

# era news

## SPRING 2018

Eastcote Residents' Association    founded 1930    newsletter issue 54



A duckweed-filled pond in Highgrove Wood

**We look forward to seeing you at our  
Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 29th May;  
details are on the inside cover.**

EASTCOTE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
87TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WILL BE HELD ON

TUESDAY 29TH MAY 2018

at

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

Guest Speaker

Olly Shah, Hillingdon's Household Waste and Recycling Manager

ALL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME, WHETHER OR NOT ERA  
MEMBERS

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

**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 2018***

<b><i>Meeting</i></b>	<b><i>Topic</i></b>	<b><i>Speaker</i></b>
17 September	The Story of Thames Watermen	Pat Hilbert
15 October	AGM and Old Houses of Uxbridge	Tony Mitchell
19 November	From Blackwell to Bishop Rock – Britain's historic lighthouses	Tom Nancollas
17 December	Christmas meeting	RNELHS members

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

## EDITORIAL

Welcome to the spring 2018 issue of the Eastcote Residents' Association newsletter. We hope you find it a colourful, interesting and informative read and a useful source of local information; your comments and suggestions as to how the publication can be improved are always appreciated. We welcome all articles of relevance to the local community here in Eastcote, including any of historical interest you might like to share with a wider audience. If you are a club, school or association, you might like to consider placing an advertisement in the newsletter or publicising a future function or event for maximum impact.

Colour photographs appear with some of the articles and are complemented with contemporary pictures of the locality in the 'Picture View' section; there is also one mystery photo. The theme chosen for this issue is churches, of which there are now four. Unfortunately, the decision was taken to close the (formerly St. Andrew's) Eastcote site of the United Reform Church in Bridle Road, their last Sunday service being on Palm Sunday, 25th March. They do, however, continue to operate from their Northwood Hills site on Joel Street.

If you have any personal photographs (they don't have to be in colour) from times gone by that you think might be of interest to a wider audience, do please get in touch; they may get featured on our new website.

The focal point locally at the moment continues to be the Eastcote town centre improvements scheme (see also article by our chairman). At the time of writing, nearly all of the paving has been replaced and there are just a few new lampposts to be installed. Work remains to be started on the railway bridge.

The council have now finished replacing all remaining sodium vapour lights with brighter, white LED lights.

By the time you read this, local council elections will have taken place on Thursday 3rd May. Notwithstanding any changes in political party representation, two of our local councillors, Catherine Dann in Eastcote and East Ruislip ward and Michael White in Cavendish ward are standing down.

Don't forget that our annual general meeting will be held on Tuesday 29th May at 7.30pm (see inside front cover for further details).

*David Harper, Editor*

## A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

The new year saw the beginning of the installation of the long-awaited replacement of the paving in the town centre. The new large slabs and large beds beneath the trees certainly make the shopping parade feel much more open. More street lights have been installed and now extend evenly down both sides of the road. The work for those 24 shops that took advantage of the scheme to help them replace their shop fronts has also been completed and they, too, look very smart. Recent arrivals on the High Street have included Virundhu, VIP Hearing Solutions, Ilze's Chocolat and Macaroons Café, Verve, ECIGWIZARD and the North Coffee shop inside Eastcote station. Hopefully, by the time you read this, the town centre improvement work will have continued with the installation of the rain gardens to help alleviate the flooding which occurs during periods of heavy rain.

The council, in its capacity as Lead Local Flood Authority, is working with both Thames Water and the Environment Agency to alleviate flooding in the borough. Here in the north of the borough we are one of the more seriously affected areas. As part of the initiative, those residents affected have been encouraged to set up Flood Action Groups, FLAGS. The ERA is working with two groups, one along the High Road and River Pinn and another in the shops around the Field End Parade conservation area. If you would like to join either of these groups, to help in the event of flooding or just to report your observations about previous flooding incidents, then please contact me.

I would like to welcome Mark Phillips who has been co-opted onto the committee as webmaster. He has already done a great deal of work in order to understand the ERA, what it does and where it is going. Hopefully the new website will be up and running in the near future. Finally, I would like to thank Mark for all the time he has given to this project and also those committee members and road stewards who gave up their time to attend meetings and talk to him about their views on ERA.

*Alison Holtorp, Chairman*

## WHATEVER HAPPENED TO NUMBER ?

When some roads in Eastcote were being developed, builders often excluded the number 13 from house sequences as it was considered unlucky. The following roads, I have discovered, all lack a number 13: St. Lawrence Drive, Burwood Avenue, The Glen, Pamela Gardens and Rodney Gardens (all on the Eastcote Park Estate), Bridle Road, Barnhill, The Chase, Flag Walk, North View, Boldmere Road, Ivy Close, Chandos Road, Boundary Road, Dollis Crescent and Seymour Gardens. In Morford Way, 11A is used instead of 13.

But what if you have ever tried to visit 74 Mount Park Road or 370 Field End Road? If you have, you'll be disappointed, as these house numbers don't exist. The reason for this is probably because plots were allocated blocks of numbers and, if building plans were changed, rather than renumber several houses, gaps would be left in the numbering sequence. Gaps in numbering have also occurred more recently when houses have been demolished to gain access to valuable building land behind them. A good example is Armstrong Close, off Fore Street, where numbers 9 and 11 were knocked down. Conversely, infilling of vacant plots has produced 1A, 2A and the like.

In the case of Mount Park Road, 74 would have been where the entrance to Tudor Close now is and Field End Road 358-382 would have been where the Cavendish Pavilion and car park now are. Similarly, if Aragon and Boleyn Drives had not been built, 409-415 and 445-453 Field End Road would have been where their entrances now are. This does not, however, explain the absence of 323-331.

Other missing numbers include 70 and 76 Bridle Road, 10 Francis Road, 55 St. Lawrence Drive (where the entrance is to Eastcote House Gardens), 61 Bridle Road (entrance to Francis Road), 89-91 The Chase, 96-98 Deane Croft Road, 189-197 Whitby Road and several in Lime Grove; there are doubtless others.

The most significant gaps in house numbering are in Pine Gardens, where numbers 81-155 and 150-254 are missing, as are 1-31 Springfield Gardens. The original plan for Pine Gardens was for it to form a symmetrical shape on either side of Coombe Drive. The western side was fully developed, but plans were put on hold because of World War II and the eastern side was only partially developed thereafter as the then Ruislip-Northwood Urban District Council bought the land for use as a park; this was not before the concrete roadways had been laid out in what is now the Pine Gardens recreation area and which stop abruptly behind the back gardens of 19, 47 and 49 Coombe Drive.

*David Harper, Editor*

## EASTCOTE'S SHOPPING PARADES (PART 3)

This is the third in a series of articles about the development of individual shopping parades along Field End Road in Eastcote since the suburb started to expand in the 1920s and 1930s. I have taken information from Kelly's street directories running up to 1977 (unfortunately, the one for 1935, a key date, is missing), supplemented by details from electoral rolls.

Nos. 1 to 17 **Deane Parade**, extended from Abbotsbury Gardens to Deane Croft Road, covering what are now nos. 115 down to no. 83. Access to the flats above the shops was via two communal staircases and a balcony extending the full length of the parade, still in use today.

The parade was built in 1935 and the first premises (nos. 1 to 7, 9 and 10) appeared in the 1936 edition of Kelly's, with most of the remainder following in the 1937 edition. Original parade numbers and shops are shown below, with their current numbers in brackets; some were still there into the early 1970s.

- 1 [115] was a **newsagents** run by Walter William Pranglely but had been replaced by Douglas J. Farquharson in 1938 and by C. H. I. Stewart the following year. By 1954 A. V. Apps managed the premises (one of four such newsagents in Eastcote), continuing into the 1970s. Alexander Victor and his wife Vera lived above their shop at 1 Telcote Parade (now 257 Field End Road).
- 2 [113] was the **dairy**, Robarts & Son. The Robarts family were living at 73 (previously Gleneagles) Field End Road in 1939. After the war, son Norman and his wife Moira were at the newly built 31 Field End Road, now on the site of Robarts Close. By 1954 the dairy had become the Rendezvous Café/Restaurant and, by 1959, the unfortunately named K.K.K. Cafe. By 1968/69 it was the short-lived Le-Sur Restaurant, becoming another restaurant, Velasquez, from 1970/71.
- 3 [111] was a **chemists**, managed by Henry Bishop. By 1954 it was called E. Moss and by 1966/67 Blanshards, run by Peter Raymond Blanshard.
- 4 [109] was F. G. Barnes & Son, **ironmongers**; Frederick George Barnes, his wife Charlotte and son Albert initially lived in the flat above; in 1939 the parents resided at 10 Green Lawns. By 1954 the shop had expanded to take in no. 107. The firm was still there until 1970/71, after which it became Thomas of Eastcote, a hardware shop.
- 5 [107] Garman (Eastcote) Ltd were **radio dealers** at this address; by 1938 it was called Gillett Electrical & Radio Ltd (proprietor John Gillett), although Arnold and Emily Gillatt are listed as occupying the flat above until 1951 (they were briefly at 48 Bridle Road after the war), before moving to 174 Field End Road.

- 6 [105] was the United Kingdom **Tea** Co. shop, later the UK Tea Co. They were at these premises until 1966/67; Vernons, **grocers**, were briefly trading here in 1968/69.
- 7 [103] was occupied by J. H. Dewhurst Ltd, **butchers**, until at least 1959. It was another butchers, Eastmans, in 1968/69.
- 8 [101] was Fources, a **bakers**, run by Robert and Jemina Callander. Briefly living at 65 Elm Avenue, they moved to the flat above the shop in 1939. By 1954 it had become The Home Bakery and was still there in 1977.
- 9 [99] is listed as a **hairdressers**, managed by Mrs. Ethel Kelly, until at least 1954; she lived in the flat above with her husband Thomas and daughter Cecilia, who was also a hairdresser. By 1958 the shop was called Fridkin Hair Fashions which was still trading there in 1977.
- 10 [97] was initially both an **outfitters**, Arthur Reader, and **drapers**, run by Mrs Mary Wood; the drapers had disappeared the following year. From 1938 the shop was Cecil Keeley, outfitters, which lasted until the 1968/69. He and his wife Freda lived in the flat above.
- 11 [95] was Cresta Cleaners Ltd., **dyers and cleaners** occupied this site; their telephone number was Pinner 3282. They were still there as late as 1972.
- 12 [93] in 1938 was a short-lived **gown** shop, Ravenal, the proprietress being Mrs. G. Morris. By 1954 it was the Eastcote **Printers**, still there in 1977 and believed to be managed by Albert Cole.
- 13 [91] was A C Garden Supplies, listed as a **greengrocers**, up to 1939.
- 13b [91a] is listed as Mrs. Doris Galley (wife of the local builder C. V. Galley), **fancy wools**; the following year it was called Frances, run jointly by Mrs. F. M. Bennett and Mrs. E. F. Jolly (who lived, respectively, at 13 and 38 Crescent Gardens). By 1954 there was a further change of name to Campbell Wools, which lasted until 1970/71, thereafter becoming Janes Fashions.
- 14-15 [89/87] was a double-fronted shop, the Watford **Co-operative** Society, there until 1968/69; it was replaced by A. E. A. Edwards Ltd., builders' merchants.
- 14a [89a] is listed as the Home-Auto **Cigarette** Service Co., up to 1939.
- 16 [85] was a **builders merchants**, Ernest Elderkin; Ernest and his wife, Doris, lived above the shop. By 1954 it had become Allison's, **fruiterer and grocer**, Jenkins by 1966/67 and A. J. Vane, fruiterers, from 1970/71.
- 17 [83] was a **wine merchants**, Harris & Son, later Harris & Son (Pinner) Ltd, (wines and spirits), until at least 1954. By 1958 it was called Kershaw & Cressey, becoming the Westminster Wine Co. from 1966/67.

My thanks again go to the archives department at Uxbridge library for allowing me to use much of this information.

*David Harper, Editor*

## A NEW WEBSITE, EMAILS AND SOCIAL MEDIA FOR EASTCOTE RESIDENTS

A small team is working on producing a new website for the Eastcote Residents' Association. The website is being designed to be your one place to come and find out everything you might want to know about Eastcote – from reference information about our area, to what's going on across the area and to specific questions such as submitted planning applications.

The website will work alongside a new email solution allowing you to receive (if you choose) a weekly summary of what's on in Eastcote, and links to the latest news and other information; this will also be provided on Facebook and Twitter.

Around 30 people have so far been involved in this project. We started by looking at "Why Eastcote?", and the themes that emerged were:

- easy, fast, reliable, regular access to central London via multiple public transport routes, and out of London via road, rail and air
- green spaces and parks
- a vibrant high street with a variety of shops and restaurants
- a mix of historic buildings and contemporary Metro-land
- good schools, doctors, dentists and access to hospitals (local and specialist central London hospitals)
- a sense of community – diverse by age, attitudes and ethnicity, with traditional values of neighbours helping each other, and lots going on in the area

In summary, we are a hidden gem of a London suburb and, as ERA, see our role as protecting and supporting these aspects of Eastcote.

We also identified several things we would like to see addressed:

- a reduction in traffic congestion
- too much housing development that is not benefiting the community
- improvement in the high street environment and encourage a mix of shops
- concerns about crime and antisocial behaviour, as well as parking in residential areas

The new website, emails, social media and related technology will assist us in both preserving and developing Eastcote; we are currently working on designing elements of the website and other technology to support the above aspects (and others).

If you would like to get involved in any of the above areas, or would like to know more, please contact Mark via email at **[mark.phillips@eastcoteria.co.uk](mailto:mark.phillips@eastcoteria.co.uk)** or at **[webteam@eastcoteria.co.uk](mailto:webteam@eastcoteria.co.uk)**

*Mark Phillips, Website Manager*



## CONSERVATION

### Eastcote House Gardens/Long Meadow

There was an exciting moment when members of the Friends of Eastcote House Gardens (FEHG) attended the raising of the Green Flag in Long Meadow in September 2017. The ceremony was conducted by the Mayor of Hillingdon, Councillor Carol Melvin, and Councillor Jonathan Bianco.



There was another accolade for Long Meadow, a site of importance for nature conservation, when it was awarded a gold medal in the Large Conservation Area category of London in Bloom.

Soon to be installed will be a wildlife images trail, a series of ten zinc rubbing plaques, showing some of the plants and creatures that inhabit the meadow and Eastcote House Gardens (EHG). The trail will start in the children's play area then across the river Pinn to the meadow. FEHG volunteers are compiling a trail guide which will be available in the summer – this will be ideal for the young and the young at heart!

A height barrier has been installed at the High Road end of the meadow to try to keep out travellers' caravans and other vehicles. At the Cheney Street end, the dead hedges have been reinforced.

FEHG are still waiting to hear if their application to the Chrysalis Fund for sections of paths in the meadow has been accepted. These small sections will make using

the meadow in wet weather much more pleasant. The installation of the welcome boards is still awaited.

Monitoring of the river for pollution is carried out on a monthly basis; results for the year, along with all the other data collected throughout the year are shown on the FEHG website **[www.eastcotehousegardens.weebly.com](http://www.eastcotehousegardens.weebly.com)**

Taking part in the RSPB Bird Watch at the end of January, the FEHG volunteers noted fifteen different species, although it was a very wet and cold day. A flock of redwings was seen as well as a hawfinch and a goldcrest.

EHG also achieved high awards in London in Bloom 2017. For Park of the Year, a park under ten acres, it was a gold and category winner. The walled garden received a gold award. Under volunteer awards, It's Your Neighbourhood achieved level 5, outstanding, while Our Community won a gold award.

Congratulations must go to the London Borough of Hillingdon for achieving a gold award and winner in the Large City category – this is a strange category, but it is worked out on the number of residents in the borough.



A rare sight for EHG was a snowman invasion: this family plus pet was captured on camera in December, in the walled garden, where a snowman family took up

residence for a few days – thanks to David Harper, ERA’s roving wildlife photographer, for the picture.

There are two new ventures at EHG this year. Firstly, the site where Eastcote House once stood will be marked out in York stone, with an interpretation board; secondly, the dovecote will be open to the public from 1.30pm to 3.30pm on the following Tuesdays throughout the summer months: May 15th, June 19th, July 17th, August 21st and September 18th. Admission is free.

Three rowan trees have been planted in memory of Ron Voinquel, an FEHG volunteer, who passed away last May. These trees will produce berries for visiting birds in the winter. Ron was a keen conservationist.

Owl and kestrel boxes, donated by Northwood Hills Residents’ Association, have been installed in Long Meadow and EHG. Thanks go to Hillingdon Council for their installation.



Planting the Rowan Trees



Fixing the Nest Boxes

***Lesley Crowcroft***  
***Chairman, Friends of Eastcote House Gardens***







St Lawrence Church of England Church



St Andrews Lutheran Church



Winter anemones in Highgrove Wood

### **Mystery Photograph**

Where in Eastcote is the photograph below?

Answer in next issue.



## **EASTCOTE CONSERVATION PANEL**

### **Local news**

The War Memorial Garden has been entered for Green Flag status this year. Many thanks go to all the volunteers and Hillingdon Council for keeping the garden to such high standards.

Concern has been expressed at the drastic cutting back of the willow trees on the river bank in High Road. These trees will not be removed but needed to be pollarded because large branches had fallen into the road; fortunately, no accidents were caused. The trees are quite old and the drastic cutting back will give them a new lease of life.

### **Draft new London Plan**

The Mayor of London has issued a draft London Plan. It has increased the number of dwellings Hillingdon is expected to build, from 500 to 1,500 a year for the next ten years.

The Mayor considers it to be appropriate to allow infill buildings in back gardens as well as more high-rise buildings in town centres. He will also remove the reason for refusal 'out of character with the area' which means concrete square blocks might be built all over the place.

Hillingdon Council are strongly objecting to these proposed changes. Conservation panels and residents' associations will also be objecting, to try to stop the desecration of our much loved Metroland towns.

### **Heathrow expansion**

Yet another consultation was issued in March by the owners of Heathrow, containing the usual proposals. One point foremost in all their material is the number of jobs this project would produce, estimated at 10,000. What is not mentioned is where these extra families are going to live, go to school, attend doctors, dentists and hospitals.

The proposed new runway will destroy vast areas of the Colne Valley Regional Park. A report from Dr. David Payne, Director, Colne Valley Regional Park stated that:

'The proposed new Heathrow expansion will fundamentally and permanently change the southern third of the park, which will severely hamper its ability to function in this area and prevent it from achieving its objectives.

1. There will be the loss of a huge area due to the new runway itself and associated taxiways, hotels, car parks, warehousing and offices.
2. The landscape will change forever; large areas of agricultural land and waterscapes including angling sites will be lost, together with several public rights of way.
3. Due to loss of habitats there will be significant impact on biodiversity.
4. At least four rivers will run under the runway, the Colne, Wraysbury, Longford, Duke of Northumberland and possibly, the Colne Brook, resulting in loss of open water habitats. Runway run off could change flow levels and potentially affect water quality.

The Board of Directors are pursuing all these issues in the Heathrow Consultation Process.'

Further information about the Colne Valley Regional Park can be found at **[www.colnevalleypark.org.uk](http://www.colnevalleypark.org.uk)**

### **National Planning Policy Framework**

Changes are proposed to the National Planning Policy Framework. A consultation on the proposals has recently started. The Conservation Panel will study the new proposals and comment.

*Lesley Crowcroft*  
*Chairman, Eastcote Conservation Panel*

### **BESSINGBY PARK BOWLS CLUB**

Bessingby Park Bowls Club is a friendly, vibrant club situated in the heart of Bessingby Park in Ruislip Manor. Why not join us by becoming a member? We offer you a warm welcome.

Here are some of the main features of our club:

- we have a brand-new pavilion and patio area, to enjoy an afternoon or evening of bowls and a drink afterwards
- our friendly roll-up days are Tuesday and Thursday afternoons starting at 2pm and Wednesday evenings starting at 7pm
- we play matches against other clubs and we have internal competitions
- throughout the year, we have social functions
- For more information on our activities please email the chairman at **[ianandanne@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:ianandanne@blueyonder.co.uk)**, ring us on **020 8582 1801** or visit our website at **[www.bessingbyparkbowls.club](http://www.bessingbyparkbowls.club)**



## **EASTCOTE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

Assisting local gardeners for  
over seventy-five years

New members are welcome – join for only £3 per family per year.

What we do:

- we operate a trading hut, next to Eastcote Community Centre, Southbourne Gardens, for free advice and garden supplies at a good price. We are open on Sundays from 10.30 am to 12 noon in March, April, May, September and October and from 11am to 12noon in February, June, July and November
- we have summer plant sales at the trading hut – full details are on our website
- we provide an opportunity to display your produce at the shows, which include classes for children. These take place in Oak Hall, Eastcote Community Centre, Southbourne Gardens; details are on our website

Dates for our 2018 shows are:

- summer show – 16th June
- autumn show – 8th September

Our AGM will be held at the trading hut on 13th May.

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

## **MOOR PARK DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY**

Talks are held on Wednesdays at 10.50am in the Winston Churchill Hall, Ruislip, and are open to all. Complimentary coffee/tea is available from 10.15am. Free car parking is available. We invite a donation on the door of £5 per person.

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|--------------|--|
| 16 May 2018  | THE HORSE & MODERN ART FROM STUBBS TO WALLINGER by Nicholas Wilkins  |
| 20 June 2018 | AS GOOD AS GOLD – A SPECIAL LECTURE IN CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH YEAR OF NADFAS by Alexander Epps, preceded by AGM |

For further details, please visit our website **www.moorparkdfas.com**

## EASTCOTE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

### CAN YOU HELP

We need someone to:

- Book meeting rooms
- Take minutes, type them up in Word and distribute by email
- Leaflet roads where there are no Road Stewards
- Arrange the purchase of, and serve, refreshments at our AGM, Open Forum, and two Road Steward meetings per year.
- Liaise with local societies to get articles for newsletters

If you are interested in taking on one of these roles, or would like to know more about what is involved, please contact the Chairman, Alison Holthorp on 020 8866 8186

## THE CELANDINE ROUTE

The Celandine Route runs along the River Pinn for 12 miles from Pinner to the Grand Union Canal at Cowley. It offers a pleasant walk for both residents and visitors alike, through green spaces, conservation areas and wildlife havens.

From Eastcote it is a leisurely stroll to either Pinner or to Ruislip. In Pinner Memorial Park you can visit the recently opened Heath Robinson museum and pass a small outdoor budgerigar aviary. Adjacent to the museum is West House, the residence for some time of Nelson Ward, Admiral Lord Nelson's grandson.

Eastcote, of course, has Eastcote House Gardens, including the walled garden, dovecote and stables immediately across the Pinn from the Celandine Route.

In Ruislip, just up the hill from Pinn Way are the Winston Churchill Theatre, part 16th century Manor Farm House, late 13th century Great Barn, 16th century Little Barn (now Ruislip Library), 19th century Cow Byre art gallery and craft workshops. All three localities have cafés or tea rooms.

For more information on the Celandine Route, including maps and itinerary, visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/8718/Celandine-walks](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/8718/Celandine-walks)

## HILLINGDON RAMBLERS

‘I’ll have some of that’. This is what one member of the Hillingdon Ramblers was led to think after his first walk with the group back in 2002, having been impressed by one 80-year-old member who strode out ahead of the group with an energy and purpose. Now, over 15 years later, when asked what he likes most about the Ramblers, he replied ‘It’s spending time with like-minded people and there is always a great mix of people and personalities.’

Hillingdon Ramblers runs a comprehensive programme of walks throughout the year, extensively in the Chilterns. Longer walks of up to 15 miles are organised for Wednesdays and Sundays; short walks of up to four miles on Saturday mornings and moderate ones of up to six miles on Saturday afternoons are also arranged.

Are you interested? Have you the time and energy to spare? If so, further information can be obtained by visiting their website at **[www.ramblers.org.uk/hillingdon](http://www.ramblers.org.uk/hillingdon)**

## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES AT EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDENS

### **Annual Summer Picnic**

Saturday June 9th from 11am to 4pm

Admission is free

New events this year include ferret racing and Harefield Dogs Trust dog run.

All the usual stalls and exhibitions

The 2019 EHG calendar will be on sale at the picnic

### **Open House**

Sunday September 23rd

between 11am and 4pm

Includes the annual classic car rally

### **Plant and secondhand book sales**

will be held throughout the summer

Please check our website for details

**[www.eastcotehousegardens.weebly.com](http://www.eastcotehousegardens.weebly.com)**

## **GUIDANCE FOR PAVING FRONT GARDENS**

To replace over five square metres of garden with paving, you do not have to apply for planning permission, provided that:

- the surface is permeable or
- water is collected and directed to a permeable area

If neither of these criteria is met, planning permission is necessary. Even if it is a replacement of existing hard surfacing, permission is unlikely to be granted.

Where hard paving allows water to run straight off the driveway and onto the road, this water enters the drainage system which was not designed to cope with the extra water. Water also takes with it pollutants from drives into the roads and then into our rivers. The result is that flooding has become a more common problem.

The hard impermeable surfaces soak up heat during the day and then release it into the surrounding environment at night. This contributes to the overall warming of the environment. The paving over of front gardens is also detrimental to local wildlife and biodiversity. Insects and other small organisms lose their natural habitats, so there is less food for mammals and birds.

### **Permeable surfacing**

There are various options for permeable surfaces including traditional gravel drives, plastic grids filled with gravel, or soil and plants, interlocking brick pavers, and grasscrete. All require appropriate permeable sub-base in order to ensure that they are compliant. In more detail:

- plastic grids combine gravel with a reinforcing plastic cellular structure to keep it in place. Further information on plastic grids can be obtained online from **[www.pavingexpert.com](http://www.pavingexpert.com)**. They can also be filled with soil and planted. It should be laid on a well-constructed sub-base using type 3 or type 4 aggregate (larger-sized aggregate.) This will also allow good drainage through the substructure of the soil. Consider the property boundary treatment so that gravel does not travel on to the highway
- porous tarmac or a pebble bound with resin is an increasingly popular choice
- permeable paving requires pavers which allow open, permeable spaces between units
- grasscrete is a concrete structure, not favoured for regularly used surfaces; it allows grass to grow through but water to drain away through a sub-base

## **Non-permeable surfacing**

Where a driveway is to be constructed in non-permeable materials such as concrete, asphalt, block or flag paving, it will need constructing so as to:

- allow for a fall towards a permeable area
- retain a permeable area within the front garden of 25 per cent. This should be a sufficient sustainable drainage system such as a sized soakaway, flowerbed or french drain, which would adequately manage and control the flow of surface water
- handle a suitably sized collection system adjacent to the highway, collecting and directing water towards the permeable front garden. This must not be connected to the mains drainage
- ensure there will be continual inspection and maintenance so that it is clear of debris

All roof downpipes connected straight into a pipe flowing into the road also contribute to flooding on the highway. These should also be allowed to flow into the permeable area.

## **Vehicular crossovers**

Please be aware that the discharge of water onto an adopted highway is an enforceable offence. There are also additional highways requirements when paving a front garden to park cars. It is necessary to apply for an appropriate vehicle crossover or dropped kerb; failure to do so can lead to enforcement action. When applying for a dropped kerb, you will be expected to provide information to show you are complying with the above legislation, such as the a plan of the front garden and cross-section of the proposed permeable surfacing.

## **Report it**

If you see new driveways which do not comply, please report them to the council through the contact centre by telephoning **01895 556000** or by emailing [\*\*contact@hillingdon.gov.uk\*\*](mailto:contact@hillingdon.gov.uk)

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT MICHAEL SOBELL HOSPICE**

### **Saturday 12th May – plant sale from 10am to 12.30pm**

Join us for our blooming marvellous plant sale – a wonderful opportunity to browse and buy a variety of plants, flowers, bulbs, gardening accessories and much more in the grounds of the hospice. There is free entry and parking.

### **Sunday 20th May – ‘On Your Bike’, 8am**

Take on a 40-mile sponsored cycle challenge through the scenic countryside of Denham, the Chalfonts, Chesham, Bovington and Chipperfield. The event starts and ends at the hospice. Entry is £25 for adults before 20th April and £10 for children (11 to 16 years old).

### **Sunday 20th May – Patchouli & Terra Guitarra: folk music concert, 7.30pm, at Northwood and Pinner Liberal Synagogue, Oaklands Gate**

American folk duo sensation Julie Patchouli and guitarist Bruce Hecksel, otherwise known as Patchouli & Terra Guitarra, will be performing live for an evening of fantastic music described as “Simon and Garfunkel meets the Gipsy Kings”. The duo have performed over 4,000 live shows and have recently released their eighth album. Tickets cost £17.50. For more information visit **[www.michaelsobellhospice.co.uk](http://www.michaelsobellhospice.co.uk)** or call Diana on **01923 537225**.

### **Friday 15th June – ‘Ladies in the Night’ walk, 10pm, Michael Sobell Hospice, Gate 3, Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood**

Join us for a sizzling night of summer-time fun, laughter and walking as the ‘Ladies in the Night’ walk challenge returns with a carnival twist! Pound the streets for one amazing night in aid of Michael Sobell Hospice. Choose from a new ten-mile or five-and-a-half mile route. Ladies, men, children and four-legged friends are invited! Entry is £25 per adult or £10 per child (under 16).

### **Saturday 15th September – ‘It’s a Knockout’, 10am to 3pm – local venue in Northwood**

Join us for an ‘It’s a Knockout’-style day out full of inflatables, obstacles, bubbles and more. Teams of ten are invited to take part and compete in this entertaining family event in aid of the hospice. Entry for adults is £30 plus sponsorship and for children £20 plus sponsorship.

For further information about all Michael Sobell Hospice events, visit our website **[www.michaelsobellhospice.co.uk](http://www.michaelsobellhospice.co.uk)**, contact us on **020 3826 2367** or email **[mshevents@michaelsobellhospice.co.uk](mailto:mshevents@michaelsobellhospice.co.uk)**

## **RUISLIP WOODS TRUST**

Upcoming events in 2018

Saturday 12 May	Guided bat walk, 8:30pm, Woodland Centre at Ruislip Lido
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Saturday 19 May	Guided bat walk, 8:30pm, Woodland Centre at Ruislip Lido
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For further details closer to these events visit our website

## **ERA NOTICEBOARDS**

If your community organization has an event they wish to publicise, you may wish to use one of the five noticeboards spread around Eastcote.

Please contact Denise Cherry on 020 8429 5399

For further details

## **EASTCOTE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION FUTURE MEETING DATES**

Meetings are held on Wednesdays at 7.30pm in the Elsie Fischer Room (the bungalow at the rear of St Lawrence Church car park)

AGM 29th May	26th September
<i>St Thomas More Church Hall</i>	Open Forum 23rd October
27th June	<i>St Thomas More Church Hall</i>
25th July	28th November
29th August	No meeting in December

**ALL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME  
WHETHER OR NOT ERA MEMBERS**

## ERA COMMITTEE

<b>Chairman:</b>	Alison Holtorp – 020 8866 8186
<b>Secretary:</b>	Irene Groom – 020 8866 0985
<b>Senior Road Steward:</b>	Alison Akerman – 07771 846754
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Alison Dungworth – 07793 814084
<b>Planning:</b>	Jackie Redrup – 020 8868 6080
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	David Harper – 020 8868 8583
<b>ERA website:</b>	Mark Phillips – 07500 118796

Keith Barnard – 020 8868 1755  
Elizabeth Beggs – 020 8429 4713  
Deesha Chadha – 07976 920351  
Carolyn Derecki – 020 8866 5495  
Chris Hankin – 020 8866 8186

Ian Murray – 020 8866 4133  
David Payne – 020 8866 2986  
Malcolm Penny – 020 8429 1182  
Arthur Plummer – 020 8868 7915  
Karen Spink – 020 8866 7279

**President: Chris Groom**

## CONSERVATION PANEL & EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDENS

Lesley Crowcroft – 020 8866 8436

## LOCAL COUNCILLORS\*

**Eastcote and East Ruislip Ward**  
Cllr Catherine Dann – 020 8868 9144  
Cllr Becky Haggart – 07769 323142  
Cllr Nick Denys – 07915 066021

**Cavendish Ward**  
Cllr Eddie Lavery – 020 8866 1367  
Cllr Michael White – 01895 637863  
Cllr Teji Barnes – 07475 093593

**Northwood Hills Ward**  
Cllr Jonathan Bianco – 01923 820544  
Cllr John Morgan – 01923 821552  
Cllr Duncan Flynn – 07769 653052

**Members of Parliament**  
Nick Hurd – 01923 822876  
Boris Johnson – 020 7219 4682

**GLA Member for Ealing and Hillingdon**  
Dr Onkar Sahota – 020 7983 6558

\* Correct at time of going to print

See our website for information about what's going on in Eastcote  
[www.eastcoter.co.uk](http://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](mailto:ERA@eastcoter.co.uk)