendships had dissolved. My baby brother took all my mother's time and energy and Dad was working hard at the gunpowder factory. I'd had a great time dancing and dating a few girls, but I felt conspicuous in civvies. I wasn't yet 18, but being tall, I seemed to stand out and my RAF Volunteer Reserve lapel badge didn't attract the girls like wearing "wings", so, when I finally left home for the Army, I was ready for a change. Over the next 3and a half years I grew up!"

Dennis Goodwin

## Remembrance Sunday Service

On Sunday, 8th November, we invite you to join us for our Remembrance Sunday service, which will be held at the War Memorial situated outside the library building. This annual gathering is an opportunity for the community to come together in reflection and



remembrance. We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to pay tribute and honour those who have served and sacrificed.

HAROLD WOOD COUNCILLORS:

BRIAN EAGLING, MARTIN GOODE, DARREN WISE

## 'We Will Remember Them!'



As part of our November MEN'S LUNCH, we are once again pleased to including a short 'Act of Remembrance'. The lunch date is:-

Tuesday, 10th November doors open from 11:30am in St. Peter's Church Hall, Harold Wood.

Please note we will begin proceedings slightly earlier than normal at 12:15pm.

This year our special 'after lunch' guest speaker is:

STEVE READ.

Steve is currently the Church Centre Manager at St. Peter's, but is also a former Army & Police Officer.

To book your lunch place, to cancel (please let us know a.s.a.p.), or to check if you're on the list, please phone St. Peter's Welcome Desk on 01708 342080, or email: welcomedesk@stpetersharoldwood.org , or visit the website: www.stpetersharoldwood.org/mens-lunch

We look forward to seeing you on the 10th.

Julian Harris, Chris Knowles, and the Men's Lunch Team.







## Congratulations

Congratulations to local residents Alan and Barbara Pyle on celebrating their 65th Wedding Anniversary.

## Havering Antiques Club

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

Guests £6.

20th November - CHRISTMAS PARTY - Dean Ferris

## Christmas Bazaar

The most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in Petersfield Ave will be holding their Christmas bazaar on Sunday 29th November from 12 noon to 3pm. All are welcome to attend and support the church.

## Harold Wood Sports Association

With hard work from and by all the committee and volunteer coaches, we have been nominated for the National awards which we are truly proud off - Junior/Adult football and cricket plus our running.

🏆 NOMINATING THREE LOCAL SPORTS CLUBS FOR NATIONAL AWARD 🏆

Upminster Cricket Club, Harold Wood Sports Association and Upminster Hockey Club have been nominated for the Sport and Recreation Alliance's 2026 Community Club of the Year Award.

🏏 Upminster Cricket Club

🏑 Upminster Hockey Club

⚽ @haroldwoodsportsassociation

Each organisation plays an important role in our community, creating opportunities for people to get active, develop their talents and enjoy the benefits of grassroots sport.

None of this would be possible without the dedicated volunteers who give their time and energy to keep these clubs running and make everyone feel welcome.

We wish them the very best of luck!

The Sports Association are looking for volunteers to start up a Petanque section at the club given we have two areas next to the pavilion.

For further information contact haroldwoodsports@gmail.com.

## Council Enquiries

We understand residents' frustration when enquiries are referred to us. As your three councillors, we raise these matters with the Council's Cabinet Members and officers, explaining the problem and seeking a resolution. However, councillors do not make operational decisions, and staff shortages and financial pressures can sometimes delay action. Residents can use the same Council reporting system that councillors are required to use. To report an issue, visit the Havering website and select the relevant service area, such as fly-tipping or potholes and you can sign in as a guest. Also keep any reference numbers that you may receive as any non-responses can be followed up: https://www.havering.gov.uk/

## Meet Mark



I would like to thank Mark for diligently reporting repeated fly-tipping near the former recycling-bin site in Station Road. Whenever Mark sees rubbish left by fly-tippers, he reports it promptly to the Council and lets me know. He has also reported fly-tipping elsewhere in our streets and is committed to helping keep our area clean.

Keep up the good work, Mark, and please continue reporting fly-tipping.

Cllr Darren Wise

## Commuter Parking in Parks

We continue to receive complaints regarding commuter parking in Harold Wood Park. We have raised these concerns with officers and the Reform Cabinet Member responsible for parks. Officers indicate they are exploring a charging scheme across all Havering parks, though this change in policy must be reviewed and agreed upon by the Reform Administration and included in the February budget. Depending on the outcome, any new policy could start no earlier than April 2027.

## Fly-Tipping



Now the dark Winter nights are upon us it is not an excuse to fly tip when you think you can't be seen. If you do happen to see this offence occur and you are able to photograph it - especially if a vehicle is involved. You can report direct to the Council at https://www.havering.gov.uk/environmental-issues/keeping-havering-clean to have the fly tip removed. Let's keep our area free of rubbish.

## Changes to Havering's Planning Committees

Havering Council has approved changes to its planning decision process to comply with new national planning laws that came into force from October 2026.

Under the new rules, many smaller planning applications, such as householder extensions and minor developments, will be decided by planning officers rather than councillors. Applications will only be considered by the Planning Committee if they meet specific criteria set out in new national regulations.

The Council's existing Planning Committee and Strategic Planning Committee will be replaced by a single Planning Committee. Councillors will no longer have a general right to refer applications to committee.

These changes will ensure Havering's planning decisions remain legally compliant, transparent and aligned with national requirements, while allowing committee time to focus on applications with the greatest impact on residents and the borough.




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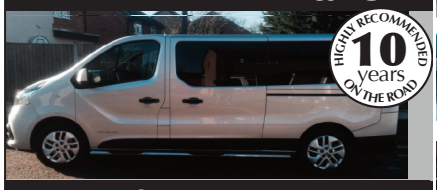
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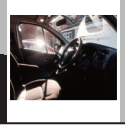
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