

# Ickenham Calling .....

The Newsletter of the

*Ickenham Residents' Association* Summer 2012

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

Ickenham Residents' Association:	E-Mail Address	ickenhamresidents@hotmail.com
	WebSite	www.ickenhamresidents.co.uk

## CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Many thanks to all those members who came to the AGM in April. Another full house is testimony to the enduring solidarity of the village community and its determination to keep the Association Committee on its toes!

We welcomed two new members to the committee although one, Richard Piper, has been working for us as a co-opted member for almost the entire year, helping with the Tesco and Morrisons projects and other matters. Chris Mountain, the other, is exploring the opportunities for Ickenham presented by the Localism Act. In this regard, we have signalled to the Council our possible interest in developing a Neighbourhood Development Plan, which would give members a more powerful voice in the future of the village.

Shortly after the AGM, Brian Adams volunteered to take up the role of Publicity Officer in addition to his activities managing the website and on the HS2 Subcommittee. All of which makes my job even less of a burden than it was last year, with all of the committee more than pulling their weight and doing sterling service for the village.

My thanks to them all, and in particular to our President, Pete Daymond, who in addition to his governance duties, still applies his elbow grease in planning and many other activities.

It was a great pleasure to see our Patron, Malcolm Beaumont and his wife at the AGM, visiting from their retirement home in Wales, but on a sadder note we paid tribute to Peter Howe, longstanding committee member, Chairman and President, who died in March. He was an outstandingly successful campaigner for Ickenham and a real inspiration to me and, I'm sure, other committee members who worked with him.

*Humphrey Tizard*

## AGM REPORT

This year's AGM took place on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April in the Village Hall. Thank you to all those members who took the time to attend. The Hall was almost full to capacity. We were fortunate to have 5 of our local councillors: - R Puddifoot, D Simmonds, J Hensley (all Ickenham Ward) and P Corthorne and B. Crowe (West Ruislip Ward) in attendance. Our M.P. Nick Hurd also attended our AGM for the first time as guest speaker.

Our Chairman, Humphrey Tizard, opened the meeting by paying tribute to our former president Peter Howe, who sadly passed away earlier this year. Peter was a stalwart of the committee over many years and in various roles. He will be sadly missed. Mr Tizard then outlined the Association's business over the last year.

Major campaigns have been HS2 and the proposed developments at Hillingdon Circus. This is in addition to keeping a watching brief on all other planning applications and the ongoing developments in Ickenham Park.

The Officers and Committee members mentioned below were elected for the following year:

President Peter Daymond  
Chair Humphrey Tizard  
Planning Officer Hanne Raeder  
Treasurer Jill Dalton  
General Secretary June Reyner  
Membership Secretary John Squiers  
Committee:  
Brian Adams,  
Neena Bedi,  
Barbara Buckle,  
David Fenton,  
David John,



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**CHAIRMAN'S  
COMMENTS**

**AGM REPORT**

**HS2**

**TESCO AND  
MORRISONS**

**PETER HOWE**

**ROY HAYDEN**

**MEMBERSHIP  
NEWS**

**HEALTH  
MATTERS**

**POLICE  
MATTERS**

**JUBILEE  
GARDENS**

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, and you could write to our General Secretary  
6 The Chase,  
Ickenham, Uxbridge,  
UB10 8SR

You can also send your comments to our e-mail address:  
ickenhamresidents@hotmail.com

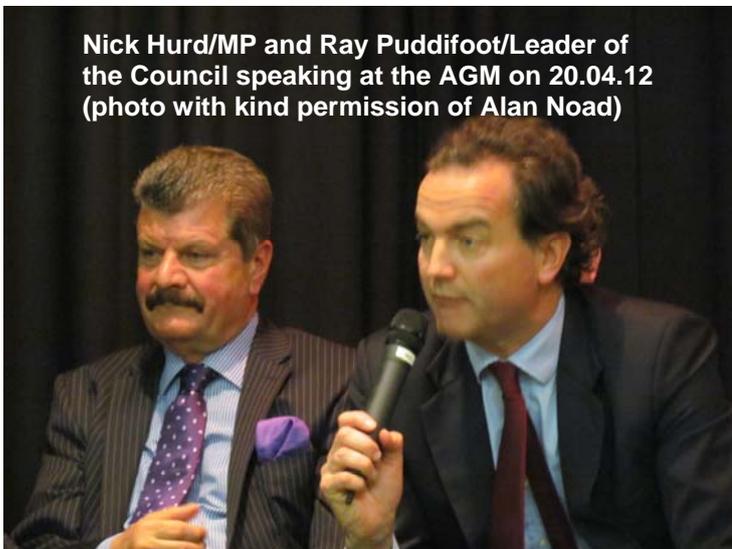
This issue edited by  
Hanne Raeder  
May 2012



David Millen,  
Chris Mountain,  
Richard Piper,  
Vic Silk,  
Co-opted members:  
John Collins,  
Simon Taylor.

The Accounts were approved as was the appointment of Mr. D Thorpe as independent examiner.

Miss Dalton explained why we were in deficit this year and a change to the subscription to make all households simply pay a standard rate of £2 was proposed and unanimously approved.



**Nick Hurd/MP and Ray Puddifoot/Leader of the Council speaking at the AGM on 20.04.12 (photo with kind permission of Alan Noad)**

Both Nick Hurd and Ray Puddifoot spoke about HS2 and the opposition to it. N Hurd congratulated the subcommittee on their excellent reports and updated us on the meetings he has had with Justine Greening - Secretary of State for Transport - on HS2. He promised to keep working within the Government to get the best solution possible for Ickenham, if the project were to go ahead. Ray Puddifoot clarified the Council's opposition and involvement in the 51M group. They are focusing on the consultation but also preparing a back-up case on the environment to take to the European Court.

Other issues discussed under Any Other Business were

- issues with the layout of the Jubilee Gardens in Swakeleys Park
- clubs etc. for young people in Ickenham
- planning issues re: the Alms Houses
- back garden infills

- Uxbridge Golf Course
- use of the former US School on the Brackenbury Estate
- the canal feeder
- water issues re HS2
- possible sale of RAF Northolt – Nick Hurd said it would not happen.

Squadron Leader R Willis of RAF NORTHOLT then gave an update on the station's role during the Olympics including details of the exercise taking place in early May.

The formal meeting closed at 9:30 p.m. when light refreshments were enjoyed by all attending, which also gave an opportunity for members to chat to our guests and to the committee.

*June Reyner*

## **HS2: IT IS NOT GOING ALL THEIR OWN WAY**

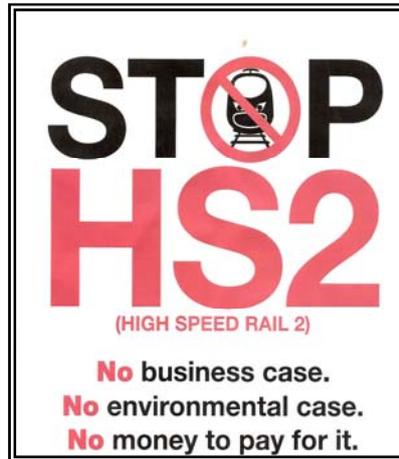
HS2 Ltd are still pressing ahead zealously with their project. They have several vacancies on their website, intend to increase the number of employees to 300 in the summer and are holding seminars for business. Whenever HS2 is reported in the press the Department for Transport (DfT) spokespersons always confidently refer to the project as going ahead, neglecting to mention that it must be accepted by parliamentary Hybrid Bill in October 2013.

Opposition groups, including our association, continue to vigorously oppose HS2. We believe the tunnel under Ruislip should be extended past Ickenham, but HS2 will not consider the tunnel at the present time because there is still the possibility of a spur from Heathrow joining the main line west of Breakspear Road South. We cannot see any reason for this spur and we will press HS2 to abandon this option.

We have also complained to Mr. Hurd that HS2 will only decide on the Heathrow spurs issue after the consultation on the second phase of the Y-route in 2014 and we can expect further protests from parts of country north of Birmingham when the full impact of HS2 is realised. The Heathrow spurs will potentially impact on Ickenham Golf courses and the Colne Valley to the west of Uxbridge. HS2 have stated that they will issue their first proposals for the spurs and Y-route in the autumn, but they are slipping on their programme.



A Consultation on compensation is due to start this summer. In spite of eloquent words in parliament that all future major projects would be subject to proper compensation schemes (eg Property Bond which received 98% backing in the 2011 Consultation) the DfT has selected the least attractive exceptional hardship scheme (no compensation until after the railway is running in 2027) which had minimal backing in the 2011 consultation.



forecasts that are the cornerstone of the HS2 business case to raise revenue and provide benefits such as time saving.

Also discovered by the PAC was that HS2 is now classed as 'amber/red' by the Cabinet Office, which means: *'successful delivery of the project is in doubt with major risks or issues apparent in a number of key areas. Urgent action is needed to ensure these are addressed, and whether resolution is feasible.'*

Our petition asking that you continue to endorse our mandate to oppose HS2 now has over 1000 signatures and we hope to present this to our MP soon. At the AGM in April Mr Hurd and Mr Puddifoot spoke forcibly on HS2 and confirmed their continuing support for residents concerns.

A detailed Environmental Impact Assessment has to be undertaken to fulfill the requirements of the Hybrid Bill. As part of this work HS2 will be consulting with local people on the effects HS2 will have on their area. These are called 'Forums' and on the 20 March an Association representative attended the first Ruislip and Ickenham area forum. The meeting was a shambles but hopefully further meetings will be more productive.

National opposition groups, to which our Association is affiliated, have also been very busy lobbying and continuing to undermine the case for HS2. We once again urge you to write to your MP, Councillors, media and even HS2 Ltd to emphasise the general public's objections to HS2 and demand the tunnel extension past Ickenham. Contact details are at the end of this article. But it's not going all HS2's way. In April the parliamentary Public Account Committee (PAC) carried out an inquiry into HS1, the HS line from St. Pancras to Folkestone. As part of the enquiry they questioned DfT and others on HS2 and if 'lessons had been learnt'. HS1 is experiencing a short fall of 30% on passenger numbers and construction costs exceeded the budget.

The National Audit Office (NAO) had said the project went ahead based on "hugely optimistic assumptions" about passenger numbers, which were not realised. The PAC concentrated on the HS2 business case and found that it was seriously flawed in several areas including passenger number

So what will they do? Are there feasible resolutions? We think not?

Furthermore, when HS2 was first conceived the Benefit to Cost Ratio (BCR) was nominally 2:1, that is for every £1 spent, there would be a £2 return. This ratio has been reduced four times by the DfT to 1.2:1 and continues to be examined by various committees and organisations. A project with a BCR <1.5 is regarded as poor value for money. Boris Johnson has been re-elected and he is extremely concerned over the effects HS2 will have on London and will demand changes.

There are currently five Judicial Reviews challenging the validity of the HS2 consultation and the environmental impacts that should be heard in the autumn.

Surveys of public opinion also show opposition to HS2 is increasing and many people believe it to be waste of money and investment should be made elsewhere on the rail system. Columnists in leading newspapers also attack the feasibility of HS2. In May there was an alternative Queen's speech from backbench Conservative MPs that put cancellation of HS2 as the third priority in their programme.

So there are some reasons why we may be cautiously optimistic that the opposition to HS2 is increasing from all quarters and that it is becoming more apparent that HS2 has no business case, no environmental case and we all know there isn't the money to pay for it!

Write to:

**Nick Hurd:** [nick.hurd.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:nick.hurd.mp@parliament.uk)

**Justine Greening:** [greeningj@parliament.uk](mailto:greeningj@parliament.uk)

or by post to either MP:

**House of Commons, London SW1 0AA.**

**David Cameron:** [www.number10.gov.uk](http://www.number10.gov.uk)



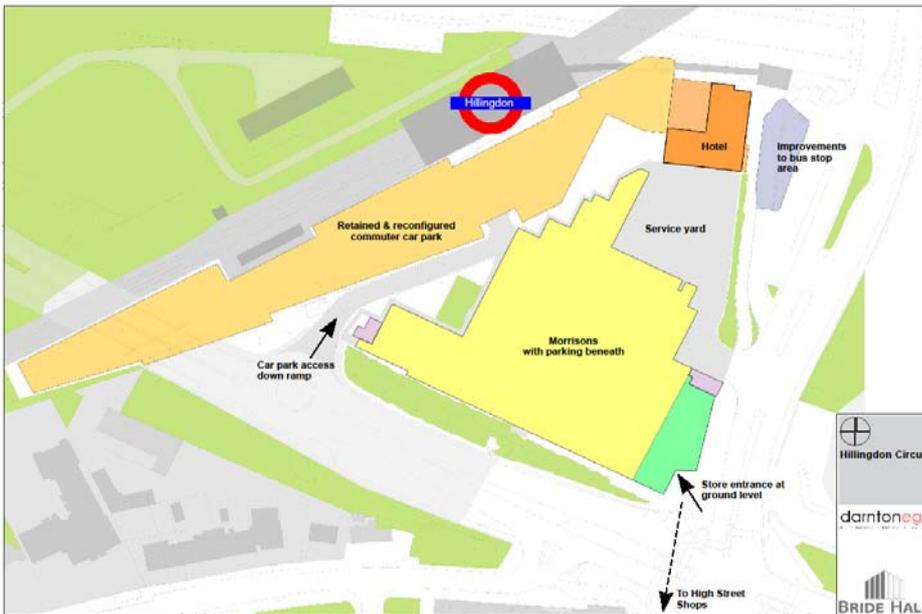
### TESCO AND MORRISONS LATEST

There have been no developments on the Tesco Hillingdon Circus front since the last edition of *Ickenham Calling*, with the new consultation promised by LBH awaiting responses from the retailer on the various questions and points raised by the Association and others, particularly those relating to traffic issues. Morrisons, however, have issued an

update note on their plans, the main points of which are:

**Residential:** a reduction in the number of residential units from approximately 200 to approximately 100

**Design of the building:** it is claimed that the “scale and massing” of the development have been reduced, but no new artist’s impressions have been received.



**BRIDE HALL / MORRISONS latest proposals for their revised STORE BLOCK Plan**



**BRIDE HALL / MORRISONS latest proposals for their RESIDENTIAL BLOCK Plan**



**Car parking:** the proposed car park designs have been simplified to reduce the impact on the existing commuter car park.

**Store:** the net internal area for sales has been increased from 36,000 sq ft to 40,000 sq ft, enabling the store to accommodate the "Fresh Market" concept.

In our response we have said that:

- We are unable to make a proper assessment of the **design changes** because we cannot find anything that shows what they would look like.
- Having expressed our concerns about apparent **over-development**, we did not expect to see an increase in the already massive sq footage.
- We want details of the "**Fresh Market**" concept to assess the potential impact on our local fresh food shops.
- Above all, we are disappointed that there is no reference to the impact on **traffic** or **pedestrians**, which are our main concerns relating to any development around Hillingdon Circus. We have not as yet received any of the traffic analyses which were promised when we met the representatives of Morrisons on 20<sup>th</sup> February and remain concerned that the proposals constitute over-development of the site.

*Richard Piper*

## PETER HOWE

It is with great sadness that we have to report the death of Peter Howe on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012, who was Chairman of this Association from 1992 to 1994 and then our President from 2003 to 2011.

He had served the Ickenham Residents' Association over a period of 23 years, and in the 90s he saved the allotments on the Green Belt land on Freezeland Way from being lost to housing. He was at the heart of our opposition to the early *Fuller, Smith and Turner* and *Tesco* proposals to overdevelop the Master Brewer site. He sat on the Hillingdon House Farm Action Group committee, successfully fighting Warner Bros. plans to put a theme park there.

His crusade against back garden developments was also hugely successful. One developer applied twice to develop the same site, was refused twice and went to appeal twice. But Peter steadfastly maintained our opposition to the plans and the appeals were both refused.

A project which involved a broad range of Peter's skills to the full concerned the pedestrian use of the

pavement by Weatherspoons' Tichenham Arms Pub and Panstar House in Swakeleys Road. Weatherspoons wanted to use the full extent of the forecourt as a seating area for the pub, which would have meant pedestrians would have to skirt round the area and use a small strip of pavement right by the road rather than follow the line of the shops. Peter was determined that this would not happen.



**The late Peter Howe**

When the project started, Peter knew nothing about the law on rights of way. Within a short time there wasn't much he didn't know. He then used his persuasive powers to get the Council on board as sponsors of an application for a right of way. He prepared a detailed case to be put before the Public Inquiry which would follow, and recruited ten witnesses who would bear testament to their pedestrian use of the forecourt over 20 years and gathered their statements.

In truth by the time the case came to Inquiry, Weatherspoons' opposition to the application had faded away. Peter had achieved his objective once again without confrontation and harmony between publican and villagers was assured. So convincing was his argument, that the Inspector even made the footpath one metre wider than he had asked for.

Peter always showed true commitment to Ickenham, and we will all miss him very much. Our thoughts are with his wife, José, and family.



The funeral took place at Breakspear Crematorium on 12.03.2012, where a large congregation paid their last respects, and our chairman, Humphrey Tizard, read the eulogy, which was certainly the celebration of a full and diverse life of an outstanding man who achieved results without confrontation, which was central to Peter's philosophy of life.

(Excerpts taken from H.Tizard's Eulogy)

*Hanne Raeder*

## ROY HAYDEN

It is with sadness that we learned that Roy had passed away. Like quite a few of you, my first contact with the Association was via Roy when I became a road steward.

Roy joined the Association's committee in October 1986 and became Membership Secretary in 1997. He stood down from the committee in 2004 but he still continued to be involved, acting as Area Steward for quite a few years and then latterly as Road Steward for his local area until ill health forced him to relinquish this too.

His funeral took place on 18th May 2012.  
Our sympathies go to his wife and family.

*June Reyner*



## SUBSCRIPTION TIME IS HERE AGAIN

We are now at the time of year, when subscriptions are due. Regrettably, this year we have had to increase the subscription rate for the first time for 16 years. We try to keep our expenditure as low as possible, but items such as the publishing of *Ickenham Calling* ....., other items of printing such as HS2 posters, membership cards etc. have all risen in cost. It was unanimously passed at the Annual General Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> April that all households (including pensioners) will in future pay a standard rate of £ 2 per year.

## PLEASE HELP YOUR ROAD STEWARDS

Without the road stewards collecting the subscriptions on our behalf, the Association could not exist. Our officers and committee members with the help of area and road stewards work tirelessly on your behalf fighting battles, which could be detrimental to the locality such as the HS2 rail link, the Tesco plan at

the Master Brewer site, and various domestic planning applications, but at the same time supporting plans and events, which enhance the district or supporting problems raised by individual householders.

It would be appreciated, should you be out or away, when your road steward calls, that you respond as soon as possible to the note they leave requesting your dues.

You would be surprised at the number of people who ignore the reminder, and the road steward has to call about 3 or 4 times on occasions to get a response. Equally upsetting, but a common occurrence is the householder who says they have not any money on them and could the road steward call another time.

**PLEASE STAND BY WITH £2 AT THE READY!**

A very few road stewards have been known to be away for several weeks during subscription collecting time, and have not informed their area steward beforehand. If you are planning to be away for a long period, please contact your area steward and arrangements can be made for the money to be collected and the newsletters and membership cards delivered by somebody else.

Good luck with your collections and here is to hoping that we can get some more new members, better still, if they are prepared to get actively involved.

## TELL US YOUR PROBLEMS

The Association relies on feedback from members who have any problems, so, if road stewards would ask, when out collecting, whether there are any issues relating to local services or environmental matters, please make a note on the road sheet and the information will come back to the area steward and committee members. We want to encourage a good repartee between road stewards and members and to work as efficiently as possible.

## THANK YOU, GREENWAY RESIDENTS

Finally may I thank those members living in The Greenway, who responded to my appeal for road stewards. Unfortunately, it took two letters of appeal (the second pointing out that unless we found any volunteers, the members would not receive their newsletter, and, as The Greenway was possibly the most adversely affected part of Ickenham, should the HS2 project go ahead, it was important to keep our members regularly informed).



The result of the second appeal resulted in 6 volunteers, which means that the workload among the existing stewards can be eased. Thank you to all those who offered their services – it is genuinely appreciated. We always require road stewards in other parts of Ickenham, mainly to share the burden of those who already carry out this task in extra long streets.

*John Squiers*

## HEALTH MATTERS

Numbers, numbers, numbers! There are probably many of these whirling around in our heads all day long; they may include pass codes, pin numbers and key phone numbers. I must tell you of another very useful phone number to add to your list.

This is **NHS 111**, a new service, now available in Hillingdon, which we can use to access NHS Health Care Services. If you are outside this area you contact NHS Direct on 0845 4647. You can now call 111 when you need medical help fast, but it is not replacing a 999 emergency. You can ring the 111 number 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Calls from landlines and mobile phones are free. **NHS 111** is a fast and easy way to get the right help, whatever the time. For immediate, life threatening emergencies continue to call 999.

To summarise, you should use this new service if you need medical help quickly, but if it is not a 999 emergency; you think you need to go to A&E or another NHS urgent care service; you don't know who to call for medical help or you don't have a GP to call; or you require health information or reassurance about what to do next; for less urgent health needs, you should still contact your GP or local pharmacy.

**111** will get you through to highly trained advisers, who are supported by experienced nurses. They will ask questions to assess your symptoms and give you the health care advice you need to direct you to the right local services. That could be A&E, a Minor Injuries Unit, an out-of-hours doctor, a community nurse, an emergency dentist, or a late opening chemist. The **NHS 111** team will, where possible, book you an appointment or transfer you directly to the people you need to speak to, often a GP on duty. If NHS 111 think you need an ambulance, one will be sent as quickly as if you had dialled 999.

Good news, Hillingdon Hospital NHS Trust has secured twelve million pounds capital funding from the Department of Health, for a new " Admissions Unit". The emergency care project contains 3 main components:

- An Emergency Department:
- An Urgent Care Centre:
- A 45-50 bedded Admissions Ward.

The existing A&E will be reconfigured to include the emergency department and urgent care centre. The admissions ward will be collated with A&E, allowing some patients to by-pass A&E entirely, with admission directly to an acute medical bed. In conjunction with this changes will be made to consultant rounds to provide prompt admission, diagnosis and discharge. Staffing levels will be redesigned to support the new ways of working.

In conclusion the Trust has received a gold standard rating for Stroke and TIA (mini stroke) care for the second time, following a two year assessment.

*David John*

## POLICE MATTERS

The crime report presented at the March meeting of the Hillingdon Community and Police Advisory Group showed a continuation of recent trends. Overall crime was slightly - 1.4% - down, during January and February this year compared with the same period in 2011. However, burglary was up 15% and the detection rate has fallen from 7% to 4.5%, meaning that we are being targeted by roving professionals rather than local villains, who tend to be more inept. Thefts from motor vehicles, including number plates and wheel trims, show a rise of 22.4%. All other types of crime are down.

In the Spring newsletter, I mentioned the Telephone Preference Service, which has stopped most of the UK based cold calls from bothering me. However, if you have had a previous contact with any organisation, they are entitled to 'phone you. One scheme that crooked financial firms use is to send you an offer of a free 'research report' on a company that you have shares in. If you reply they will be onto you with offers of dud or non-existent shares. The motto is that nothing is ever really free.

Another scam that has come to my attention involves a 'free' service of some type being offered on the Internet. You will be asked to 'register' and include your mobile 'phone number. If you provide this it is likely to be used to send you text messages via overseas, premium-rate numbers, potentially running up a large bill. There is no need for any



internet contact to know your 'phone numbers, they can always reach you by e-mail.

In the last newsletter, I noted the efforts of the Police to catch uninsured drivers and seize their cars.

This has now been formalised into 'Operation Cubo' on one day a month, across London, number plate recognition devices are used to catch untaxed and uninsured drivers.

In Hillingdon we are fortunate that there is currently no organised gang culture. However, if one should emerge, it could be difficult to get rid of. Therefore the Borough Commander launched 'Operation Valiant, three days of Police activity intended to suppress the formation of gangs and divert young people at risk of group offending. Throughout the period officers undertook the following activities:

Executed 7 search warrants under the misuse of drugs act.

Visited 50 people that intelligence suggested may be responsible for group offending.

Carried out 5 'weapon sweeps' in the vicinity of schools and one knife-arch operation at the beginning of the school day.

Engaged with 50 young people on the streets of Hayes and with between two and three thousand pupils at the end of the school day handing out anti-gang and anti-knife literature, let's hope they read it!

Finally, by the time you read this, warmer weather is likely to be with us. I hope that people will take care when leaving lower casement windows open. Even if you are at home, you may be in the back garden and it only takes a couple of minutes for an opportunist thief to be in and out. Even upper windows are a risk if they have a garage or extension roof below them.

I personally know an elderly lady who lost heirloom jewellery from a burglary of this type.

The thieves tend to cruise around looking for an opportunity, so keep an eye open for slow moving, mostly old cars usually with two men in them. Don't be afraid to call the police, they would sooner have a false alarm than a crime committed.

*Vic. Silk*

**ORIGINALLY scheduled  
OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE  
JUBILEE GARDEN  
IN SWAKELEYS PARK on 26.05.12**

According to a notice from the London Borough of Hillingdon and an extensive report in the UXBRIDGE GAZETTE on 23.05.12 this opening had to be postponed until further notice due to damage by vandalism.

We shall keep you informed of further news.



The Association received the above framed photograph from the London Borough of Hillingdon, commemorating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June 2012, which we are sharing with St. Giles Church, Ickenham, where the picture will be displayed as part of festive decorations during forthcoming Jubilee Celebrations. **Hanne Raeder**