

THE

AUTUMN / WINTER 2020

HILLS ECHO

NORTHWOOD HILLS
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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NORTHWOOD HILLS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION



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This association is non-political and non-sectarian.
All the views expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not of the committee.

Working to protect and improve the amenities of Northwood Hills

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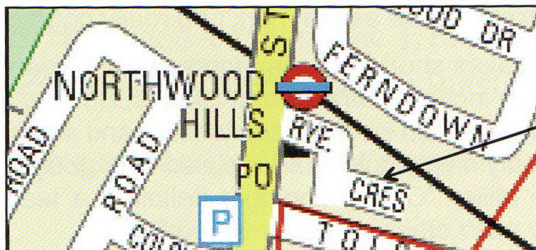
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We Are Here

A Letter From The Chairman

Welcome to the Autumn/Winter 2020 edition of The Hills Echo.

The outbreak of Covid-19 meant that we had to cancel production of The Spring/Summer edition of The Hills Echo, as we were about to go to print because we would not have been able to distribute it. This edition is smaller than usual as the focus of the schools and other contributors needs to be elsewhere at this moment of time.

In the early weeks of the Pandemic, Northwood Hills had one of the highest numbers of reported deaths from Covid-19 in London. Our deepest sympathy goes to all the families and friends who were so terribly impacted by this disease.

At the start of the Pandemic your Committee agreed that if members wanted to pay their £3 yearly subscription on-line this year, any monies received by 30 June would be donated to a local NHS Charity - yet to be determined. We were all delighted with the response. The total received came to exactly £1,500. Thank you to everyone who donated.

Covid-19 means that we will not been able to hold any events this year but I am pleased to advise that L B Hillingdon have generously agreed to provide a grant for the traditional Christmas Lights and St John's school have agreed to sponsor the 20 foot Christmas tree near to the Namaste Lounge.

The opening of the new Co-Op and the Three Wishes pub reduced the number of empty shop units in Northwood Hills to three. Prior to the regeneration work in 2016, 25% of the shops were unoccupied. Unfortunately, the pandemic has impacted a number of local businesses some of which have been lost. We urge all residents to support our business community by goods and services locally when possible.

Covid-19 also resulted in us cancelling the AGM in May. We will hold an Extraordinary General Meeting as soon as it is safe to do so.



Andrew Riley BEM ACIB
Chairman

Northwood Hills Station Garden

Whilst the station was virtually empty of commuters compared to BP (Before the Pandemic), the Gardening Group finally decided to risk it and get back to work. This was in early June so we had some catching up to do.

The incredibly hot dry weather had taken its toll to a some extent, however most of the shrubs had survived the lack of watering and with the help of the amazing volunteers we managed to get things up and running again. One of the climbing fuchsias finally decided it had had enough and keeled over – shame as it was lovely, but we will replace it in due course.

We now have three trellises on the South Bound Side thanks to Derek and his trusty drill. We've added a clematis and a climbing rose so we're looking forward to seeing them in their full glory next year. Geraniums, dahlias, lavender and a variety of other flowering plants have been added mostly by the volunteers raiding their own gardens.

We now have ten volunteers – our latest recruit being John Robertson who plants flowers in the dead of night which is exciting to discover when the rest of us visit for watering duty. Also one of the station cleaners, Anthony has taken to watering the beds as and when he can. Our volunteer Fiona befriended him one hot dry afternoon. Thank you Anthony!

If you use the station we hope you're enjoying the displays – do let us know if you would like to help, just send me an email. Next year the plan is to purchase some barrels for the South Bound Side and add even more colour.

Lynne Halse - NHRA Gardening Group Coordinator

halselynne@hotmail.com



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As seen on BBC1's Cowboy Trap... as the Good Guys!

Editor's Page

The Pandemic has prevented us from doing so many of our normal activities and therefore The Echo is smaller than usual as there is just less to report from out there in Northwood Hills. We are expecting all our regular articles and contributors to be back with us in the next Edition, sharing with us some of the things they have been able to do in the community.

Facebook Group

Our Facebook group now has over 900 members and has become a useful source of local information and updates. It aims to give interested parties information about the area and to enable people to post interesting and useful facts/activities/events that may be helpful to others rather than for it to be a noticeboard for local businesses and companies, but we are happy for them to advertise in The Echo, see below.



Charities – did you know?

You may know that the Northwood Hills Residents' Association is pleased to support local charities based or operating in the Northwood Hills area. If you run a charity which benefits the local Northwood Hills community, would you like to tell us about it?

We would be pleased to learn more about it and may even be able to find space in the next issue of the Northwood Hills Echo for an article describing your aims and achievements. So if that's the case, and you would like to raise awareness of your appeal, please make contact with the Secretary.

Do you run a local business?

Promote it to 4000+ households in The Northwood Hills area by advertising in the Hills Echo. Rates from just £25.00 per issue.

Email johnchoopani@gmail.com for details

Website name change!

The eagle-eyed of you will have noticed that our website has been down recently. We are pleased to announce that now certain technical issues have been resolved, we have a new web address, which is:
www.northwoodhillsra.co.uk.

Ruislip Combined Charity

The Ruislip Combined Charity was formed in 1995 by the joining of two long established charities: the Ruislip Non-ecclesiastical Charities and The Ruislip Cottagers' Allotment Charity. The charity helps anyone who lives within the historical parish of Ruislip - that is Ruislip, Northwood, Eastcote, Ruislip Manor and South Ruislip.

The Charity's income is derived from investments and the rental of two plots of land in Joel Street, Northwood Hills and Fore Street, Eastcote. The area of common land towards the top of Joel Street was originally vested in the Official Trustee of Charity Lands in 1882 with the income administered by the Ruislip Cottagers' Allotment Charity. This land remains under the care of the Trustees of the Ruislip Combined Charity, having been leased to the Ruislip-Northwood Smallholding and Allotment Society since 1909. The land in Fore Street was left by Richard Cogges in 1717, who left two closes of land (now a single field) to be let to benefit poor folk living in the Eastcote part of the parish of Ruislip and Westcote (modern Ruislip). Cogges' Charity was incorporated into the Ruislip Non-ecclesiastical Charities in 1896.

After allowing for investment, the Charity's income is distributed in the form of monetary gifts. Such are given to the vicars of churches within the old parish of Ruislip to disburse to members of the parish in financial need, and social workers also suggest named suitable recipients. The Trustees also offer assistance with purchasing equipment to ease living for the disabled and grants to local groups which work to improve the lives of disadvantaged people.

The Trustees who administer the Charity live locally and are involved in the community in various ways – as councillors, through churches, and as members of local societies. The aim of the Trustees is to safeguard the charity and to administer it in the spirit intended by those who gave the money or land in the first place.

How to apply for a gift:

Beneficiaries of gifts may be suggested by social workers, clergy and community groups, although individuals can also apply on their own, expressing their needs and providing the name and address of a referee. The support of a social worker, community worker, voluntary worker or clergyman would also be helpful to their application.

[http://ruislipcombinedcharity.btck.co.uk/
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AUG20 CS 01809

Bruce Houlder CB QC DL – Representative Deputy Lieutenant for the London Borough of Hillingdon 2014–date

Some people have never heard of the Greater London Lieutenancy. Some may see the Lord-Lieutenant or his representative, dressed in his military finery on civic occasions, and looking every bit the military man – and just assume he is a high-ranked soldier. The truth is otherwise, for the Representative Deputy Lieutenant is not only likely to be a woman, as was my predecessor in Hillingdon, but is usually a civilian. He or she represents Her Majesty and the interests of the Royal Household in the area where he or she is appointed. Lieutenants were first appointed to a number of English counties by King Henry VIII in the 1540s, and save for a brief period under Cromwell, have continued ever since. Until 1871, the Lord-Lieutenant was responsible for organising the county's militia, indeed it was not until 1921 that they formally lost the right to call upon able-bodied men to fight when needed. As your Representative in Hillingdon, with the population size of the average English county, I am delighted that is not part of my responsibility! So the question is rightly asked, what is my rôle?

Our role has changed remarkably, not least in Greater London where we have such a diverse society that the Lieutenancy is increasingly keen to reflect this. It is an unpaid voluntary role. We attend civic events, citizenship ceremonies, and occasions such as Remembrance Sunday services, or the Commemoration at the Polish War Memorial in this Borough. We have a wider role though as our main aim is to build bridges between the diverse groups that make up our society. We support our local charities, our youth groups and uniformed groups, we support the servicemen and women who serve here in the Borough, the different faith and the ethnic communities of which Hillingdon has in rich abundance, and we try to speak for the businesses that work amongst us - from the vast employers at Heathrow down the smallest in our high streets. The Queen's awards for Enterprise are part of the mechanism through which such businesses can be recognised.

Sometimes our rôle is more down to earth. My particular role has been to seek solutions to the scourge of knife crime, helping to heal the wounds in communities, not just in Hillingdon, but all over Greater London. This rightly takes a great deal of my time.

We seek to discover who in our community is worthy of some kind of national or other honour for services performed selflessly over a long period of time. We identify these and encourage those that know them best to nominate them for an honour, the British Empire Medal or an even more distinguished national honour. We can propose that individuals are invited to a Royal Garden party and certain other events. We seek out teams of volunteers and businesses encouraging them to get nominated for the wonderful Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. These awards are the highest honours that can be awarded to such groups, and I constantly encourage groups to consider applying for these awards.

To learn more about what we do and the awards, may I encourage to you visit

<https://greaterlondonlieutenancy.com>

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Traffic Calming Petition

The Harlyn School Safety Zone (HSSZ) relates to the roads leading to Harlyn Primary School; Catlins Lane, Chamberlain Way, Harlyn Drive and Tolcarne Drive. To local residents it's known as the 'Rat Run', because it's used by drivers wanting to avoid the traffic bumps and 20mph limit on Cuckoo Hill, the main road. Nine extremely harsh bumps, in less than half a mile, do make the speed calming pretty severe. It's not surprising that many drivers divert onto the 30mph 'un-bumped' residential roads instead. They then accelerate to alarming speeds, possibly to justify their decision or perhaps they just don't think about the risk they're causing.

The additional volume and speed of that traffic is creating real danger to residents and to children attending the School. The roads have limited vision, blind curves, hidden junctions and, in places, no pavement so pedestrians are forced to walk in the road. Since 2013, when the Cuckoo Hill restrictions were installed, traffic has gradually increased and residents have been pleading with Hillingdon Council to address the problem they created, before a fatality occurs. The Council, aware of the impact the Cuckoo Hill scheme would have on the local roads, originally had a plan to redress it. However, this was never implemented, the only concession being a vehicle activated speed sign on Catlins Lane, which seems to go largely ignored by the drivers who frequently trigger it.

We've been lobbying the Council to implement traffic calming in the HSSZ for several years now and our third petition was heard in February. Despite universal acknowledgment that the number of signatories (well over 800) was huge, the Council opted yet again to postpone any measures pending yet more traffic surveys. Previous surveys have recorded speeds in excess of 60mph, but even that doesn't do justice to the real dangers when considering the actual road environment. We are expecting further surveys to be carried out shortly and hope the Council will then take action before it is too late.



Mark Kosky
mark.kosky@blueyonder.co.uk

NHRA Goes Nation-Wide

In late April, we were delighted when Zurich Insurance wrote to us advising that, due to Covid-19, as we had cancelled the events planned this summer, they would extend the cover on our Public Liability Insurance for a period of 3 months at no additional premium.

Our Chairman sent a letter back thanking them for the kind gesture, which they were very pleased to receive. In fact so pleased that Zurich wrote about NHRA in a newsletter they sent to all their business customers.

The Northwood Hills Residents' Association in Hillingdon, North West London are supporting the local community and raising funds for the local NHS. They were also given three months free insurance cover and Andrew Riley, BEM, Chairman tells us more about how they are supporting their community. Andrew said, "We made our Facebook page open to anyone so we could widely share important information. Membership has doubled and residents have formed a number of WhatsApp groups at street level, linking neighbours together.

"We also encouraged members to pay subscriptions to online and have pledged to donate the total to a local NHS project.

"At the last minute we had to cancel the latest edition of our 60-page magazine that we distribute twice a year. We also had to postpone our Annual General Meeting and have not been able to hold any Committee Meetings in person. Instead, the Committee is in regular dialogue by email and we are making good progress."

And then Zurich surprised us again by promoting NHRA in a nation-wide advert.



"It was really great that Zurich have given us three months free insurance cover as we deal with the impact of Covid-19. The Northwood Hills ward has the highest aged population in the borough so when the lockdown was announced it was a no-brainer that we needed to support the community.

We've been able to create new Facebook and WhatsApp communities – linking neighbours together and helping isolated, vulnerable people to keep in touch. We also partnered with charities to help get food delivered to those in need. We're now hoping that with the money we've saved during lockdown and from cancelled events that we can fund some post-lockdown celebrations to boost everyone's spirits (when it's safe to do so!)"

Andrew Riley BEM
Chairman of Northwood Hills Residents' Association





NORTHWOOD HILLS
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION



**The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service**

The MBE for volunteer groups

Membership

We intend continuing to distribute the next couple of editions of the Hills Echo to all 4,000 + households in Northwood Hills as we have been encouraged by the increased awareness this has given the Residents' Association.

All residents of Northwood Hills are welcome to join the Association. Membership costs **£3 per year per household** and it enables your Association to work on your behalf to organise events, preserve the environment and liaise with other organisations that also work with residents, to make our community as safe, supportive and as friendly as possible.

£3 per year per household isn't a large sum, but without it, events and other activities will falter. Please pay annually, it really helps!

This can be done in several ways:

- **Pay your Road Steward** (however, a number of roads do not have one). If you don't know or don't have a Road Steward, you may have a Road Representative, who, although they are not collecting Subscriptions, are representing your road to the NHRA. Please contact the Secretary, details below to see who may be near to you.
- **Pay on-line at HSBC Bank: Sort Code: 40-36-21 Account Number: 71531417.** Please make sure you reference your name, Road and house number. Either as a one off payment or ideally as a standing order.
- **Go to www.northwoodhillsra.co.uk to register your interest.** Unfortunately we do not have a 'Pay' function through our website, as this requires a substantial annual fee from the NHRA.
- **Contact the Secretary:** Maxine Goswell, maxine.goswell@gmail.com, call 020 8429 3661 or post a cheque for £3 payable to the NHRA to the Secretary at 11 Pikes End, HA5 2EX with the information below:

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Applause Please!

A huge round of applause please for Olivia pictured here with Tino Alcorona, her father. Olivia decided that she would like to help raise money during lockdown for Mount Vernon Cancer Centre where her dad has twice received treatment for cancer. Olivia said 'Mount Vernon have supported my family for 10 years and I want to help them to support other patients at this difficult time'.



Having only learnt to ride her bike at the start of lockdown Olivia decided to do a sponsored bike ride of 5 miles a day and raised an amazing £3,350.

Well done and congratulations Olivia!

Face Coverings



In the summer it became compulsory to wear a facemask in many public situations. It's good to see that most residents are complying with the regulation, which aims to keep us all safe.

You may see someone not complying with the rules but please, before jumping to any conclusion, be aware that the Government guidelines provide exemptions for certain conditions and disabilities.

If you see someone without a facemask but wearing a bright green lanyard covered in sunflowers (it's really hard to miss) that is a sign that they have a hidden disability and are exempt from wearing a mask so please treat them with the utmost courtesy and respect. Thank you.



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Whilst we have all been dealing with Covid-19, there have been a number of announcements regarding Health Care facilities for local residents.

Northwood Health Centre/Northwood & Pinner Hospital

The site had been purchased by the Community as a WW1 memorial , built with local community subscriptions and staff salaries and building upkeep was also funded by the Community until the site was handed over to the NHS for safe keeping in 1948. It was to be sold, but local campaigning has finally resulted in the plans for a new 'State of the Art' Northern Hub, Health Centre on the site, to go out for Public Consultation.

Mount Vernon Cancer Centre

A review launched in 2019 raised major questions about the future of Mount Vernon Cancer Centre, not least the deteriorating state of the building stock and the need for services to be organized differently. A group of clinical staff is looking at how cancer service can be re-organised, looking at the pathways patients follow for treatment and for each of the hospitals that currently refer patients to Mount Vernon or where Mount Vernon clinicians provide out-reach services; ahead of looking at building solutions. A series of virtual workshops, stakeholder and patient involvement opportunities will help reorganize the services in a way that makes helps patients and provides the best options for safe, sustainable and high-quality cancer services.

Hillingdon Hospital

In July, The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust announced the Trust Board had approved the submission of the draft Strategic Outline Case for the redevelopment of Hillingdon Hospital to regulators. A new hospital build on the Hillingdon Hospital site is the preferred way forward and will be submitted to NHS England/Improvement for review and more detailed planning along with community feedback to test and develop plans further. The current hospital was built in the 1960s, with parts of the estate dating back to the 1930s, all the necessary repairs would over £211m - the second highest backlog maintenance cost of a hospital trust in England.

The Trust's vision is to build a new hospital, with all the current services but in a high quality, purpose-built facility providing:

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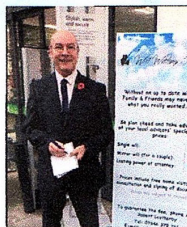
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LASTING POWER OF ATTORNEY

I began writing wills in 2007 and have found most responsible people usually make a will but appointing an attorney via a lasting power of attorney to make decisions for you should you become mentally or physically incapable is an often overlooked precaution that many people do not consider.

Most people realize they are not immortal so one day they will definitely need a will but not everyone considers how their affairs will be run if they become incapable of doing it themselves, through either mental or physical incapacity.

The usual presumption is I will sort it out when the time comes, but often the time comes when it is too late, a sudden stroke or the beginnings of dementia can come along quicker than you realize and once mental incapacity arrives you cannot authorize a lasting power of attorney.

The option then is for someone to apply to the Court of Protection to volunteer to be your deputy, an expensive time consuming procedure with no guarantee they will be accepted by the court.

The government actively encourage everyone to appoint an attorney of their choosing sooner rather

than too late as then the attorney/attorneys will be people you trust and more importantly who know what your wishes are regarding your property, finances and personal welfare issues.

Once you have chosen your attorney/attorneys the relevant forms can be compiled and registered with the office of the public guardian so should you ever need any help in the future you already have in place the person/people you want with the authority to make decisions on your behalf for your benefit.

Most companies/solicitors charge very substantial fees to help with the compilation and registration of a lasting power of attorney, often costing up to £400, because I have come across far too many people who have left it too late to do an LPA I like to encourage everyone to put an LPA in place so only charge £60, this includes visiting the person who wants to give the LPA to explain how it works, contacting the attorney/attorneys to ensure they sign their relevant pages and registering the document with the Office of the Public Guardian.

There is a registration fee based on annual income; If annual income is over £12,000.00 the fee is £82.00. If under £12,000.00 the fee is £41. You can also get exemption from paying the fee if you are on certain benefits.



Call Robert on 07946379781
for advice, a leaflet or a free home visit
or email r.leatherby@sky.com



A Message from Nick Hurd

Nick Hurd SMEs in Northwood Hills (and the surrounding area) “Access for Finance”

I learnt many things as your MP. One of them was the critical importance of small businesses and charities to our sense of community and belonging.

Whether it be the shops that make Joel street distinctive, or the community groups that bring us together and provide support in time of need, we cannot take them for granted.

One thing they do need is access to the right kind of funding support. Too many charities depend on precarious hand to mouth fundraising. In this new environment, that has become even harder. When I was at the start of my time in Government, I worked to help build the concept of social investment to provide longer term finance. For the investor it is an opportunity to blend financial return and positive social impact. For the charity or social enterprise that can repay it is a much more efficient way of getting longer term, patient capital. Social or impact investing is growing fast around the world, and I am proud to say that the UK leads the world in the concept.

So when I decided to step out of politics, I was pleased to be invited to Chair the Access Foundation for Social Investment. We work with partners like the Big Lottery to provide grants and loans to help charities be more financially resilient. We seem to be filling a gap and the Government has given us more resources to help charities through this emergency. That is right: as we look to “Build back Better” we should not forget those organisations that are so often the community glue.

I don't miss politics but I do miss the constituency: I hope everyone is bearing up in these difficult and unsettling times and I send my best to all residents of Northwood Hills.

The Arts Society Moor Park

Forthcoming talks, free to all. Until Winston Churchill Hall Re-opens, view on-line from 10:45am.

To participate, email moorparkdfas@gmail.com. A link will be sent to you the day before the lecture.

WEDNESDAY 21 OCTOBER 2020

John Ruskin: his impact, achievement and legacy by David Cross

WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2020

Catherine de Medici, poor Queen: The story of three in a marriage by Caroline Rayman

WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY 2021

The Subtle Art of Fake News by Geri Parlby

WED 17 FEBRUARY 2021

A Life in Fashion: The Wardrobe of Cecil Beaton by Dr Benjamin Wild

PPE and St John's School

During lockdown, 2 pupils from St John's School wanted to use their skills to help the NHS and other critical workers. In late March, 13 year old Andreas Georgiou began to design face shields using his 3D printer at home. He joined a group of volunteers from across the UK, 3DCrowdUK, founded by palliative-medicine doctor James Coxon who were using their 3D printers to print face shields and distribute to organisations in need. Andreas managed to set up a small production line and by the end of April had made 60 frames. Soon after, he was printing 5 sets at a time, maximising the 3D printer space and capacity. Each set took 13 hours to print and the printer was in use day and night. By the end of May he had delivered 220 shields.

12 year old Cyrus Brealey had also signed up to 3DCrowdUK. His Dad is an ITU consultant at University College Hospital working with engineers from University College London and the Mercedes F1 team to develop new machines to help people breathe. Cyrus printed the headband on his printer at home and Head of DT at St John's School, Mrs McSween, kindly lent him the school 3D printer so that he could print the chin guard. The Watford 3DCrowdUK Hub then printed the clear visor and assembled the face shields. Among the places they supplied were the radiography department at Watford General Hospital and a nursing home in Bushey. In early June, when his printer decided it needed a rest Cyrus called some companies for help to raise the £500+ for a new one. Luckily CraftUnique and RAM Peripherals came to his rescue and within 48 hours couriered a Craftbot Plus 3D printer and plenty of filament to keep it going. Cyrus was able to send the completed PPE directly to the people who needed it locally, one being Fairway Care Home which had opened recently in Green lane, Watford. The home helps Covid-19 patients who have been discharged from hospital but aren't ready to go home.

The boys really enjoyed being able to use their design and technical skills in the real world. Getting the different printing materials right and optimising the process was not straight forward and the boys were grateful for the support of their parents in their endeavours!

The Front cover of the Echo proudly shows members of the radiography department at Watford General Hospital wearing St John's Visors.

Northwood Live at Home: MHA Communities West London

Northwood Live at Home is changing its name to MHA Communities West London. This was planned some time ago but put on hold because of COVID.

Unfortunately we still do not expect to be able to run any indoor face to face activities for a considerable time. In the meantime we are running some virtual and outdoor exercise classes as well as telephone befriending. We are recruiting new members and volunteers who would benefit from our current service, so if you know anyone please ask them to contact us. Our contact details are:

MHA Communities West London, Hallowell Road, HA6 1DN
Tel: 01923 842494. Website: www.mha.org.uk

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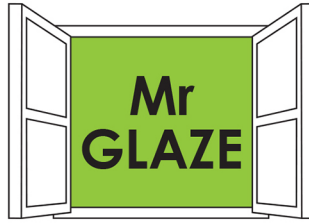
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Email: suzinman57@gmail.com



Northwood F.C.

It's been a summer of change at Northwood F.C. as the club begins a new season after the previous one was cut short by the Coronavirus pandemic which impacted on the club on a personal note with the loss of much-loved President Pat Byrne.

The renovation of the Chestnut Avenue ground has been completed and the club celebrated the awarding of its new "C – Grading", which allows the club to play one level up from its present step 4 status, by renaming the ground the Fenton Civil Engineering Stadium in recognition of a new sponsorship partnership.

Much work has been done to allow the club to welcome back spectators in a safe environment with a rigorous risk assessment having been undertaken and protocols put in place under the watchful eye of the club's Covid Officer, John Joyce.

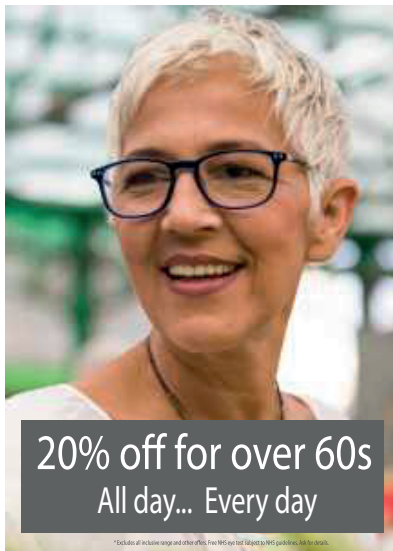
The club is once again offering a fantastic season ticket deal which allows spectators to watch all the Isthmian League games and Under 18 midweek matches for a mouth-watering £45. With professional clubs still unable to welcome back fans there is no better time to support your local club and get your football fix.

Season ticket info plus fixture details can be found at www.northwoodfc.com plus you can keep up to date by following on twitter @northwoodfc.



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Copy Date for the Spring/Summer Edition

The next copy date will be Friday
5th March 2021 (advertisers:
Friday 26th February please),
ready for distribution before the
end of April.

Thank you

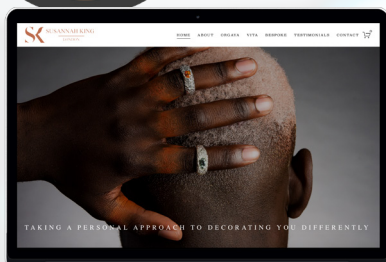
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advertisers, we would
hope that their
commitment to us, the
residents, will
encourage residents to
use local shops and
businesses.

Thank you

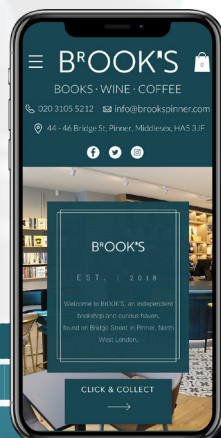


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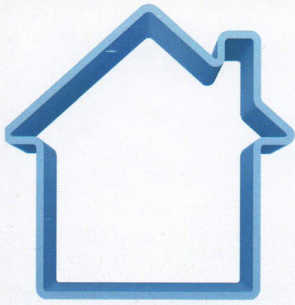
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