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WHAT ARE OUR COUNCILLORS DOING?



Brian Eagling and Darren Wise took the opportunity of a nice sunny afternoon to go out and see what the state of this area looks like after years of neglect from this Council administration and although we did not get around all the areas in the ward, just take a look at the photo's we took and judge for yourself.

We do acknowledge that there are some improvements, mainly as a result of pressure from the Residents Association, though it is just not enough and everywhere we go we get asked various questions such as - what are our Councillors doing to improve the area? are they only in this for the money like the MPs of their parties? these pavements have not been done for 28 years! Unfortunately we cannot answer all of those questions but we can tell you that we are committed to ensure that residents get value for money and that this area is not forgotten..... What do you think?

Take a look at this!



Elgin Ave

And this!



**Knightsbridge Road/
Leyburn Crescent Junc.**

And this!



Avenue Road

And this!



Homeway

DARREN WISE

be free. Many Council officers gave up considerable time at no cost to the Council to work on the show. I hope it becomes a real community event and residents return to the show – it should be a great day out. To charge was a disgrace.

RON OWER

SHEPHERDS HILL UPDATE

The Tory council administration has rejected a residents' petition for a crossing point to be installed along Shepherds Hill citing that it is too expensive and that the road is too narrow for a crossing. We have



FREE AGAIN



Following pressure from Residents Councillors, the annual Havering Show will again be free to attend.

Over the August Bank Holiday weekend of Sunday 30th and Monday 31st the show will take place as usual at Harrow Lodge Park, Hornchurch. When the Conservative Councillors took over the Town Hall – they introduced high entrance fees and thousands of residents voted with their feet and stayed away – the Tories came under severe pressure and I am pleased to tell you – the show will be free.

The 1970s Scottish Band "The Bay City Rollers" will lead this year's line up – many will remember the various covers of the Four Seasons songs. Local family band Five Star and

Take That tribute band Never 4get will be there.

The Havering Majorettes, a dog show and a number of events for all the family will be taking part.

Being on the Council, when the show weekend was started, together with former Councillor Louise Sinclair, I am delighted that the show is free once again – when we worked on setting the show up, Louise and I felt it should

conducted our own investigation regarding the narrowness of the road and compared this to the crossing outside the former Harold Wood Hospital site (Width 25ft 2 Inches) and have noted that Shepherds Hill is wider or about the same size in certain positions along the road! We shall try and make enquiries with Transport For London to see if they can make funding available as this is clearly a need for local residents to have some form of crossing point.

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Shepherds Hill Update 2

The council has rejected the planning application for the new display sign to be illuminated for The Free Spirit pub (formerly Shepherd and Dog). The council meeting was attended by our Resident Councillor colleagues who voted in favour of local resident's views. The local Tory Ward councillor who attended the meeting *abstained from voting!*

It goes to show that your Tory Councillors are not supporting residents in the Shepherds Hill area and have not helped you with regard to the two issues listed here.

August Bank Holiday Refuse Collection

Don't forget there is a Bank Holiday on the 31st August and that refuse collections will be one day later than your normal collection day for this week only!

GARDENERS CORNER FOR AUGUST

The same general treatment as for July. If the grass is overgrown on your return from holiday, do not cut it at the summer height. Tip it at this first cut, and then reduce the height of cut for subsequent mowings.



August is the last month of the year for weed killing and for feeding with a nitrogen-rich fertilizer. Seed sowing can begin in late August.

BRIAN EAGLING

SPEAK OUT

On 23 June Corbets Tey School presented a performance at the Queens Theatre of "Speak Out" a specially written opera by Richard Hepplewhite of English/Touring Opera (ETO) who have been working with the school for the last three years.

Every child took part on the stage, and all the theatre were amazed by the wonderful and colourful performance.

MORRIS DANCER PUB

Further to the Morris Dancer Public House story published in *Bulletin* last month, I would like to add my comments. Locals do not use the pub because of its reputation of drugs and fights. I have lived in the area over 18 years and have had to put up with the noise from this pub. At one point I even moved into the back small bedroom to get away from the noise as the front of my house faces the Morris Pub. It was once a nice pub when I first moved here 18 yrs ago but has since gone down hill. The swearing that comes from the pub is disgraceful that one is afraid to go to the front garden. The music (disco or karaoke) is played till well up to midnight whereas the pubs drinking license is only till 11pm.

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The centre in Gooshays Drive, Harold Hill is open every day, has several swimming pools, fitness suite, 4 Court Sports Hall, Crèche/multi use room - cafeteria.

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CONGRATULATIONS WILLIAMS BAKERY

Williams Bakery in Station Road, Harold Wood has won an award for their Customer Service.

Tracey Williams who has had the Bakers for over 17 years said 'We were delighted to hear that our customers had nominated us, it was a nice pat on the back for the Staff especially Barbara King and Pauline Shute who serve customers at the shop'.

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MAYLANDS CAR WASH

This illegal Car Wash along the A12 Colchester Road at Maylands, Harold Park, has been referred to the Council Officers by us and local residents and Residents Councillors Clarence Barrett, who has raised this in full Council and by Councillor Linda Hawthorn. Enforcement Action was agreed by the Planning Committee and an injunction to stop this dangerous site.

As we go to press, the Council inform us that “the barrister instructed to bring the injunction has requested some more information to include in our witness statements to the Court including further photographic evidence etc”.

We hope by the time you receive this that the Council have started “injunction proceedings”.

We will keep you updated on this – the site is very dangerous and should be closed!

St. PETER'S LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

Last month, Brian Eagling and I were pleased to meet up with Reverend David Banting the Vicar of St Peters, Gubbins Lane, who has now been at St. Peters for over 11 years. Prior to coming to Harold Wood, David was a Parish Priest in Oldham.

We discussed the construction of the new Church Centre which is on target to be open for this Christmas.

The fabulous facilities will extend and assist St. Peter's growth in the community. The Church already runs a flourishing Parents and Toddlers Group (ABC) and run a weekly “Day Centre” for the retired with a lunch (Good Companions) and a monthly Mens' lunch. David pointed out that the new Catering and training facilities open up new horizons – further scope for groups within the community and the increased space will

enable wider church events. The Church clearly are looking forward to easier access for the disabled – the new facilities will really serve the community.

As David said, “God is alive and well” and let me repeat what David also said when the Foundation Stone was laid in March “the Christian church is here and available and has much to offer of love and life”.

We wish them well.

RON OWER

HOMES IN HAVERING

Brian Eagling and I met up last month with several of Homes in Havering Officers at the Kings Bridge Circus Flats, Harold Hill where we discussed a number of improvements.

Homes in Havering have also decided to extend the hours of its customer centre after complaints from tenants.

The call centre will be open from 8 am to 8 pm Monday to

Thursday and from 8 am to 5 pm on Fridays.

The reception area at the Homes in Havering Office in Chippenham Road, Harold Hill will continue to close at 5 pm.

RON OWER

ALISHAN SUPPORTS CLUB

The Alishan Indian Restaurant in Station Road, Upminster continues to sponsor Upminster Cricket Club – and are taking bookings for the August Bank Holiday Weekend and after the Upminster Cricket Club match against Essex Cricket Club on Monday 31st August.

NOT A SINGLE WORD

I have been regularly attending the Council's Regulatory Services Planning Committee for several years now and am disgusted that the Conservative Councillor, so called representative from Harold Wood,

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never takes part. At the recent meeting, to discuss further flats in Squirrels Heath Road which had been turned down before and the New Signs for the Old Shepherd and Dog Pub along Shepherds Hill, where a number of residents had concerns, she merely sat on her hands and abstained – unbelievable. The Tories who are more interested in earning huge allowances are NOT representing us.

HAROLD WOOD EVENING W.I.

Harold Wood Evening Women's Institute was formed in 1963. We meet at The Memorial Hall in Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood on the first Wednesday of each month (7.30 pm for 7.45 pm start). we have more than 40 members. Each month we have a different speaker covering a wide range of subjects. We also hold a monthly

raffle and competitions. During the year we run outings and hold social evenings.

Members receive the 'W.I. Life' magazine keeping us in touch with national news and campaigns like 'SOS for Bees'. Essex WI monthly newsletter contains reports from County Wis, events, craft days and outings. We also join Noak Hill and Homestead WI members, for social activities and outings.

So why not come along to a meeting or ring Doreen (our secretary) on 01708 780928 for more information.

SUMMER FAIR

Harold Court Primary School held their annual summer fair on the 4th July and to celebrate American Independence day the fair had an American theme. Over 600 people attended the event. Stalls included the Big

Raffle, tombola, coconut shy, bouncy castles, bbq and the favourite with the children was the water bombs. Over £2,000 was raised to buy new sports equipment and an ICT programme for the school.

NEW CLINIC FOR HAROLD WOOD

NHS Havering has secured £4 million from the government for a new polyclinic in Harold Wood. The building will house a new GP practice, along with a full range of primary care facilities, including a minor injuries unit. The clinic will be open every day of the year and patients will be able to walk in and see a doctor, nurse or other clinician between 8am and 8pm, regardless of where they are registered.

The Department of Health has agreed to provide funding to

redesign and refurbish a former NHS computer centre close to the railway station. The site in Gubbins Lane was chosen because there is a shortage of GPs in Harold Wood. An extra three doctors will join the existing number of GPs currently available in Havering. Local residents have influenced plans for the new practice and clinic by taking part in an extensive consultation run by NHS Havering. In a series of discussion groups, interviews, surveys and questionnaires, members of the local community were asked what services they most wanted in the new facilities. Many people said that they would like a minor injuries clinic, and this has been included in the plans. It is hoped that this will provide a more convenient service for patients and reduce pressure on local accident and emergency services.

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