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WHAT A FARCE!

As you will have read in the papers over the last few weeks, we have seen the true cost of mainstream politics with MPs taking taxpayers money and using it to purchase everyday household items that you and I use. On top of this and in the most serious cases MPs have been using this money to pay off mortgages or clean their swimming pools. It is an utterly ridiculous system that allows MPs to claim these allowances and yet when challenged they blame this on an 'error of judgement' and a 'mistake'. What would happen if any of us made a mistake on our Tax Return, I am pretty sure we would be penalised!

The general public are not against MPs earning a salary and some of them do work hard but it just irritates all of us hard working people when you read these stories about the MPs and their allowances. In order to sort out the mainstream parties and ensure we do not have this issue again in 10 years time it is important that Independent MPs are elected so that they can overview and scrutinise and help to clean up Parliament and not be 'sucked' into the lavish requirements of mainstream Party MPs. The residents of this area at the next General Election deserve a better service and we like you want to be sure that the person representing you are good, honest and hard working people.

DARREN WISE

GARDENERS' CORNER FOR JULY

Mow regularly at the summer height, water if dry weather is prolonged and rake occasionally as recommended for June.



If clover, pearlwort and/or yarrow suddenly appear as problems, use a good selective weed killer containing 2 or preferably 3 active ingredients.

July is a little late for maximum effect, but these weeds should never be ignored.

Holidays can be a problem. If possible, make lawn-cutting arrangements in your absence if you are to be away for a fortnight or more.

If you have any tips or suggestions for our readers please let me know - 01708 373027 or email eaglibri@talktalk.net

AREA MEETING

The next meeting of the Harold Wood / Emerson Park committee is due to take place at 7.30pm on 21st July at Harold Wood Primary School in Recreation Avenue.

This should be an opportunity for residents in Shepherds Hill to



WHAT A CHEEK!

Just as the June *Bulletin* was being delivered, further details of the expenses claimed by the Conservative Members of Parliament for Romford and Upminster were highlighted by the National Press.

Firstly the claims for Second Homes paid for by the Taxpayers over the last 4 years: The MP for Romford claimed £104,699 and the MP for Upminster £82,886 - both of whom claimed higher amounts than MPs representing Constituencies in Scotland, Devon or Cornwall - considerable distances from Parliament. The MPs for Upminster

and Romford have excellent rail connections to Westminster - in fact around an hour or less! The National Media then gave details of individual claims by these Tory MPs. Whilst there was no cleaning of moats, DVDs or, Trouser Presses - there were claims for groceries - The Tory MP for Romford was embarrassed that details of his claims for "Jellied Eels and Farley's Rusks" were published - Amongst the claims by the Tory MP for Upminster were £3,100 to redecorate a flat, £6,350 for a new bathroom and £804 for a Microwave, television and a fridge.

Are we now seeing the end of the gravy train, will we see Parliament actually reformed?.

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SHAPING UP YOUR LIFE

hear whether the Council has taken into account their petition for some form of crossing point close to the Pub and bus stop! We shall be there and will report back on any issues of concern.

CULPRIT!

As I was out delivering the *Bulletin*, I had the misfortune of losing my footing along this pathway and fell head first onto the floor ending up with cuts and bruises to my knees, elbows, shoulder and hands.

I raised this issue to Streetcare to urge them to undertake an urgent repair, however they told me that as this path runs through the grassed area this is the responsibility of Homes in Havering and that the issue has been passed to the Estates Officer to deal with. I was rather

surprised to see this repaired within 2 days of my fall especially as local residents have told us that this pathway has been like this for over 2years!

The Council says that they inspect roads and pavements every 6 months though this was not the case for this particular path, however they have finally noticed (with some help from the Residents Association) that it was unsafe for pedestrians!

Camborne Avenue/Halesworth Road Junction



As at 31st May 2009

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As at 2nd June 2009

Clearly there is a need to have active Councillors who will raise issues such as this directly with the Council and demand that action is taken.

DARREN WISE

HANGING BASKETS

These always look terrific, sadly again we received reports of a number of Hanging Baskets being stolen – our advice – make it difficult for anyone to easily remove them.

HAROLD WOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

Don't know what to do in your spare time? Ever thought of joining a club? At the Harold Wood Neighbourhood Centre in Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood, there are lots of User Groups with the following classes: -

- Alma Boxing Club, Beverley Marks Stage School, Brookside Angling Club, Karate Club, Starlight Theatre School, Yoga, Adult Tap Dancing, Harold Wood Townswomen Guild, Harold Wood Bridge Club, Harold Wood Healing Group, Havering Healing Group, Kumons Maths & English, Littlekickers, Over 60 Club, Psychic Development, Play-group, Sequence Dance Club and Slimming World.

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CCTV SMART CAR TARGETS HAROLD WOOD!

As reported in last months *Bulletin* regarding a number of roads being targeted in Harold Wood over Bank Holiday Monday and residents' cars being ticketed, we contacted the Council for their response on this matter. It seems that their policy is to target those areas where it is a busy commercial day in the local shopping area. This seems bizarre as Harold Wood shops would indeed not be as busy on this day as they are on others and surely a better use of the Council resources would have been to deploy the CCTV Smart car and Traffic Wardens to the mainstream shopping areas. It seems that the Council is unfairly targeting Harold Wood residents in what is seen as a quiet day for many of us who live in the area. The Councillors for Harold Wood

are largely quiet on this matter and would seem not to be representing your views!

DARREN WISE

MORRIS DANCER UPDATE

For the residents living in the vicinity of the Morris Dancer pub, we would like to thank you for your responses with regard to the questions we raised with regard to the anti social behaviour of customers when leaving the pub. As we reported last month the Police made representations to the Council regarding the review of the premises licence as there were "Incidents of drug taking and violence at the venue which showed mismanagement leading to a failure to promote three of the four Licensing objectives."

As you know we made representations to the Committee and as a result of this a number of conditions have been applied to

the licence.

We do intend to contact the brewery owners of the Pub to see what other options will be considered to ensure that the anti-social behaviour that stems from it can be curtailed. We have also been in contact with the Police to increase their patrols around this area on a Friday and Saturday night around closing time.

SQUIRRELS HEATH GARDENING CLUB

Meetings held monthly on Mondays at 8 pm Free. Annual Membership £2.50 (concessions £2) Held in Big Hall, Gidea Park Methodist Church at 398 Brentwood Road, Gidea Park.

27th July - Shrubs for Small Gardens - Valerie Day

28th September - Upminster Windmill

26th October - Bulb Sale and Bring and Buy Plant Sale

23rd November - Photo Competition and Social Evening

For more information please contact Bill Brown - 01708 765562

BROOKSIDE ANGLING CLUB

Based in Harold Hill, we are a local angling club formed in 1979. We have three lakes based in a nature reserve/park locally known as 'The Manor' in Dagnam Park Drive, Harold Hill, Romford, RM3 9XR.

Two lakes for day tickets and one lake for members only. The two-day ticket waters hold Carp also Bream, Tench, Roach and Rudd. We are open all through the year (do not have a closed season).

We also organise monthly outings to some of the best venues in Essex.

We also have a ladies section with an annual match and a large junior membership with



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Interested in joining? Email us at info@brooksideangling.com for a membership form or for more information, look at our website www.brooksideangling.com. Membership starts June through to May, although new members can join at any point in the year.

CONGRATULATIONS RAINBOW TRUST

The Rainbow Trust shop in Harold Wood celebrated having raised HALF A MILLION POUNDS!.

The Charity shop is certainly smaller than most but the good will of the volunteer staff and the local people is second to none.

It was in 1993 that the Rainbow Trust Children's Charity contacted fundraisers Pauline Obee and John Penrose with a

proposal to open their first shop. They remain responsible for the running of the shop assisted by 36 volunteers 11 of who have been there from the very start.

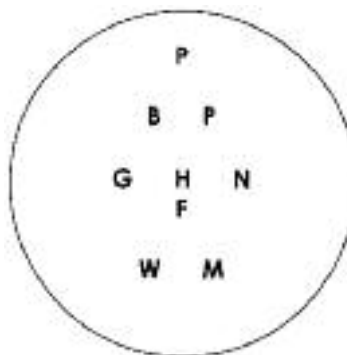
They attribute their success to the satisfaction of raising money for a local Charity and are only one mile away from our Team of Support Workers in Harold Hill who provide support to families that have a child with a terminal or life threatening illness. The Rainbow Trust provides 24hr care with a key service supporting families in their homes. Care is provided free of charge and given to over 1,000 families each year.

Customers can see the profits reflect the fact that no one working for the shop is paid and all the goods are donated, nothing is purchased. We are a dedicated team working for a dedicated Charity.

Want to know more? Just phone on 01708 378717 they will enjoy

telling you about their work and fundraising events.

ST PETER'S, HAROLD WOOD



What does the badge mean? Like a building-site, our lives are a work in progress, God's building-site. And patience is required until the work is complete - whether in our lives or in a building project. So PBPGHNFWMY - Please Be Patient, God Has Not Finished

With Me Yet!

So patience with St. Peter's - we are - through the building project. The £2 million mark in giving was passed in April, and, God willing, the contractors will finish by December.

IF YOU WANT TO LOOK AROUND, there is a TOUR on Wednesday July 8th between 6.00 and 9.00pm (ring 01708 342080 to book a hard hat place).

SONGS OF PRAISE is Sunday July 5th at 6.30pm

Thank you All Saints, Ardleigh Green, for hosting this annual event for local Christians and Churches, that St. Peter's has hosted for 6 years. Come on and join us.

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