

GREENHILL MANOR RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2015

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Introduction

A big thank you to everyone who has joined the Association and an even bigger thanks to those who came to the Annual General Meeting on the 7th May.

This newsletter goes to everyone living in our area. I hope you will join or renew your membership. The committee, all volunteers, spend time on GMRA business because we see the value of joining together. It is encouraging to have the support of local people - those who join the association, come to the AGM and talk to their Road representative about any issues. Together we have a voice with bodies like the council and the police. The other way round they have an easier way to find out what a number of people think by consulting us as well as communicating with people separately. The Association voices local concerns, for example, on the brown bin charge of £75 being introduced in October or on developments which seem to have a negative effect on the area and the neighbours.

The Annual General Meeting 7th May 2015

The Treasurer, Maury Solovitz, reported on a healthy balance in the accounts. Do speak to your road representative if you have an idea for a project which would benefit our immediate area. It must not involve any cost after it is set up, for example, the council would not be able to maintain more flower beds.

Margaret Bristow commented on two recent cases of attempted car jacking. In two separate incidents, drivers were waiting at traffic lights in South Harrow when men tried to get into their cars, so they had to drive off even if the lights were red.

One resident had an attempted burglary on his van and tools by a group of men who backed up to it in daylight and opened the door. Luckily the neighbours saw and alerted the owner.

The council's new street lighting in Bonnersfield Lane and the immediate area is a big improvement and a member asked that it be extended to more roads. The lighting in Hill Crescent is poor.

Unfortunately the speaker, Chief Fire Officer for the borough, did not appear. When phoned, he was apparently on the way to an emergency call out. I am very sorry if people came particularly to hear him.

Fire Safety

You can make an appointment with the London Fire Brigade for a free home fire safety visit, where you will get personal fire safety advice in your home and will also have a free smoke alarm fitted where needed. Call free on 08000 28 44 28 or email smokealarms@london-fire.gov.uk

www.london-fire.gov.uk is an excellent website, very thorough and clear. If you do not have access to the web, try looking it up at the local library. For example, the following on smoke alarms:-

Smoke alarms

Every home should have at least one working smoke alarm per floor

Working smoke alarms, also known as smoke detectors, are essential as they provide vital early warning and allow extra time to escape if there is a fire in your home. They can also alert neighbours to the danger of fire.

Smoke alarms are affordable and easy to install. They are available from DIY and electric shops, and most high street supermarkets.

Choosing and fitting your smoke alarm

- Make sure any alarm you buy is marked with a current British Standards or European (CE) safety mark
- Fit smoke alarms on every level of your home ceiling or high up on a wall, if the instructions state it is suitable to do so
- Make sure you cover every room containing a fire risk
- Fit smoke alarms away from kitchens or bathrooms as steam can damage the alarm, or set it off by mistake
- Consider installing a smoke alarm with a 10 year battery
- Fit extra smoke alarms if you have difficulty leaving the house quickly to give you an advanced warning

How to make sure your smoke alarm works

- Test your smoke alarm every week
- Change the battery when the low battery warning operates
- Never disconnect or take the batteries out of your alarm if it goes off by mistake
- Do not try to remove batteries in 10 year smoke alarms as they cannot be removed or replaced

Other types of detection

Heat detectors are designed for use in the kitchen and will go off when a certain temperature is met or when the temperature in the room rises at a certain rate.

They are not meant to replace smoke alarms, but using a combination of the two can provide maximum protection against the dangers of fire in the home.

Deaf or hard of hearing

Strobe light and vibrating-pad smoke alarms are available for those who are deaf or hard of hearing. Visit [Action on Hearing Loss](#) for more information.

Police News

Sergeant Russell Grayson and Constable Joe Nangle from the Greenhill Safer Neighbourhood Team came along to the AGM. Elmgrove Road, Crystal Way and Wickes car park and Churchfields and the back of Lowlands college are areas of particular concern at present due to problems with drugs and drink. Sgt. Russ told us about the Ward newsletter, which comes out every month and says what the police are doing and whether any street briefings are being held. Some people signed up for it at the meeting but, otherwise, email greenhill.snt.@met.police.uk. Once you have given your email, you will also be alerted about recent happenings, like a new scam. The police have published a 'Little book of Big Scams', which can be downloaded. If you particularly want a hard copy, ask your road rep. They will try to get one for you.

Planning Matters

There was a report in the local media that Wickes headquarters, now vacant, on the corner of Elmgrove Road and Station Road, may be taken over by one of the new private schools. The amount of traffic generated by a school is considerable so any further news will be watched for. Jack Bye on the committee scrutinises local planning applications to see whether they affect our area. Since we live so close to the town centre, developments there may affect us as well.

One recent trend is for hotels to turn into flats and new hotels to be built. Temple House on the corner of Greenhill Way and Station Road, not an old building, is demolished and a new hotel will be erected. The Cumberland Hotel has put in for permission to demolish and put up a block of flats. Similarly the Harrow Hotel at the top of the Pinner Road is presently used by the housing charity St. Mungo's but has applied to be turned into flats. The Comfort Inn on the corner of Manor Road and Northwick Park Road has recently renewed the permission to expand by another 134 rooms. Does anyone know the reasoning behind these moves? Back in the late sixties several pubs in Harrow were shut and converted to other uses and then later more pubs were built, presumably at some expense if they need cellars.

Your Greenhill councillors to deal with local matters

Susan Anderson - EMAIL sue.anderson@harrow.gov.uk

Keith Ferry - EMAIL keith.ferry@harrow.gov.uk

Ghazanfar.Ali – EMAIL Ghazanfar.Ali@harrow.gov.uk

Your member of Parliament

Gareth Thomas was re-elected MP for Harrow West at the recent election. He lives locally, went to school in Harrow and has been Harrow West MP since 1997.

The constituency office is 132 Blenheim Road, West Harrow, HA2 7AA
Tel: 020 8861 6300. Surgeries are usually held on Fridays on a weekly basis.

gareth.thomas@harrowlabour.org

His Parliamentary address is
House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Tel: 020 7219 4243

Fax: 020 7219 1154

thomasgr@parliament.uk

Your current committee

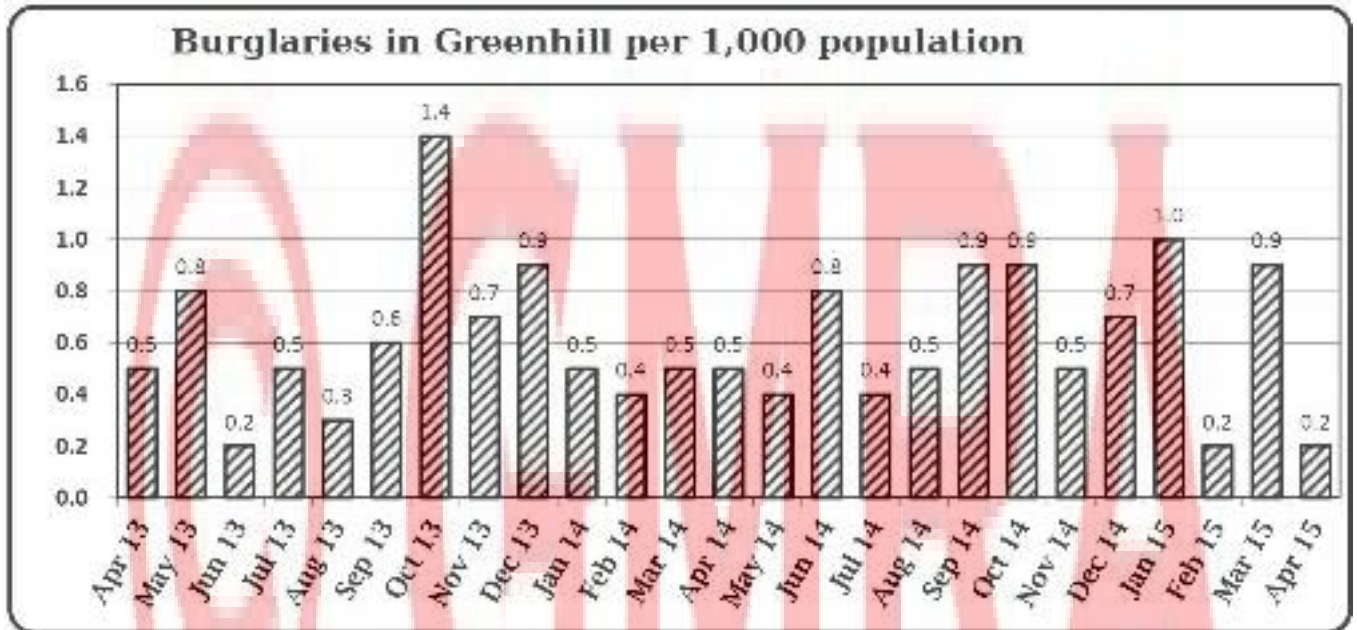
Chairman.....	Margaret Bristow, 118 Crofts Road
Vice Chairman.....	<i>Position vacant</i>
Secretary	Helen Shorter, 55 Grange Road
Treasurer	Eddie Griffiths, 11 Northwick Park Road
Bonnorsfield Lane, Close &..	
Croft Villas.....	Noor Mohamed, 71 Bonnorsfield Lane
Crofts Road	Margaret Bristow, 118 Crofts Road
Francis Road	Bijal Vekaria, 35 Francis Road
Grange Road	Helen Shorter, 55 Grange Road
Hill Crescent and Road ...	Myrna Albertsen, 27 Hill Crescent
Manor Road	Mike Moran, 43 Manor Road
Northwick Park Road	Sylvia Farooqi } Gwen Batham } Northwick Pk.Rd.

A Vice Chairman is needed. Please think about it or if there is anyone else you could suggest. There are six committee meetings a year, which usually only last from 7.30pm to 8.30 or so. It is an opportunity to see how the committee works and, if the Chairperson is absent, to run the meeting

Greenhill Burglaries

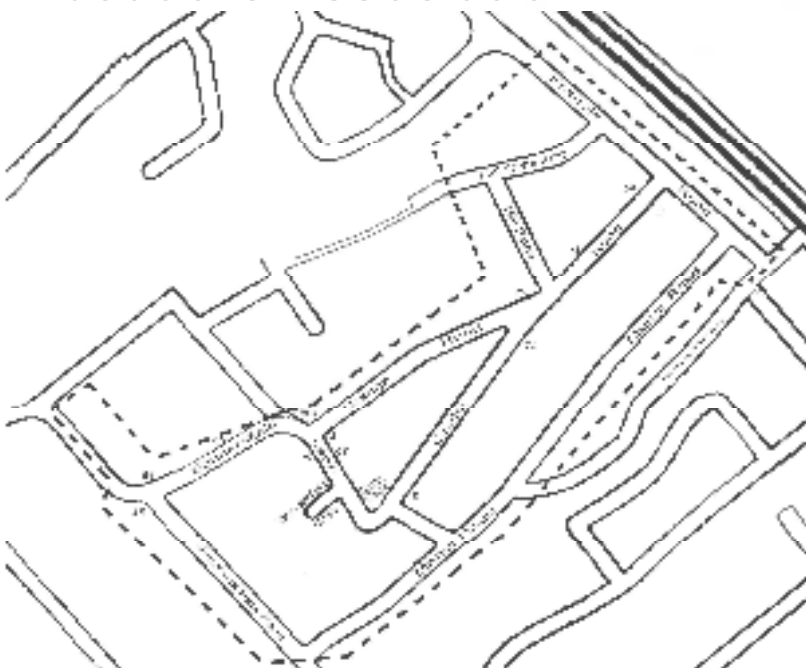
Here is the chart with the latest burglary figures for Greenhill – unfortunately rather higher for March 2015 but far lower in April 2015!

The chart below shows how the number of burglaries in the whole of Greenhill has changed through the last two years. It should be noted that Greenhill extends past the town centre as far as Bessborough Road.



These figures were produced by the Metropolitan Police. They show the number of burglaries for every 1,000 people.

About the Association



The Association is a non-political, non-religious organisation run by your neighbours for the benefit of all residents in Greenhill Manor [see map], whether they are home-owners or tenants.

Useful Telephone Numbers

All MAJOR emergencies	999
Harrow Council	
Civic Centre	(020) 8901 2600
Abandoned Cars	(020) 8424 1548
Removal of bulky items.....	(020) 8424 1770
Metropolitan Police – Urgent	999
Metropolitan Police - Harrow Police Station	(020) 8423 1212
Anti-Terrorist Hot Line	0800 789 321
Crimestoppers (confidential)	0800 555 111
Greenhill Safer Neighbourhood Unit	
.....	(020) 8721 2780
or mobile.....	0782 565 7975
To report an electricity power cut	0800 783 8838
National Gas Emergency Service	0800 111 999
Water leak (Affinity Water)	0800 376 5325
Telephone Preference Service - to stop unwanted calls.....	0845 070 0707
Mail Preference Service	(020) 7291 3310
Harrow Energy Efficiency Advice helpline and Energy Saving Guidance	0800 838 650
Brent and Harrow Trading Standards Service Shoppers rights	(020) 8937 5555

