

EASTCOTE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION **85th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

WILL BE HELD ON

TUESDAY 24th MAY 2016

at

ST THOMAS MORE RC CHURCH
32 FIELD END ROAD, EASTCOTE
at 7.30pm

Guest Speakers

The Hillingdon Volunteer Police Cadets

**The young Police Cadets will give a special presentation providing
you with advice on how to protect yourself from Cyber Crime**

ALL RESIDENTS WELCOME – WHETHER ERA MEMBERS OR NOT

Please come along to discover what the association does on your behalf
and let us know your concerns and expectations for Eastcote

Light refreshments will be served during the meeting

**Why not come along to one of our committee meetings which
are held on the last Wednesday of each month, except in
August and December.**

**We meet at the Elsie Fisher room in the bungalow beyond
St Lawrence Church, Bridle Road, Eastcote at 7.30pm.**

COUNCILLOR EDWARD LAVERY



I am one of three Councillors representing Cavendish Ward. I work with my colleagues Teji Barnes and Michael White.

Cavendish is the part of the borough going south from Eastcote towards South Ruislip. It is mainly residential but contains part of Eastcote shops, a small shopping parade in Whitby Road and the large green area covering Bessingby Park, Cavendish Pavilion and Pine Gardens play area. The ward also includes riverside walk by Yeading Brook an enjoyable walk for families and children where the

council try's deliberately to achieve a balance between tidy but wild enough to provide fun spaces for children to play away from the formal parks. The brook is managed by the Environment Agency and we have to negotiate with them to move a twig out of the river!

Ward Councillors are an important part of democracy as councils are responsible for delivering most of the services with greatest impact on the daily lives of residents. These include refuge, road repair, social care, education at primary level and planning. As Councillors we act as advocates for residents to solve problems including litter and anti-social behaviour. We can help and assist with the petition process in relation to planning and transport matters.

Councillors assist in the formation of council policy and the setting of the council budget. The budget determines annual spending plans and the level of council tax to be raised.

To improve the area there are two grants available to residents or residents groups. The Chrysalis Fund supports larger projects and in our ward has paid for improvements to the tennis courts at Cavendish Pavilion, the park improvements at the Queens Walk playground and work to the Eastcote Bowling Club. The ward budget is a smaller fund administered by your Councillors to make one off improvements to the local area and has assisted Newnham School with books, the Field End Allotment Society with new water butts, Eastcote Community Centre with indoor bowls mats and equipment for nurseries.

If you are involved with a group that could benefit from either of these grants please contact me on **020 8866 1367** or email **ELavery@hillingsdon.gov.uk**

POLICE MATTERS



***Rob Bryan,
Inspector for North Hillingdon***

In this newsletter I would like to share with you some of our headline successes from 2015:

Since 2012 crimes on the borough have been reduced by 26.5%. This is the fourth best reduction across all 32 Boroughs in London.

During our recent Operation Bumblebee this winter, burglary was reduced by over 42%. This is the biggest reduction in London and equates to a 21% reduction in residential burglary across the whole of 2015.

Not only do we have some of the best reductions in crime we have the best conviction rate at crown court across the whole of London.

Although violence is up we have one of the lowest increases in London at just over 9%. Enhanced licensing activity, anti-violence initiatives, good initial investigations and relentless secondary investigation has made a real difference.

We have delivered 5000 MetTrace kits across the borough, making our community safer.

During an uncertain time our PCSO's have kept smiling and doing their job well. The threat of redundancies for PCSOs has now been lifted. Hillingdon Borough will be a better place for their continued support.

Our war on drug dealers across the borough has had an impact. In 2 operations over 40 dealers were arrested and charged. Most of those have pleaded guilty.

Our volunteer police cadets were recognised by the Home Secretary when she presented them with the Lord Ferrers award for volunteer team of the year. An outstanding achievement by some astonishing and highly committed young people.

We have one of the highest amounts of volunteers in London, supporting us on a daily basis with providing a front counter service at Ruislip, supporting our outstanding public access officers with a triage service at Uxbridge and assisting now in the CID and counter terrorism offices.

Please keep in touch with what we are doing in your area by following me on Twitter **@MPShillingNorth**

Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote Local History Society

Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote Local History Society meets on the third Monday of each month, from September to April, at 8.15pm at St Martin's Church Hall, Ruislip. Visitors are welcome (£2 donation). It also organises walks and outings, undertakes research and produces regular publications.

Lecture programme 2016

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
19 September	Meet the Huguenots	Charlie de Wet
17 October	AGM & 2000 years of road signs – and some local ones	Simon Morgan
21 November	What shaped Pinner before the railways	Pat Clarke
19 December	Members' evening	

For further information, please contact the Membership Secretary, Annita Farrant, on **020 8841 5927**, or visit our website: **www.RNELHS.org.uk**

THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH OF EASTCOTE AND NORTHWOOD HILLS

Forthcoming Charity Coffee Mornings 10.30am – 12 noon

Support good causes each month, come along to our Coffee mornings where you can get tea, cakes, information, books, bric-a-brac, plants & more or just pop in for a chat.

Northwood Hills site (Joel Street.)

7th May for Crohn's & Colitis

4th June for Hillingdon Brain Tumour

2nd July for Street Children of India

Eastcote site (Bridle Rd.)

21st May for Christian Aid

18th June for London

Refugee Fund

We also run a Foodbank Distribution Centre, part of the Hillingdon Foodbank, every Tuesday morning 10am –12 noon at our Northwood Hills site in Joel St.

For more on services & events see, **www.urceastcote-nwhills.org.uk**

CONSERVATION

The Conservation Panel together with the Eastcote Residents Association and Councillors continues to watch for any inappropriate developments in Eastcote and will send objections to Hillingdon Council where necessary. Recently there have been two consultations concerning the National Planning Policy Framework from Central Government and a Flood Risk Management Plan from Hillingdon. The Conservation Panel has sent comments for both consultations.

The flooding of the road near the Black Horse PH is being monitored by members. The Conservation Panel Chairman attended a meeting in March to see what action can be taken and by whom. There are also problems with rubbish being dumped in the Joel Street Ditch, which if not attended to could cause flooding. This matter is also on the agenda.

There are three agencies involved in flood risk avoidance, the Environment Agency, Thames Water and Hillingdon Council, also if local resident's boundary is set in the middle of a river. So who is responsible takes some sorting out.

To deal with road flooding, if the gullies are blocked this is the responsibility of Hillingdon Council and should be reported to **contactcentre1@hillingdon.gov.uk**. However, if the problem is deeper than about 50cm in the surface water pipe then it is the responsibility of Thames Water. They can be contacted on **08003169800**. So start with Hillingdon Council, if the problem is not solved then contact Thames Water.

Local flooding is the subject of another article in this Newsletter regarding paving of front gardens and driveways.

Eastcote House Gardens



To celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday the Friends of Eastcote House Gardens are redesigning the four herb beds in the Walled Garden. Originally the herb beds were formed to celebrate the Silver Jubilee 1977. Work is now advanced with each bed representing a particular use of herbs, Culinary, Cosmetic, Household and Medicinal.

The Friends of Eastcote House Gardens are actively fund raising for this project and any contributions would be gratefully accepted.

Please contact **Lesley.crowcroft@gmail.com** if you wish to make a donation.



FRIENDS OF EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDENS

Volunteer gardeners meet on the first and second Fridays and the third and fourth Thursdays of each month, starting at 9.30am. Tools, refreshments and good company are provided. For more details contact lesley.crowcroft@gmail.com

Working in conjunction with Nick Porter Site Manager and members of the Green Spaces team, the boundaries are being tidied up, and new planting will be added at the correct season.

The refurbished Stables is now available for hire:- for more details please contact Nick Porter at **eastcotehousegardensenquiries@hillingdon.gov.uk**

A Frequently asked question is where did Eastcote House stand? To answer this question a temporary information board has been erected on the site of the House. A permanent display will be installed in 2018 once all Archaeological explorations are finished.



***Temporary sign for the site of
Eastcote House***

Archaeology

Archaeology fortnight this year will be end of June beginning of July. Again members of the public are welcome to take part. Please contact Nick Porter or Lesley Crowcroft for more details.

Friends of Eastcote House Gardens now have an active Craft Group meeting most weeks, it is a self help group with everyone sharing their particular expertise.

Annual Tree Dressing

2015 ended with the Tree Dressing, Coteford Infants and Warrender School choirs started the afternoon and bravely sang through the rain and gloom, cheering all who attended. The Mayor of Hillingdon Cllr. George Cooper led the tree dressing.



Children from Coteford Infants and Warrender School Choirs

Award for Horticulture

Last year the Friends of Eastcote House Gardens group entered three of the annual Eastcote Horticultural Society's flower shows and were awarded the RHS Banksian Medal for the highest points in Horticulture. Congratulations to all, especially the show group who pick and then stage the entries. Quite a challenging job.

National Storytelling Week

To start 2016 National Storytelling week came to Eastcote House Gardens. Local storytellers Pippa Reid & Claudia Mernick cheered up a very grey cold February day with a host of entertaining stories including 'How the bear lost his tail'



Pippa Reid and Claudia Mernick



TREE WALK

21st May 2016

Eastcote House Gardens

Time to be confirmed, free event but a donation towards the herb bed project would be gratefully appreciated.

Friends of Eastcote House Community Archive

The archive is now being set up in the gallery of the Stables. A third book has been published 'The Story of the Black Horse, Eastcote's Oldest Pub' By Andy Weller and Radhika Kharbanda. Available from The Black Horse Pub or email **andy_weller@hotmail.co.uk** or **Lesley.crowcroft@gmail.com** Price £5.00.

Copies of 'Eastcote House and Gardens', 'The People and the Place' and 'Secret Eastcote' are still available price £10.00.

We also have two new exciting postcard designs price 50p each, see our website for details and the 2017 Eastcote House Gardens calendar is in production and will be available later this year.

A sepia-toned illustration of four people in Elizabethan or Jacobean clothing. On the left, a man in a ruff collar and patterned tunic. Next to him, a man in a ruff collar and a long, patterned robe. To his right, a woman in a ruff collar and a long, patterned dress. On the far right, a woman in a ruff collar and a long, patterned dress. They are all standing and looking towards the center.

**In Voice and Verse
Presents**

Shakespeare's Greatest Hits

20th May 2016
1.30pm
The Stables, Eastcote House Gardens

Tickets £15.00 (includes refreshments)
Contact: Lesley.crowcroft@gmail.com

Check out our website

www.eastcotehousegardens.weebly.com

EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDENS



Summer Picnic

Saturday 4th June 2016 11am - 4pm



Stalls, events, dog show, exhibitions and refreshments.

A great day out for all the family.

Bring your own picnic and enjoy Eastcote's greatest treasure.

LONDON OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND

Eastcote House Gardens

Stables, dovecote, walled garden and Classic Car Rally

Sunday 18th September 2016

between 10am to 5pm

Come along and have a guided tour.

Royal British Legion Eastcote Branch



The annual Poppy Collection started in October, and by the end of December 2015 the amount raised was £46,109.37 there are another 9 months of fund raising to go. The majority of these monies were raised during the Poppy Appeal Fortnight.

A big thank you to all collectors for giving up their time to raise this wonderful amount. Will there be another record fund raising total for Eastcote British Legion this year?

Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service organized by the Eastcote British Legion, was held at the Eastcote War Memorial, in November and was well supported with over twelve hundred members of the public attending. The service was led by Rev Chris Rankine and Alan Wright of St Lawrence Church and the salute was taken by Wing Commander Sally Cawdrey of RAF Northolt. The local Safer Neighbourhood Team closed the roads and directed traffic for the duration of the Parade and Service. Our thanks go to Sgt. Eleanor Charlston and her team.

Volunteers are needed throughout the year, not just for the annual collection. Helping to 'man' or 'woman' stalls at local events or join with the volunteer gardening group at the War Memorial, working in conjunction with Hillingdon Council. If you can help in any way however small please contact: Jeff Duley for fundraising on **07808739434** and Lesley Crowcroft for gardening **Lesley.crowcroft@gmail.com**

PAVING OF FRONT GARDENS/DRIVEWAYS

The UK has experienced excessive rainfall in recent months, with severe flooding in many places. It is for this reason that it is important that we all do our bit by making sure our front gardens are permeable. Therefore, if you are planning to alter your front garden, you need to bear in mind the planning conditions that are contained in the General Permitted Development Order 2008 which state that any work done to front gardens under permitted development are subject to the following conditions:-

Where the area of ground covered by the hard surface, or the area of hard surface being replaced, would exceed five square metres:-

- Either, the hard surface shall be made of porous materials, or
- Provision shall be made to direct run-off water from the hard surface to a permeable or porous area or surface within the curtilage of the dwelling house,
- The work would require a planning application.
- You can find more useful information on the Planning Regulations, appropriate surfaces for driveways and hard standing and design suggestions at the following websites:-
- **www.rhs.org.uk** – the Royal Horticultural Society website contains several useful pages and leaflets on front gardens.
- **www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/7728/pavingfrontgardens.pdf** – Environment Agency Booklet 'Guidance on permeable surfacing of front gardens'.

- <http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/29912/The-laying-of-driveways-and-hardstandings-on-front-gardens> – details the Planning Regulations and contains links to other useful information.

If you would like to receive the above links electronically, email Jackie Redrup, **planning@eastcoteria.co.uk** and she will be pleased to email them on to you.

If you are unsure as to whether you have complied with the legislation, or would like further advice, please contact: The Duty Planning Officer, via the London Borough of Hillingdon Contact.

Eastcote Art Society

We have a busy programme of events this year incorporating demonstrations, life drawing sessions, working and practical evenings.

Life drawing evenings are always popular with members, as most artists realise that drawing the human form is the toughest test of all, but one that greatly improves your observational skills. If you don't observe correctly you cannot draw accurately. Once the model poses, silence occurs, punctuated by groans

of frustration and the sounds of rubbing out.

One can feel quite tired after two hours or so with the concentration and mental effort needed for a successful result. The popularity of these sessions remains however.

Other art events to look out for are:

- Combined Arts Exhibition in the Barn Ruislip, 27th May to 3rd June.
- Summer Exhibition in the Cow Byre Gallery, Ruislip, 19th June to 2nd July.
- Outdoor Exhibition on the railings of Ascott Pub in Eastcote Sat 23rd July.

I am hoping to run a couple of painting workshops in the Eastcote House and Gardens Stable Block as part of Hillingdon Culture Festival which runs from 23rd July to 6th August. Details still to be clarified.

For further details contact Graham Pellow, Chairman, on **020 8582 1522** email **grahampellow08@gmail.com**

or check our website **www.eastcoteartsociety.co.uk**

Jean Ann Gibson (1930–2016)



A stalwart of Eastcote Residents' Association until her death earlier this year at the age of 85, Jean Gibson came to live in Eastcote on her marriage in 1974 to Roland, a lecturer at Brunel University. Over the next few decades she became immersed in the life of Eastcote and its neighbours.

Jean was born and grew up in Purley, Surrey. After Guildford Technical College, she worked as a schools dinner lady and then in a London bank before going on to Teachers' Training College at the age of 30. She taught first in East Grinstead and, on moving to Eastcote, history part-time at Northwood College. While there she studied for and received an OU degree in Humanities, and before retirement in 1991 she began the extensive research which led to the publication of "The History of Northwood College" in 1993.

Jean's second book, "A History of Eastcote Parish Church (Saint Lawrence)" came 20 years later, in 2013. As a devoted and hard-working parishioner, she fulfilled many roles at St Lawrence, including PCC member, Sacristan and Electoral Roll Officer, as well as visiting parishioners and delivering newsletters.

At the same time she was a member of the Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote Local History Society, the Ruislip Gramophone Society and the Delius Society, founded by her husband, Roland. A keen sportswoman all her life, in spite of several severe illnesses she continued playing tennis at The Vagabonds Club in Pinner and attending keep-fit classes locally.

As an ERA Road Stewart and then Area Road Steward, Jean supported her neighbours on local issues, writing letters and attending council planning meetings. She was an ERA committee member from 2007 to 2011 and rarely missed a meeting. It was clear from the large number who attended her funeral at St Lawrence that Jean, in her four decades here, had won a place in the heart of Eastcote's community. She will be remembered with great fondness.

EASTCOTE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Assisting local gardeners for 75 years

New members are welcome at only £3 per year for the whole family.

What you get:

- advice and gardening tips from the trading hut, open on Sundays from 10.30am to 12 noon in March, April, May, September and October and from 11am to 12 noon in February, June, July, and November
- summer plant sales at the trading hut 8,14,15 and 22 May 10.30 to 12 noon
- an opportunity to display your talents at our shows, which include classes for children; dates for the 2016 shows are:

SUMMER SHOW – 18th June

AUTUMN SHOW – 10th September

The trading hut is next door to Eastcote Community Centre, Southbourne Gardens. For more information telephone Alan Thomas on **020 8429 0901**, email **eastcotehorticultural@yahoo.co.uk** or visit our website **www.succulent-plant.com/eastcote**

FRIENDS OF SHENLEY PARK



The Friends of Shenley Park were formed some three years ago and have made significant steps to improve the overall look and feel of the park. Working alongside the London Borough of Hillingdon Green Spaces Team they have achieved two major milestones. They were winners of the People Choice award to install new playground Equipment in the park and more

recently were awarded Green Flag Status.

The group is always looking for volunteers to assist them with regular actions days in the park throughout the year. Anyone interested should contact either Geoff on **07931 516020** or Louise on **07966 220995**.

To find out more about us, see website **www.friendsofshenleypark.org.uk**.

MICHAEL SOBELL HOUSE

Friday 10 June – Ladies in the Night Walk, registration at 8.30pm walk starts at 10.00pm from Michael Sobell Hospice, Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood

Join us for this very special community event and walk through the night this summer to support your local hospice. Last year over 1,100 of our supporters took part and raised over £126,000 - help us to make this year's event even bigger and better. Entry costs £20 for adults in advance or £25 on the night and includes a t-shirt, fundraising pack and breakfast. The event starts and finishes at Michael Sobell Hospice in Northwood. The walk takes place on well-lit local roads, with ample marshals in place. Walkers can choose from either a 5½ or 9 mile route. All under 16's must be accompanied by an adult. Entrants must be 11 years of age. Dogs are welcome. Parking is free on the night.

Sunday 10 July – Vintage Affair 10am - 5pm at Michael Sobell Hospice, Northwood

Join us for all things vintage with live music all day, swing dancers, Vintage Tea Rooms, Classic cars, vintage stalls, plant stall, children's stall, Red Cross massages, Tombola and a raffle. Entrance £2, children free.

Details of all Michael Sobell Hospice events are on our website **www.michaelsobellhospice.co.uk** or call the fundraising office on **020 3826 2367**.

IN DAYS GONE BY



Eastcote Station



The Case is Altered

Royal National Lifeboats Institute

Fairs will be held at Manor Farm, Ruislip, in the hut in the car park

Saturday 14th May,

Saturday 17th September

Saturday 19th November.

All fairs run from 10am until 1.30pm.



HARROW PUBLIC TRANSPORT USERS' ASSOCIATION

Dates of Public Meetings

Following on from the article in our Spring 2015 ERA News when we explained about FOMLUC (The Federation of Metropolitan Line Users Committee) and HPTUA the (Harrow Public Transport Users Association) please note the following public meeting dates for 2016, which will all be held at The Harrow Baptist Church, College Road, Harrow: **Monday 9th May – Bus 7.30pm, Monday 18th July – Rail 7.30pm, Monday 26th September – AGM 7.30pm and Wednesday 9th November – Bus 2.00pm.**

CAN YOU HELP?

We are still urgently seeking new Road Stewards, particularly for Gladsdale Drive, Acacia Avenue, Cardinal Road, Aragon Drive, Cleves Way, Southbourne Gardens, Sunningdale Avenue, Field End Road (shopping centre area). The very sad news of Jean Gibson's passing, who gave ERA such tremendous support and will be sorely missed means that we do need to find a new Steward to cover the even numbers in Ferncroft Avenue and someone to act as Area Steward liaising with 3 Road Stewards.

Please contact Alison Akerman, Senior Road Steward on **07771 846754** or **alison@fsml.uk.com** if you can offer to help. You do not have to live in the same road. Stewarding should not be onerous but it does entail knocking on doors to collect subscriptions and ideally to encourage residents to become members if they are not already so, plus delivering our twice yearly newsletter. It is a very good way of meeting people and learning more about the local community.

Unfortunately due to illness our Editor, David Harper was unable to work on this edition. We wish him a speedy recovery.

ERA COMMITTEE

President: Chris Groom – 020 8866 0985

Secretary: Irene Groom – 020 8866 0985

Senior Road Steward: Alison Akerman – 07771 846754

Treasurer: Alison Holtorp – 020 8866 8186

Planning: Jackie Redrup – 020 8868 6080

Transport: Ian Murray – 020 8866 4133

Health & Community Voice: Elizabeth Beggs – 020 8429 4713

Newsletter Editor: David Harper – 020 8868 8583

Designer: Linda Laurie – 020 8866 9058

ERA Website: Gawain Cox – 07545 009087

Committee: Karen Spink – 020 8866 7279

Carolyn Derecki – 020 8866 5495

Keith Barnard – 020 8868 1755

David Payne – 020 8866 2986

LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Eastcote & East Ruislip Ward

Cllr Catherine Dann – 020 8868 9144

Cllr Becky Haggart – 07769 323142

Cllr Nick Denys – 07915 066021

Northwood Hills Ward

Cllr Jonathan Bianco – 01923 820544

Cllr John Morgan – 01923 821552

Cllr Duncan Flynn – 07769 653052

Cavendish Ward

Cllr Eddie Lavery – 020 8866 1367

Cllr Michael White – 01895 637863

Cllr Teji Barnes – 07475 093593

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Nick Hurd – 01923 822876

Boris Johnson – 020 7219 4682

GLA Member for Ealing and Hillingdon

Dr Onkar Sahota – 020 7983 6558

See our website for information about what's going on in Eastcote
www.eastcoter.co.uk

If you would like to feature a local event on our website or in our
newsletter, email the details to **ERA@eastcoter.co.uk**