

GREENHILL MANOR RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER & AGM: Spring 2023

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Chairperson's Report

Dear Residents,

I hope you are all well. It is now 6 years since I have taken this post as Chairperson. We hope to knock on your doors again and distribute our Spring leaflet and chat to residents about any concerns and share good news. During 2022-2023, we had the opportunity of meeting our MP Gareth Thomas, and Sgt Tom Macken, Anda Ben-Chaim (from Harrow Police) who addressed the residents in Moelwyn Mews, Elmgrove Crescent and took up concerns about a number of issues such as:

- Antisocial Behaviour
- Drug Taking
- Fly - tipping and litter - infestation of rats
- Speeding Cars
- Blocked Drains - adjacent to Golds GYM
- Car theft (Stealing catalytic converters)

In summary, the Police are aware of drug taking and aware of the slow process in removing drug takers. After 6 reminders the offenders are barred from the area. In terms of car theft, the police have advised to contact the police instead of putting yourself in danger.

In terms of Litter -picking Gareth Thomas is aware of this problem as he is actively involved in litter-patrols in the borough. Gareth is going to join Godfrey (our lead litter coordinator) in the Greenhill Ward.

In terms of blocked drains - Residents are advised to contact Thames Water as well as the Council.

Fly-tipping - contact the Council as well as our Lead coordinator.

Harrow Civic Centre is closed as many of its staff are working from home and many residents contact the Council remotely.

As you are aware, GMRA is a non-political organisation run by volunteers. We know that Harrow is the 4th safest borough with the best quality of life in 2023. Therefore, if you are a homeowner or renter, we would urge you to play a part in keeping our borough safe and aiming to capture the 2nd most attractive borough in a year's time. According to a recent survey, (Harrow on Line) Harrow is undoubtedly a popular choice when buying a property or relocating for the following reasons:

Harrow has one of the most culturally diverse and welcoming boroughs with many faiths, races and backgrounds.

It has a plethora of restaurants and eateries catering for ethnic minorities as well as the natives in and around Harrow. It has food from all over the world.

Harrow has very good public transport links to Central London and beyond.

We have very good parks, open spaces such as Pinner Park, Headstone Park and Stanmore Common to name a few.

Harrow has the famous private School "Harrow School" and there are also good state schools.

So, we have a lot to be proud of in our borough. I would therefore urge you to take an active part by joining our GMRA Association and offering to become an active volunteer.

Finally, I would like to inform you that our AGM is on the 26th April at Victoria Hall (8.00 - 9.30pm and I look forward to seeing you all. See Details Below.

Hemuna Pather Carr

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Greenhill Manor Residents' Association will be held on: Wednesday 26th April 2023, Victoria Hall, Sheepcote Road, Time: 8pm.

The Entrance is from the black gate which is on Sheepcote Road, left of the Church. Parking is very restricted in front of the gate.

As well as a chance to meet your neighbours, you can learn about the work of the committee and voice any concerns you have about local events.

Our speaker is Jonathan Milbourn, Head of Customer Services and Business Support, Harrow Council who will talk on **Contacting the Council**.

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Chairperson's Welcome and Review of 2022-23
3. Minutes of the AGM held 24th May 2022
4. Any matters arising from these minutes
 - a] Revised Constitution
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of Officers and Representatives

Nominations and/or volunteers will be welcomed for election to the positions of:

Chairperson
Deputy Chairperson
Secretary
Treasurer
Planning Adviser
Webmaster
Road Representatives

The following are prepared to remain in post: Hemuna Pather-Carr, Chairperson, Helen Shorter, Secretary (Grange Road Rep.), Eddie Griffiths, Treasurer, Muhib Anish (Francis Road Rep.), Sat Bains (Hill Road and Crescent Rep.), Godfrey O'Callaghan (Manor Road Rep.), Simon Dunkerley (Bonnersfield Lane and Close and Croft Villas Rep.), Sylvia Farooqi (Northwick Park Road Rep.), and Noor Mohamed (Newsletter producer and Webmaster).

There is a vacancy for a Deputy Chairperson and a Road Representative for Crofts Road. Volunteers are needed to help the Road Representatives.

7. Any other business

The business meeting will be followed by refreshments and then a talk on 'Contacting the Council'.

The hall must be cleared and all the furniture replaced before 10pm.

How does an octopus get up a mountain?

Up and down the country a large number of volunteers pick litter off our streets, parks, roadside verges and countryside. I once read a report of people picking up litter on Scafell Pike – England's highest peak. Amongst the fruit peel, bottles, bags and other stuff people take into the mountains to sustain themselves was an octopus – a whole one!

No one had any idea of how it might have got there. Perhaps it was a mascot accompanying a three peaks challenge group and it expired at that very point.



**Godfrey, Hemuna and
Eddie**

In Harrow there are a number of dedicated groups and in Greenhill Manor we have our own group of 5 to 6 people. You may well have seen one of us. Some might ask why it takes volunteers to do the job of the council when we pay council taxes. It's a good question but I think the answer might be that our council tax would rise even more. And litter isn't as straightforward to organise as, for instance, the waste bin collections. Litter is a random scattering of all sorts of things in all sorts of places.

Why for instance would someone hide litter between a green telecoms' cabinet and a fence? Why hang it from a tree and why throw it amongst bushes or, worse, into brambles? – it makes it so difficult to get the stuff out. Then of course there are the larger items placed or dumped on the street which all need to be reported for the council to collect. Litter picking can be a disappointing pastime but there are compensations. Residents stop to chat on occasions or give a word of thanks or greeting as they pass. And then there is a road cleared of litter – it just looks nice. The council support our efforts by supplying picking sticks, large bags and fluorescent jackets and collect the full bags. Our MP, Gareth Thomas, champions the litter picking efforts and joins some himself.

Where does the litter come from? There are many people on foot in the area passing through from shops in Kenton or Harrow and much comes from them. But people in cars are also responsible – it is all too easy to wind down a window and throw it out after eating a take away at the roadside or, simply, clearing the car out. And that brings me back to the octopus! I've not seen an octopus in Greenhill Manor but I have seen fish and chips!

Everyone is welcome to volunteer, please join to keep our streets clean!

Contact Godfrey O'Callaghan 07712341677

HARROW BAPTIST TENNIS CLUB



We are a very friendly local tennis club with a growing membership. We have 4 courts available for use by our members for self-organized games and social play plus coaching. We have 2 coaches, Marcio and Pamir who are very keen to teach children and adults to play tennis in group or individual sessions. It is so important to keep fit and enjoy being outdoors for physical and mental wellbeing.

Club Social play is on Wednesday evenings from 5pm and Saturday afternoons from 2.30pm until everyone has got too tired! From end Oct to End Mar winter social play is on Wednesday and Saturday mornings, weather permitting! However, members can book courts for their own organised play at most other times. We do require a reasonably competent level of play to join in social tennis, but beginners and novices are welcome to contact our coaches to bring their game up to the right level.

We do hold inter club tournaments in the summer and autumn, culminating in a **Finals Day on Saturday 22nd July 2023** usually with a BBQ afterwards! We also enter teams in the league matches so there is plenty of opportunity enjoy playing competitive tennis.

We will be holding an **Open Day on Saturday 20th May 2023** from 11am to 3pm when potential members are invited to come down and chat to current members and enjoy joining in a game of tennis. Our coaches will be available to chat and to book lessons so please do come along to meet everyone and see if tennis is for you. We are encouraging junior members hopefully with parents who already play to come along and visit the club.



The address of the tennis club is 44-46 Bonnersfield Lane, Harrow, Middx HA1 2LE. Our entrance is through the lane between houses No 44 and No 46.

To join the tennis club or if you have any questions, please contact the Membership Secretary, Keith Mayes on 020 8428 1279 or e-mail him on hbtctreasurer@gmail.com.

Look through any window, what do you see?

Part of the opening line from a Hollies song of the 60's

What birdlife you may see from your window!



In my garden I have birdfeeders containing various foods including seed & fat cakes which help attract birds to the area. However, in 2021 due to a “rodent” problem no feeders were displayed or filled and there were still plenty of species identifiable that year. On average I identify 18 different species per month over the 12-month period where some months have over 20 species and others less than 18.

I am hoping that you, the reader, may have a little knowledge of garden birds and may recognise House Sparrow which is still the most seen bird in gardens across the UK but declining in suburban areas such as ours.

Blue Tits and Great Tits are small birds that frequent gardens on a regular basis along with Robins, Dunnocks and Chaffinches.

Dunnocks are similar in size to Robins but are void of any colour with a grey head and striped back and they skulk in flower beds.

The next in size are the Blackbird which has a yellow bill in the male. Starlings are much under rated until the sun shines and their feathers show an iridescence which is truly wonderful.

Larger birds include Woodpigeon, Magpie and Carrion Crow.

The Magpie and Carrion Crow are much maligned as they feed fledgling small birds to their young. However, if you have them near you then it is proof that there are plenty of small birds around for their food chain, otherwise they would not be there!!

Let us now consider what birds we may see or hear as they fly over our gardens. There are the Gulls not seagulls. The most common is the Black-headed Gull with its distinctive “black” head which is really dark brown.

Also, the Lesser Black Backed which is larger and has darker wings. These two are very regular fliers over gardens.

If you have a neighbour with a large pond then you may see a Grey Heron in the sky looking for an easy meal.

The most recent addition to the birds over Harrow is the Red Kite which has made a comeback from near extinction last century. These are large birds that soar in the thermals looking for food they can scavenge and can be identified by their forked tail which is visible from the ground against the sky.





Another distinctive sight & sound is the exotic Ring-necked Parakeet which is hard to miss as it is a bright green parrot-like shape. You usually hear it before you see it due to its unmistakeable screech of a call!!

There are also birds you can hear as they pass overhead the best of which is the Swift as it screams in the sky from May to July and for me says summer has arrived.

If you are interested in learning more about the birds in general go online to the RSPB [Royal Society for the Protection of Birds] website where you will find illustrations in colour to aid you plus further information regarding birds. There is a leaflet produced by the RSPB showing the 15 most common birds identified in gardens annually however as this publication is colour it will not reproduce well here but by going on the RSPB website you will find coloured identification charts.

Finally, you may be interested in your local RSPB group based in Pinner so again search for Pinner RSPB Group online where you will find out what goes on locally. I hope you have found this article interesting and who knows we might meet in person somewhere looking at birds.

Ian Jackson, Group Leader Pinner RSPB Local Group.
Chaffinchs

The J O Y of an Allotment



It was suggested that I wrote my thoughts on the above statement; so, I thought about the J O Y. Then decided that the J stood for Jiggered. If you over do it, that is how you will end up. It is all about pacing one's self, and, by doing so, enjoying yourself. The O stands for not too old to take on an allotment; but be warned, there will be times when you might be tempted to think that you are, maybe getting a bit too old. Not that

OLD is in my dictionary, and it is a word that is over used. Then to the Y. That is for Yes; there is enjoyment in working an allotment.

The satisfaction of seeing a patch of soil that has been dug over, clear of weeds and waiting for plants and seeds. Take it steady and don't overdo it and it will be enjoyable. Have patience while things are growing; the end result is the knowledge that you have worked to get a crop. "All your own work." Mind you, after the fruit and veg are ready; then comes the picking and the digging up. If you have too much, and whatever the





crop, it all seems to come at the same time. You can always swop with a fellow plot holder. Or take it home, blanch it and put it in the freezer for later. Fresh air and exercise are all free, while you are working on your plot; and you can always take a break; and go over and interrupt another plot holder. It is not a matter of waving a magic wand; you will have to work at it regularly. You will get dirty hands and a few aches; but what is the expression. "No pain No gain". If you put some

effort into something; you get more out of it. So YES, there is joy in working an allotment; and it's not just the eating of your own crops.

Ian Heath

If you want to get an allotment, apply to the council.

SCAM

The following email you may receive. Do NOT get frightened. Put it in Scam folder or delete it.

Excerpt:

From: yourname@.co.uk <noor@anzed.co.uk>

Sent: 13 March 2023 11:48

To: yourname@.co.uk

Subject: ***SPAM*** Hey, what's up?

Greetings. I am the one who has infiltrated your system and accessed your private information.

You may wonder why I chose you as my target. The truth is, I am a professional hacker who develops and tests exploits in the wild. I saw that you fit the criteria of a potential target who could afford to pay and had indulged in some questionable online activities. Using my expertise, I discovered a vulnerability in your system and exploited it using a zero-day technique. This type of exploit takes advantage of software vulnerabilities that are unknown to the developer, giving me complete access to your computer. With a packet sniffer, I was able to intercept your browsing history and found evidence of your involvement in adult content. From there, it was a simple matter to create a compromising video of you that I can use to blackmail you if necessary.

As a hacker, I know the value of zero-day exploits and how they can be used to gain access to sensitive information. In your case, I used this technique to gain control of your entire digital life. I inserted bookmarks into your system and monitored all the traffic going in and out of your computer.

I am willing to offer you a deal to resolve this situation. If you make the right decision, I will delete all the content that I have and the bookmarks that I inserted into your system.

However, if you choose not to cooperate with me, I will take further action. I am a dedicated individual with obsessive-compulsive personality disorder, so I can assure you that I will follow through on my threats.

My ultimate goal is to get paid for my work, and once I receive the payment, we will both go our separate ways. But time is running out, and the deal that I offer will expire in just a few days. You have until the weekend to make a payment of 1500 USD worth of Bitcoin to my account below.

1MUptF6SZ7ycwGc5P1ZGCkP2JTgDs1bqjB

Remember that this situation can become more costly for you if you make the wrong decision. If you refuse to cooperate, I will release the compromising video that I have created, and the shame that you have brought upon yourself will be public for all to see. The choice is yours, but I strongly advise you to make the right one.

Article by: Noor Mohamed (Webmaster)

Your Member of Parliament

Gareth Thomas have been MP for Harrow West since 1997.

Gareth Thomas lives locally, went to school in Harrow and have 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
Website: www.harrowlabour.org

His Parliamentary address is
House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA
Tel: 020 7219 4243
Fax: 020 7219 1154
gareth.thomas.mp@parliament.uk

Your Councillors in Greenhill

Address to write to:

Room 102, Labour Group Office, PO Box 2, Civic Centre, Station Road,
HARROW, HA1 2UH

Councillor Dan Anderson

Work: Group Office: (020) 8424 1897

Work: dan.anderson@harrow.gov.uk

Councillor Aneka Shah-Levy

Work: Group Office: (020) 8424 1897

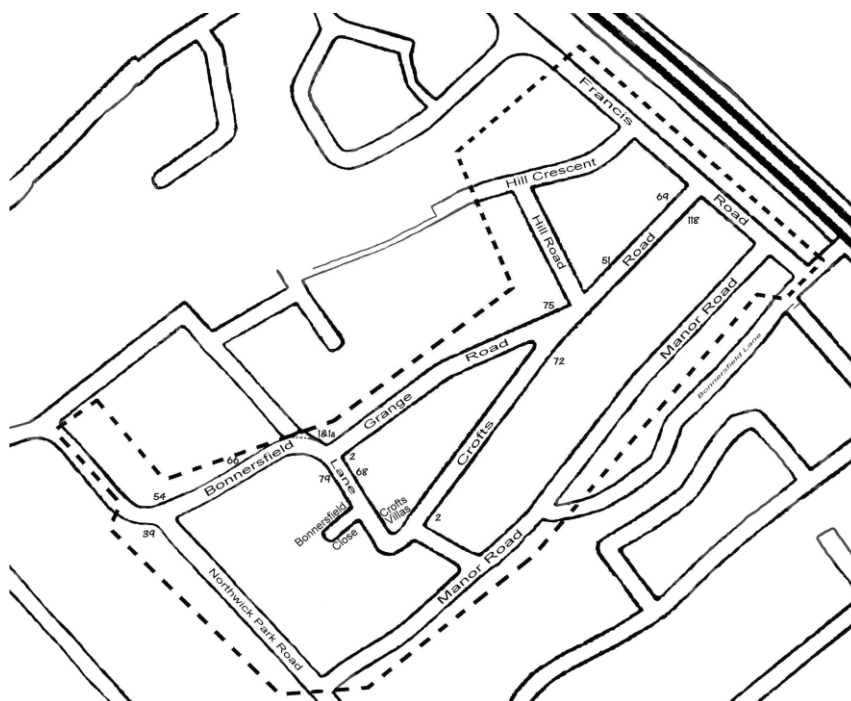
Work: aneka.shah-levy@harrow.gov.uk

Councillor Ghazanfar Ali

Mobile: 07940 506944

Email: ghazanfar.ali@harrow.gov.uk

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 owners of houses, flats or tenants.

GMRA Membership & Contact

By Post: Hemuna Pather-Carr, 41 Northwick Park Road, Harrow
By E-Mail: gmra@gmra.co.uk
Via web page: <http://gmra.org.uk/contact-gmra.html>

Your current committee

Chairperson	Hemuna Pather Carr, 41 Northwick Park Road
Deputy Chairperson	<i>Volunteer needed</i>
Secretary	Helen Shorter, 55 Grange Road
Treasurer	Eddie Griffiths, 11 Northwick Park Road
Webmaster	Noor Mohamed 71 Bonnersfield Lane
Road Representatives	
Bonnersfield Lane, Close & Croft Villas	Simon Dunkerley, 11 Manor Road
Crofts Road	<i>Volunteer needed</i>
Francis Road	Muhib Anish
Grange Road	Helen Shorter, 55 Grange Road
Hill Crescent and Road	Sat Bains, 35 Francis Road
Manor Road	Godfrey O'Callaghan 14 Lowndes Court
Northwick Park Road	Sylvia Farooqi Northwick Park Road

A representative is needed for Crofts Road and a volunteer is also needed as deputy Chairperson

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.

Useful Telephone numbers

All MAJOR emergencies: Fire, Police or Ambulance	999
Harrow Council	020 8863 5611
Metropolitan Police – Urgent	999
Metropolitan Police, request Harrow Police Station	(020) 8423 1212
Anti-Terrorist Hot Line	0800 789 321
Crime Stoppers (confidential)	0800 555 111
Greenhill Safer Neighbourhood Unit	(020) 8721 2780
To report an electricity power cut	0800 783 8838
National Gas Emergency Service	0800 111 999
Water leak (Affinity Water)	0800 376 5325
Thames Water for blocked sewers	0800 316 9800
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