

# Ickenham Calling .....

The Newsletter of the

*Ickenham Residents' Association* Autumn 2011

Affiliated to the Hillingdon Alliance of Residents' Associations.  
Member of Herts. & Middx. Wildlife Trust, and London Green Belt Council.

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## CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The sight of super-rich Midlanders wanting to shorten their occasional train trips to London, or of railway enthusiasts pleading for energy guzzling train sets and of a government minister who protected his own constituents from an improved train service to Heathrow now complaining about HS2 nimbys, has been truly unedifying.

The consultation is now over; those who have taken the trouble to examine the detail of the HS2 proposal have found it wanting, and our MP Nick Hurd can be counted among them. His response to the consultation can be found on our website; it is a robust and thorough criticism. If the government cannot now see the light after even the Conservative Party's own transport committee has damned the scheme, the defeat of commonsense by blind dogma would be breathtaking.

On the matter of our website, have a look, it has changed. Brian Adams has designed a new, easier to update facility. We will keep it refreshed with the latest community news including progress on the new Tesco planning application for the Master Brewer site. That will certainly keep us busy over the next few weeks!  
*Humphrey Tizard*

## HS2 UPDATE

The HS2 consultation period came to an end on 29 July and many of you have made your views known. Media reports claim that there were around 40,000 responses to the consultation's seven questions and the overwhelming majority of these were opposed to the project. The Department of Transport will now analyse the responses and the Government has said it will make a decision on whether or not to go ahead with HS2 by the end of the year. The Association's response to the consultation can be seen on our website.

But before then we can look forward to the Parliamentary Transport Select Committee report in October. The committee has been taking evidence from both supporters and those opposed to HS2 and has also commissioned reports from consultants on the viability of the project. The conclusions of this committee will have a significant influence on government strategy.

A new opposition group has been formed called 'Hillingdon Against HS2' (HAHS2). Members of HAHS2 include our Association as well as other delegates from other resident associations and HS2 opposition groups within the London Borough of Hillingdon.

## OPEN HOUSE LONDON September 2011

**Ickenham Manor**  
Saturday, 17.09.11, tours at  
10am, 11am, and 12noon  
Pre-book ONLY through  
Open House London at  
[openhouselondon.org.uk/bookings](http://openhouselondon.org.uk/bookings)

**Swakeleys House**  
Saturday, 17.09.11, 10am – 4pm.  
Max. 25 at one time, entry every  
20-30 minutes.



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Any questions you may want to raise, or if you have comments on any article in the Newsletter, we would be pleased to hear your views.

Either write to our General Secretary  
6 The Chase,  
Ickenham, Uxbridge,  
UB10 8SR

or email  
[ickenhamresidents@hotmail.com](mailto:ickenhamresidents@hotmail.com)

This issue edited by  
Hanne Raeder  
August 2011



The purpose of HAHS2 is to provide a single voice of opposition that will represent all those in the Borough opposing HS2.

HAHS2 has the full support of the LBH council. Individual member groups will still oppose HS2 in their own way. The chairperson of HAHS2 will be speaking at our Open Forum in October.

Many local residents complained that the HS2 consultation documents did not include any details about the Heathrow links. In the last *Ickenham Calling* we told 'the tale of the three stubs'. Since then no new information has come to light and it still looks like Ickenham and Uxbridge areas will be surrounded by high speed train lines if HS2 goes

## ICKENHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION FORUM

**Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2011.  
8pm  
Venue: Ickenham Village Hall**

Our speakers will be Stuart Hunt from the LBH Green Spaces Team, discussing *Green Spaces in Ickenham*, in particular Swakeleys Park and the River Pinn,

Keri Brennan of Hillingdon Against HS2 (HAHS2) discussing the HS2 proposal and its impact on the village and surrounding area.

We look forward to seeing you there.



ahead. If the government does decide to proceed, we should know more detail about connections to Heathrow in the second consultation planned to start in March 2012.

Let us hope it does not get that far!

Members of the Association met with our MP, Nick Hurd, in July. He has listened to and supports local objections to HS2 and in his own response to the consultation he raised many important points that not only affect our area but also concerns about the viability of HS2. Mr Hurd's response to the consultation is also on our website.

So now we must wait for the government to decide what to do. In the meantime we shall continue to oppose HS2, so please send us any comments or information you may have about the scheme. And keep in mind: HS2 has no business case, no environmental case and there is no money to pay for it!

*HS2 Sub Committee*

### UXBRIDGE GOLF COURSE

The Public Hearing of the Appeal against the refusal of the smaller scheme of landfill, i.e. some 135,000 m<sup>3</sup>, took place on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2011 at the Civic Centre. The Association presented its objections to the Inspector, which included the effect on the landscape. We also presented our views on the conditions to be applied should the appeal be allowed including limitations on the duration of the project. We accepted that these will now be part of an S106 Agreement including a Land Restoration Bond.

We have not yet seen an official decision from the Inspector, but believe that since the S106 Agreement has been signed between the Appellant and the Council within the period requested, this appeal may well be allowed, and we shall keep you informed of future developments.

*Hanne Raeder*

### TESCO

Another application for a new supermarket albeit smaller than previously proposed for the Master Brewer Site, including a hotel, is currently being processed by the London Borough of Hillingdon, and our sub-committee will assess the ramifications of the impact on local shops, housing, and in particular the effect of extra traffic from the A40 and along the B466, including associated parking problems and noise pollution etc.



Once we have completed our assessment we intend to ask you, our members, by way of a survey, if you object to the proposals, before submitting our response to the Local Planning Authority on your behalf.

*Hanne Raeder*

## ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

We have redeveloped the Ickenham Residents' Association website and this is now live. Go to <http://www.ickenhamresidents.co.uk> (as before) and check it out.

If you have any comments on the contents, or would like to see additional information, please let us know by sending an email to: [ickenhamresidents@hotmail.com](mailto:ickenhamresidents@hotmail.com)

We have included in the website more information about the Association and Ickenham, and intend to keep it up-to-date with the latest news on local issues (e.g. HS2).

*Brian Adams*

## THANK YOU, AREA AND ROAD STEWARDS

Some 70 area and road stewards gathered in the Village Hall on 22<sup>nd</sup> July for a social evening, which was organised as a means of saying *thank you* to all those tireless helpers who deliver *Ickenham Calling* to our members and collect the much needed subscriptions.

The evening consisted largely of a selection of quizzes, such as guessing photographs of well known British landmarks, theatrical personalities, and identifying types of biscuits from printed clues. This was organised by our General Secretary, June Reyner, and proved a successful means of getting people, who were unknown to each other to mix and get acquainted. In addition, a bar was available, run by Vic Silk and David Fenton, and a group of our ladies prepared a splendid arrangement of snacks, which were nearly all finished by the time the evening ended.

At the conclusion of the evening, prizes were awarded to the table that had won the highest number of points in the quizzes, and these were presented by Association Chairman, Humphrey Tizard. He thanked those present for all their hard work in keeping members informed, recruiting new members, and gathering in the subscriptions, because without their help the Association would not function. Membership Secretary, John Squiers, thanked all those who had organised the event and for making it such a success.

*John Squiers*

## HEALTH MATTERS

We are dying of obesity in the West and sadly of starvation in Africa. Lifestyle illnesses are on the rise in our part of the world, and I am reporting particularly on the alarming figures for England. An official report into the health of the nation has found that lifestyle illnesses are increasing, as traditional killers such as cancer and heart disease decline; and as a rider to this, some good news, figures for Hillingdon show that we rank well in the latest data on deaths from heart disease. On average 62.37 people per 100,000 in the Borough die of coronary heart disease each year, compared with 77.63 nationally, however, Hillingdon is only the fifth best performing London Borough in terms of heart disease deaths.

The main problems are obesity, our love affair with alcohol, and although in decline, smoking. The knock on effect from this is producing "lifestyle illnesses" such as diabetes and liver disease. The recent study has shown that England has the highest rate of obesity and teenage pregnancy in western Europe. This, of course, is placing an increasing strain on the limited resources of the NHS. The deaths from liver disease has risen above the western European average. It is well known that being overweight is a risk factor for Type 2 diabetes (later onset). Since 2003 the proportion of men diagnosed with the disease has risen almost by a third, with the proportion of women with the condition has increased by almost a quarter.

Obesity is calculated by using the Body Mass Index, (BMI) a ratio of weight to height, calculated by dividing a persons weight in kilograms by their height in metres squared (how is your maths?). A BMI score of between 18-25 is seen as normal, 25-30 is over weight, 30-40 obese, and over 40 morbidly obese. So why not, as an exercise, get on those scales, find a tape measure, and measure your BMI! Moving on to the next major hazard, England's binge drinking culture is causing major problems with our health, confirmed by high rates of hospital admissions for alcohol abuse. The good news is that 95% of all liver disease is preventable, providing action is taken to reduce our alcohol consumption at the earliest opportunity.

Figures indicate that the number of prescriptions issued now averages more than 17 a year for every person in Britain. The advance of "lifestyle" health problems has been behind a significant rise in the past 10 years. The proportion of prescriptions issued outside hospitals has risen almost



70% in a decade. Awareness and prevention are crucial, if we want to avert this health crisis and see the number of Type 2 diabetes fall, it will require a healthy balanced diet, weight control and leading an active lifestyle.

Referring back to my discussion on defibrillators in the last edition of our newsletter *Ickenham Calling*..... I had a feed back from the senior dental surgeon at the Swakeleys Dental Practice, Swakeleys Road, who related that they invested in a defibrillator for the practice some time ago. It was imported from the United States at considerable less cost than similar models available here.

*David John*

### **POLICE MATTERS**

The last meeting of the Hillingdon Community & Police Advisory Group was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> July. The occasion was rather sombre. After steady progress in reducing burglary over many months, a sharp increase was reported. Over the period April to mid July offences were up by 34% in the Borough compared with the same period in 2010. This increase was not confined to Hillingdon, but occurred all over London. The figure for the whole of the Capital was +28%. The combination of rising

However, the 'clear-up' rate has nearly doubled, suggesting that the increase consists of incompetent amateurs. Other types of crime were broadly flat, except that there was a sharp fall in thefts from motor vehicles of 18.5%, perhaps people are at last learning not to leave attractive items on view in parked cars.

As part of the ongoing cost-cutting, Hillingdon has to lose 5 sergeants, this will be achieved by putting the Safer Neighbourhood Teams of ten wards under five sergeants, we shall share one with West Ruislip. Happily, the sergeant in question will be our own well-regarded Dougie Noble.

There is no more news concerning the future of Community & Police Advisory Groups and we sincerely hope that the axe will not fall on them. The exchange of ideas between community groups and the police is invaluable.

I think we have all got used to the telephone number 0300 123 1212 for reporting non urgent crimes etc, but times move on and from the 4<sup>th</sup> July it will gradually be replaced by a new number 101. The change over will take place over several months, so if the new number does not work, use the old one.

At the last meeting of the Ickenham Ward Panel the police priorities for our area were agreed as:

1. Anti-social behaviour by youths
2. Burglary
3. Road Safety.

On the subject of scamsters (again!), the latest ploy, which I have personally experienced, is a call from a person offering to check your computer for faults and/or bugs. The purpose is to gain access to your computer then read and probably misuse your personal details, passwords etc. One difference to the 'boiler-room' share scams already mentioned in the last issue, is that practitioners are much less polished and will probably have foreign accents. As usual the answer should be 'go away-don't call again!'

By the time you read this, the evenings will be drawing in, so think in terms of time switches to turn on lights in your house at dusk when you are away to deter burglars.

*Vic Silk*

### **Advance Notice of this year's**

## **ICKENHAM FESTIVE COMMUNITY NIGHT**

**Friday, 09.12.11,  
Village Hall, Ickenham,  
6pm to 9pm**

### **Advance Notice of**

## **ICKENHAM FESTIVAL WEEK IN 2012:**

**16th to 24th June 2012**

**Gala Day on Saturday,  
23rd June 2012**