

# GREENHILL MANOR RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## NEWSLETTER – Autumn 2018

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### YOUR CONCERNS

Your committee has been listening to you, and it appears that, close on the heels of fly tipping, rats are causing concern. There are a few simple things we can try to deter them such as not putting any food out for birds where rats maybe able to reach it, and clearing any undergrowth from around your plants. Rats do not like exposed places and prefer to hide amongst bushes and flowers and then dash out and grab some titbit they have seen.

It can be helpful if you can ascertain where the rats are coming from. If they are coming from a neighbour's garden, perhaps you could have a word with them and tackle it together. If you have access to a computer, [www.harrow.gov.uk/rats](http://www.harrow.gov.uk/rats) will give you lots of companies who deal with the removal of rats, or alternatively, the Harrow People Magazine, which is delivered to every house, will give you the details of some companies

## **NEWS FROM THE SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD PANEL**

The Safer Neighbourhood Panel has arranged another INTERACTIVE Public Meeting by popular demand on November 8<sup>th</sup> at the Harrow Civic Centre in the Council Chamber.

BCU Commander, Detective Chief Superintendent Simon Rose, will be giving the latest policing updates, especially about the merger of the three boroughs - Barnet, Brent and Harrow. He is keen to engage with you and is mindful of your concerns, in particular, about the recent serious incidents in Harrow, which will be addressed, in addition to crime prevention and other relevant matters.

Also, we are honoured to have a special guest from New Scotland Yard Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu, Head of Special Operations in charge of Counter Terrorism of the UK. He has been in the position since March 2018 and will tell you whatever he feels relevant about such an important and topical subject.

Registration starts at 6.30pm sharp. Meeting starts at 7pm and aims to finish 9pm. Please send your questions via:  
<https://www.saferharrow.co.uk/questions>

### **Being a councillor**

There is a story about a man who was being interviewed by his political party to see if he would be a suitable council candidate and was asked if he would have time to be a councillor. "Yes" he said confidently. "I've checked the website and I can easily make 5 meetings a year". Most councillors hearing this must think "If only". There may be councillors somewhere who do 5 meetings a year, but I haven't met them.

A councillor's role is to represent residents and look after their ward, while looking at the interests of the local authority as a whole. If you belong to a political party, you will have to bear in mind your party's policies as well.

So how does this work out in practice?

Getting out and about: – it's important to take time to walk around the ward, seeing what's going on, attend local events and meetings and talk to people on the doorstep. In addition, residents contact you directly

about their concerns, mostly by email, but also by phone, social media, the occasional letter - and catching up with you when you're out and about. Issues can be anything from fly tipping to modern slavery to diabetes treatment, and here a councillor's role is not to be an expert on the subject, but to know someone who is. Additionally, issues residents raise can inform discussions you have with colleagues and officers, and can result in improvements in policy and practice.

Attending meetings – Council meetings – Full Council is the main decision-making body - meets about five times a year and all councillors are expected to attend these meetings. In addition most councillors will belong to at least one other formal committee, such as Overview and Scrutiny or the Planning committee. Then there are ward specific meetings such as meetings on the new town centre library project and briefings on a particular area, such as housing policy. Most of these meetings come with papers to read, which can range from one side of A4 to 600 pages, so you spend a lot of time reading and making notes, It is always embarrassing to ask a question which was answered on page 2 of a report.

There is no such thing as a trainee councillor. Once you're a councillor, you're a councillor. Fortunately, there is training and support available, both formally through training sessions on ethics, planning, licensing etc and online training but also by getting out and about with officers to see what they do. I have gone out on a bin lorry, helped deliver meals on wheels and sat in on safeguarding meetings amongst other things.

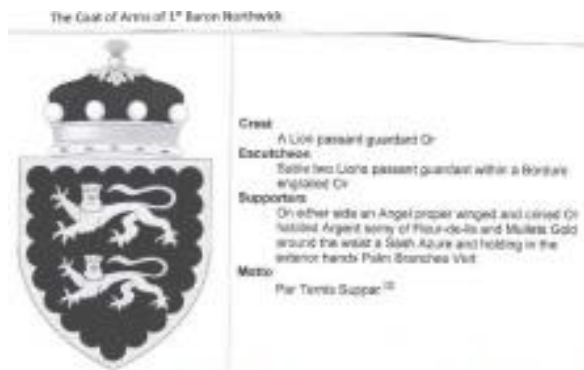
Also, there are regular updates on policy issues and opportunities for further learning from bodies such as the Local Government Association, which help to keep you up-to-date. Policy issues and political challenges are also discussed in group meetings (regular meetings of councillors from your political party).



Being a councillor takes time and effort – but has its compensations - you meet a lot of great people along the way, you learn a lot and no day is the same.

Cllr. Sue Anderson

## NORTHWICK?



We are all familiar with the titles of 'Northwick Park' and 'Northwick Park Hospital' and, of course, Northwick Park Road, but who or what is 'Northwick'? The fact is, if in the late 1700's Sir James Rushout (there's a 'Rushout Avenue just across Kenton Road) had not met and married Alice

Pitt, we would not have acquired the name locally. The Manor of Harrow (the Manor House was where Gold's gymnasium stands now) had passed from the North family to the Pitts so in 1672 the Sir James, through his marriage, came into possession. He succeeded to the Rushout baronetcy of Milnst, Essex and was 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Northwick of Northwick Park in the county of Worcester. He also owned 'Flambards' – the big house on the Hill, hence Flambard Road. He received much of his lands at the time of the Enclosures, when much common land was taken from the people,

As Lord of the Manor, Lord Northwick owned a considerable acreage of land in Harrow. At the time of the Enclosures he possessed 1,258 acres. This made him the biggest landowner in the area now bounded by the London Borough of Harrow. In 1761 he was elected as Member of Parliament for Evesham and held the seat until 1796. He died in 1800 aged 62 and was buried in Worcestershire.

His son John Rushout was born in Westminster. He had many prominent friends including Horatio Nelson and several artists and writers. He was the first man in Europe to receive news of the Battle of the Nile, hearing it from Nelson himself. He had lived in Italy but returned to this country on the death of his father, when he succeeded as 2<sup>nd</sup> Baron Northwick and 6<sup>th</sup> Baronet of Milnst. He appears in the books of Anthony Trollope, the author, whose father had rented a poor farm from him at Harrow. It is now known as 'Orley Farm.' Northwick was a landowner behind many developments in Cheltenham.

In 1834 the railway came through Harrow and Lord Northwick, as well as receiving money for land and compensation, was also given twenty shares of the company in full for his Manorial rights over the land in the parishes of Harrow and Pinner. John Rushout spent huge sums on art



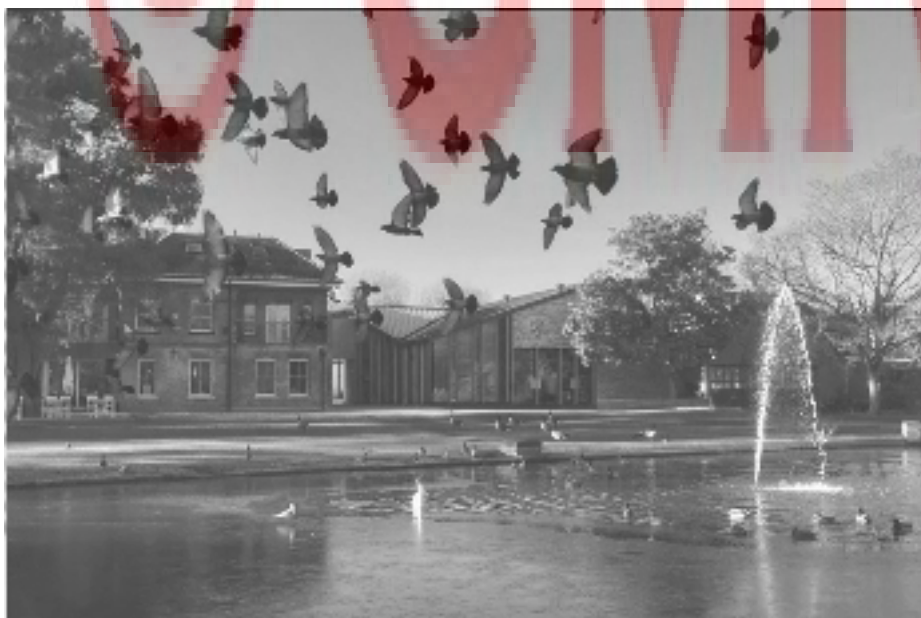
and antiques and on buildings to house them. He died in 1859 aged 88, intestate and childless. As a result his collection was sold off and items from it appear in many collections throughout the world.

The Baronetcy passed to George Rushout as 3<sup>rd</sup> Baron Northwick who was the son of Reverend the Hon. George Rushout-Bowles, the younger son of the 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Northwick. He was educated at Harrow School. He was Member of Parliament for Evesham until 1841 and became M.P. for Worcester East between 1847 and 1859 when he entered the House of Lords. He became a governor of Harrow School and Cheltenham College. Lord Northwick died in 1887 aged 76 when his title became extinct as there were no surviving children.

So that's where 'Northwick' comes from. It's amazing what history a title, whether a road or a building can produce!

## **WHERE SHALL WE GO?**

Heath Robinson, best known for his whacky cartoons, lived in Pinner from 1908 to 1918. The Heath Robinson Museum situated in the Pinner Memorial Park next to West House was opened in 2016 after many years of hard work by a group of volunteers raising interest, funds and grants to pay for the enterprise.



Heath Robinson trained at the Islington School of Art, then at the Royal Academy Schools. His ambition was to be a landscape painter but he had to find a more profitable form of art, so he joined his brothers as a book illustrator.

His work has been described as being 'for lovers of landscape paintings, advertising enthusiasts, dads building contraptions in sheds, believers in fairies, children with time to dream, people who put holes in

cheese and anyone who has ever held something together with a bit of string' - in fact something for everyone.

His work is displayed in the museum in two light airy rooms with many of his cartoons round the walls. Although he never made models of his crazy designs, there are a few made up and on display. From time to time there are special exhibitions on show. The museum is open from 11am to 4pm Thursday to Sunday

There is limited parking at the Museum but plenty of parking in the Chapel Lane car park, then walk up through the park or 183 buses into Pinner and again walk up through the park.

## **HOW SAFE IS YOUR HOME?**

The days are getting shorter and the evenings are darker earlier, which often leads to an increase in residential burglaries. Below is a quick reminder on what to do when you leave your home. Most of these you will already do automatically:

- Close and lock all doors and windows, even if you are only going out for a few minutes.
- Set your burglar alarm
- Make sure the side and/ or back gate is locked
- Lock your shed or garage
- Make sure that any valuables are not in sight
- Use automatic timer-switches to turn a light on after dark so your home appears occupied
- Put keys out of sight and reach of letterboxes
- In the evening, shut the curtains and leave some lights on.
- Never leave car documents or ID in obvious places such as kitchens or hallways.

If you are going to be away for days or weeks at a time, don't forget to cancel newspaper and milk deliveries.

Consider asking neighbours to close curtains, or park on your drive.

Use a timer device to automatically turn lights and a radio on at night.

You can find more Burglary prevention advice on

<https://www.met.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/residential-burglary/>

## THE SCHOOL ON THE CORNER

It's remarkable how we take our environment around us for granted. The road names, the buildings, the houses we live in – all have a history, which can be quite fascinating. Take the school on the corner of



Gayton Road, now known as Harrow High. This is over 100 years old and its origins go back much further.

In the late 1800's the expansion of Harrow – due to the railway - created a need for a state school for boys. The girls of Harrow, if they could afford the fees, had quite a choice of schools but the boys had to hope for a rare place at the Lower School of John Lyon, and, from 1902, there were Alpha School and Quinton Hall School. All were fee-paying schools. There was also Cave's School in the Victoria Hall next to St. John's Church which was local. The population was 151 people in 1851 but by 1896 it had grown to over three thousand – and still growing, not least because of the development of industry in the area – Kodak opened in 1902 to be followed soon after by a large print works which eventually became H.M.S.O.

The pressure to open a boy's school was increasing annually and the responsibility lay with the Middlesex County Council. Elementary

education remained mainly for working class children while secondary education was the province of the middle and upper classes. The population for which the Middlesex County Council was responsible was Wealdstone 11,923, Wembley 10,696 and Harrow 17,202, double what it had been ten years earlier. Harrow School took several boys from the area, which it was obliged to do under its charter, but the pressure was such that the John Lyon Lower School was built, opened in 1879. It was a fee-paying school, although they were obliged to take on a limited number of 'free' boys.

In 1909 the Middlesex Education Committee decided that a Secondary School must be built in addition to the Lower School. A 5¾ acre site on Sheepcote Road was purchased at a cost of £3,050, including the cost of making up the road. After much legal wrangling and debate the school was built with several governors contemplating calling it The County School of John Lyon. The new school was opened with a great deal of pomp and ceremony in 1911 and the first headmaster, Ernest Young, transferred from being headmaster at John Lyon Lower School. He had travelled extensively and had taught in Siam where he had lived for over five years, and had written several books about the country. He started a Scout Group, which, after a visit from Baden-Powell, the founder of the Scout movement, became the largest troop of Scouts in England. There were friendships with Scout Groups all over Europe to be ended by the advent of the First World War, which had a profound effect on the School.

The prospectus of the School stated:

'The object of the school is to furnish a liberal and modern education to boys from the age of ten years and upwards to the age of 17. The course of instruction includes Scripture, reading, writing, geography history, English Grammar, Composition and Literature, French, German, Arithmetic, Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics, Drill and Singing, and such other subjects as the Governors may arrange from time to time.'

The School is inspected by the University and by the Board of Education.

It was clear that the boys were going to be fully occupied while at Harrow County School for Boys.



## **Your Greenhill councillors to deal with local matters**

Susan Anderson - EMAIL [sue.anderson@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:sue.anderson@harrow.gov.uk)  
Mobile number: 07875094900

Keith Ferry - EMAIL [keith.ferry@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:keith.ferry@harrow.gov.uk)  
Mobile number: 07922227147

Ghazanfar Ali – EMAIL [Ghazanfar.Ali@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:Ghazanfar.Ali@harrow.gov.uk)  
Mobile Number: 07840 514852

## **Your Member of Parliament**

Gareth Thomas was re-elected MP for Harrow West at the last election.

Gareth Thomas 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](mailto: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](mailto:thomasgr@parliament.uk)

## Your current committee

Chairman	Hemuna Pather-Carr, 41 Northwick Park Road
Vice Chairman	Margaret Bristow
Secretary	Helen Shorter, 55 Grange Road
Treasurer	Eddie Griffiths, 11 Northwick Park Road
<b>Road Representatives</b>	
Bonnorsfield Lane, Close & Croft Villas	<b><i>Position Vacant</i></b>
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	San Thaker, 35 Francis Road
Manor Road	Mike Moran, 43 Manor Road
Northwick Park Road	Sylvia Farooqi, Northwick Park Road

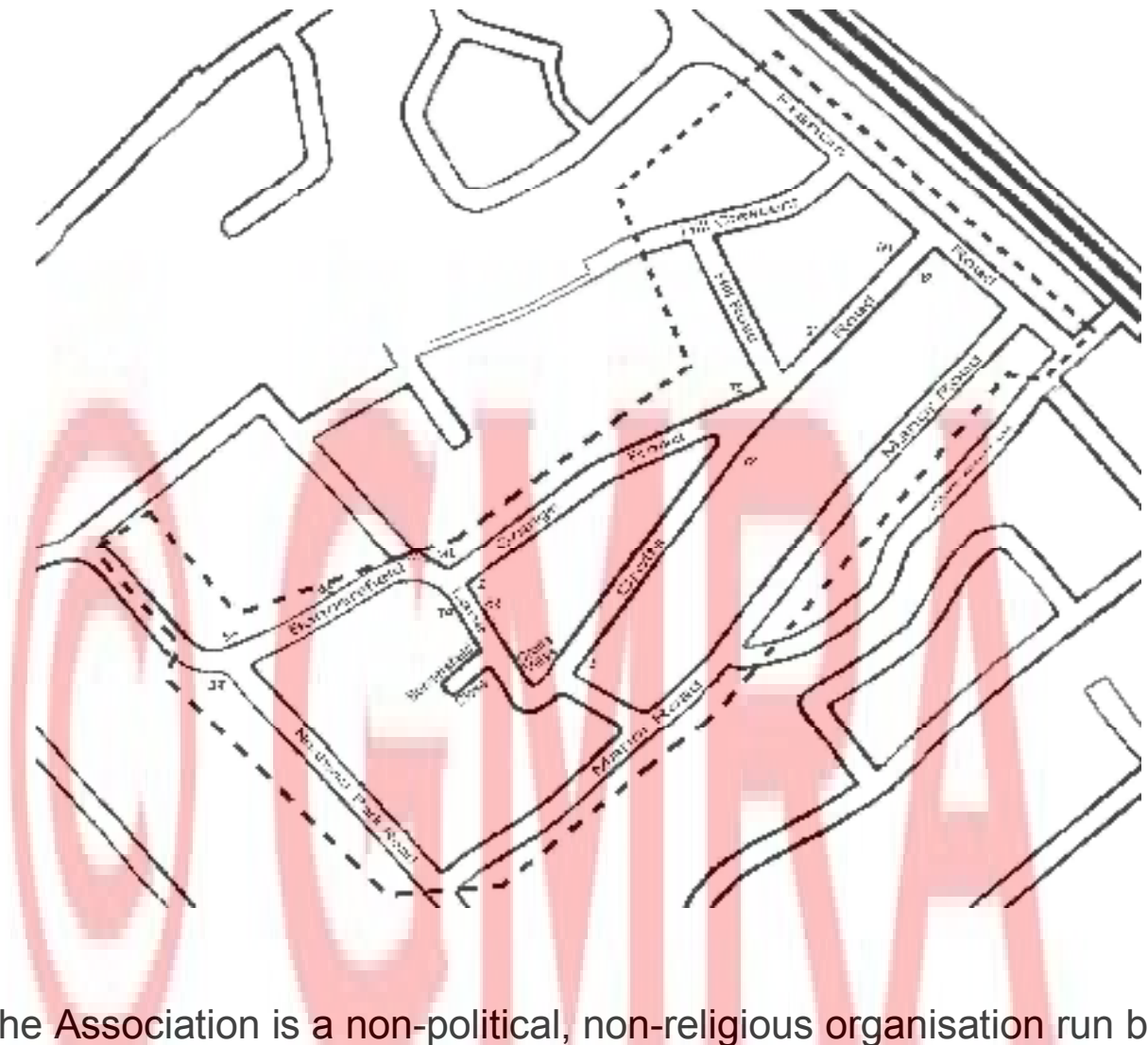
***A Road Representative is needed for Bonnorsfield Lane and Close and Croft Villas. There are six committee meetings a year, which usually only last from 7.30pm to 8.30 or so. Members' subs are collected once a year, after the AGM.***

Newsletter Producer	Noor Mohamed, 71 Bonnorsfield Lane
Newsletter Editor	Peter Hamill, 19 Crofts Road

## Useful Telephone Numbers

All <b>MAJOR</b> emergencies: Fire, Police or Ambulance	999
Harrow Council	
Civic Centre	(020) 8901 2600
<b>Metropolitan Police – Urgent</b>	<b>999</b>
Metropolitan Police - Harrow Police Station and request Harrow Police Station Anti-Terrorist Hot Line	(020) 8423 1212  0800 789 321
Crime Stoppers (confidential)	0800 555 111
Greenhill Safer Neighbourhood Unit Or MOBILE	(020) 8721 2780  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

## 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.