

Ickenham Calling

The Newsletter of the *Ickenham Residents' Association* Summer 2018



Affiliated to the Hillingdon Alliance of Residents' Associations.
Member of Herts. & Middx. Wildlife Trust, and London Green Belt Council.
The Community Voice—monitoring the NHS in NW London and SW Herts.

Ickenham Residents' Association:



E-Mail Address
WebSite
Twitter Acc.

ickenhamresidents@hotmail.com
www.ickenhamresidents.co.uk
www.twitter.com/ickenhamRA

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Huge thanks for such a great turnout at our April AGM – it is so rewarding to the Committee that our village friends, both old and new, are so interested in what happens here, and appreciate what we do to maintain the Ickenham values and assets that we treasure.

Good news – the March 2018 issue of Underground News reports that Ickenham station is included in a list of the next LU stations to benefit from step-free access. They anticipate that by 2022 40% of the TfL network will be step free, up from the current 27%.

The planning applications for the Master Brewer and Swakeleys House that have been lodged with the Council are being modified over time and are not yet listed to be heard by the LBH Committee. Our objection letters on both are with the LBH and we await updates.

Summer will soon be here – and it will be subscription collection time again. We hope everyone will join up again, and please do try to make it as easy as possible for your road stewards to collect those all-important subs.

We look forward to seeing you all at the many events that the Festival Committee have organised for our Festival Week in June.

Jill Dalton



HS2

HS2 continues to make an impact in our area. HS2 Early Works have commenced in Harvil Road and Breakspear Road South and, although they have proved disruptive and are blots on the landscape, it should be noted that the **MAIN** Works, which will be much more significant, will not commence until early 2019. The Government has taken out an injunction against the Harvil Road protestors to prevent them 'trespassing' but the wording is such that it could impact any of us who, for example, use local footpaths which cross HS2 safeguarded land.

Our Association works with colleagues from West Ruislip, Harefield and Ruislip in regular meetings with HS2 in an attempt to improve HS2's communications with our communities and reduce the harm that is yet to come to our area from the construction sites and eventual operation.

We have had issues with HS2's processes and organisation. It is obvious, it has been a completely disjointed organisation with one department not knowing what another is doing. There has been some progress recently in their helpdesk and website and we met with the Director of Community Engagement who has committed to a programme of improvements.

Our thanks go to officers in the London Borough of Hillingdon who support us and are committed to protecting us as much as they can – the Hybrid Bill, however, has given HS2 Ltd exceptional powers.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CHAIRMAN'S
COMMENTS

HS2

AGM 2018

ICKENHAM FESTIVAL

RAF NORTHOLT

RAF 100

DRONES

ICKENHAM
MARSHES

HEALTH MATTERS

POLICE MATTERS

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 2018



The Main Contractors have now been appointed for different parts of the line. Our Main Contractor, which covers Ickenham to Euston, is a consortium of Costain, Skanska and Strabag; the consortium is called SCS. ALIGN is the neighbouring Main Contractor building the Colne Valley viaduct and Chiltern tunnel and after much local campaigning we were able to see their initial designs in exhibitions locally, including our Village Hall.

The previous newsletter showed an artist's impression of the potential 3.4 Km viaduct; it will be interesting to see the final design as we understand there are potential issues with construction and contamination of the aquifers under the lakes – our water supply !

We have begun to meet representatives of SCS and make them aware of our local issues; we continue, after our petitioning in the House of Commons and House of Lords, to campaign against construction traffic on our roads with the increased congestion and potential safety and air pollution issues, the dumping of spoil on local fields and the siting of a concrete factory on our green belt. The Construction Code of Practice should offer us some protection from excessive environmental damage during construction but we need reassurance that resources will be in place to enforce best practice.

We have been advised that the SCS consortium will complete a final detailed plan for our area in the autumn of this year and then construction will start early 2019. We are trying to participate at the earliest stage possible in this planning and are pushing for a Public Exhibition of their plans to be held in the Village Hall.

Brian Adams

AGM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Our AGM took place on Friday 20th April and despite the temptations of a warm evening in the garden and / or a BBQ, the hall was full as usual. Thanks to all those who attended, we are most grateful for your support.

We welcomed most of our local Councillors as guests, but owing to the proximity of the local council election date they were not permitted to address the meeting. We also welcomed our MP Nick Hurd and Squadron Leader James Tenniswood from RAF Northolt.

Our chair, Jill Dalton, read the reports from all the various committee members and our treasurer Ian Phillips described the state of our finances. Nick Hurd addressed the meeting concentrating mainly on HS2 and possible Heathrow expansion. James Tenniswood gave an update on the plans for RAF Northolt and the centenary celebrations, both of which can be found elsewhere in this edition. He also raised the issue of drones – again there is more information elsewhere in this edition.

Our local police Sergeant, John Hine, was unable to attend, so Chris Tarr (chair of our local ward panel) read

his update on the changes in structure in our local policing

Your elected committee is as follows:

Chair— Jill Dalton

President - Peter Daymond;

General Secretary - June Reyner;

Membership Secretary - Maureen Pemberton;

Treasurer - Ian Phillips.

Committee Members:

Brian Adams; Neena Bedi; Barbara Buckle;

Lynn Douglass; Dave Grimshaw; David John;

Chris Mountain; Richard Piper; Hanne Raeder - planning admin; Vic Silk; David Tebbutt - minutes secretary; Humphrey Tizard and Chris Tarr who agreed to join the Committee as a full member in February.

Two co-opted Members: Simon Taylor; Beryl Upton.

The meeting closed with light refreshments.

Thanks also to everyone who stayed behind to help clear up.

Hope to see you next year on 12th April!

June Reyner

ICKENHAM FESTIVAL 9TH-17TH JUNE 2018

The Festival will run from Sat 9th June 2018 to Sun 17th June, with Village Day being Saturday 16th June 2018. Village Day will include our ever popular parade through Ickenham, Festival Gala in the afternoon, and an evening concert.

For more information see [http://](http://www.ickenhamfestival.org.uk/Feature%20Week%202018.htm)

[www.ickenhamfestival.org.uk/Feature%](http://www.ickenhamfestival.org.uk/Feature%20Week%202018.htm)

[20Week%202018.htm](http://www.ickenhamfestival.org.uk/Feature%20Week%202018.htm)

June Reyner

RAF NORTHOLT

The Runway repairs are still expected to take place in the latter half of 2018. The base will be closed to all fixed wing aircraft.

Helicopter operations will continue: 32 (TR) Squadron and London Air Ambulance.

The MoD is still assessing tender bids and as yet there is no further clarification on exact timescales. Upon completion there will be no change to RAF Northolt operations.

June Reyner



RAF 100

OP AD ASTRA - RAF 100 Events.
1 April to 31 October 2018

Main RAF nationwide programme:

10 July 2018. Parade, march past. For more information
<https://www.raf.mod.uk/raf100/>

Local RAF 100 Events.

- 14 June. Freedom of Hillingdon Parade, Uxbridge.
 - 09 July. RAF 100 Baton Relay – first leg from RAF Northolt.
 - They are looking for local people/organisations to get involved please contact us @ ickenhamresidents@hotmail.com if you would be interested and we will pass the details on.
- 25 Aug TBC. Open Air Concert – Central Band of RAF.
June Reyner

DRONES

These are becoming an increasing hazard for aircraft

REMEMBER

- 1 you are responsible for each flight
- 2 keep your drone in sight stay below 400ft
- 3 keep your distance
- 4 you are responsible for collisions
- 5 learn to fly your drone
- 6 consider privacy rights

be safe be legal www.caa.co.uk/droneaware

June Reyner

Ickenham Marshes Partnership



ICKENHAM MARSHES

One of the main reasons our Association set up the Marshes Partnership with the Ruislip Gardens Residents' Association in 2012 was to get local schools out and about on the Marshes. So, it is great to report that we have agreed with LBH and the London Wildlife Trust (LWT) that Glebe School can use a section of the nature reserve for outdoor activities. This will involve installing an extra gate to make access to the southern part of the reserve easier.

The LBH *Rights of Way* publicity period on the proposed alterations to 'definitive map' ended in late May. Hopefully, confirmation of the Marshes additions will be reported in the next edition of the newsletter.

LBH and LWT recently ran a couple of corporate volunteering sessions to plant up the river banks of the new Yeading Brook meanders with "marginal aquatic vegetation". The meanders are located over towards Ruislip Gardens.

There are/were 3 Ickenham Festival activities this year. First Saturday *balsam bashing*, Tuesday a *nature walk* (both with LWT reserve manager Simon Hawkins) and a Friday after school *bug/flower hunt*. Do come and thanks for coming!

Chris Mountain





HEALTH MATTERS

The NHS is turning 70 years of age on the 5th July. It is the perfect opportunity to celebrate the achievements of one of the nations most loved institutions, and to appreciate the vital role the service plays in our lives. The model envisaged by Aneurin Bevan in 1948 was based on three principles: That it meets the needs of people; and is free at the point of delivery; and is based on clinical need, not the ability to pay.

When the NHS was created in 1948, there was little concept of health screening, checking to unearth previously undetected conditions.

From "the cradle to the grave" and "the envy of the world" were the watch words for our most cherished institution, the NHS. Unfortunately, it is becoming more and more noticeable that these noble sentiments are under serious threat. From day to day we constantly hear of the considerable pressures and difficulties of the NHS, particularly struggling to cope with record demands on its resources, and services stretched to the limit.

In these present circumstances, we cannot entirely rely on our health system for preventive care or intervention at an early stage. The recent disclosure that hundreds of thousands of women should have been screened for breast cancer, but were overlooked for nine years. Almost half a million women between the ages of 68 and 71 were affected. Alarm bells should have been ringing at most levels of management during this period. It is of some puzzlement that none of the staff noticed the absence of older women from their daily lists.

Should not questions have been asked!

Also as patients, we wait quietly in the queue, believing everybody in authority knows better. We really should be complaining and exerting ourselves. Therefore, it is thought between 135 and 270 women may have had their lives cut short because their cancer was not picked up early enough to be successfully treated. This IT inadequacy with an algorithm that failed, was the cause, and putting it more simply, administrative incompetence! Screening is a way of finding out, if people are at higher risk of a health problem, so that early treatment can be offered or information given. The aim is to offer screening to the people who are most likely to benefit from it. However, screening tests are not perfect and they can lead to difficult decisions about having further tests or treatment. On balance screening should be encouraged. Many lives have been saved by these programmes, as long as they are properly organised, and not too reliant on outdated IT systems.

David John

POLICE MATTERS

First an update. Our current sergeant, covering three wards, including Ickenham, is John Hine, who can be contacted on 0208 721 2543. However I have just heard that he has passed his Inspector exams, so may well be elsewhere by the time you read this.

As I noted in the last issue, the new system of policing, combining three Boroughs, Hillingdon, Ealing and Hounslow, is due to come into force during May. Part of the changes reduces the Inspectors to one per Borough. The good news is that the one for Hillingdon is our well-regarded Rob Bryan. He will oversee relations with the whole of Hillingdon and his workload will increase. While happy to receive messages from residents, he asks that you only send him relevant ones and refrain from copying him in to messages to others.

To help keep an effective police force in Hillingdon, the Borough funds nine extra PCs, with the proviso that they should not be used outside the Borough other than to cover a major incident. Even so, we are still getting cases where, when called, the police reply is 'we have no-one available to attend'! As I wrote in the last Newsletter, it is very important that all crime be reported (usually to 101) and request a crime number, then you know it has been logged. We had one case recently where even a burglary was not reported to the police. After making a call to the police, report any incidents to the Neighbourhood Watch, in the shape of Brian Walters, on 01895 673281, so we can look for evidence on our CCTV system. Such evidence is then presented to the police and makes it more likely that the criminals will be caught and in the case of burglary, the stolen goods recovered.

If you know, or suspect that criminal activity, such as drug-dealing, is taking place near you, but are nervous of getting involved, make a note of the Crimestoppers number, where reports can be made anonymously.

It's a free number and is 0800 555 111.

Quite soon now the OWL (Online Watch Link) system will come into action. This is designed to send alerts to Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators in specific roads, rather than a general notice as is circulated now. I hope to have more details of this available for the Autumn Newsletter.

Recently, I was at a Ward Panel meeting, with the police, in the Library, when a noise outside revealed that the chairman's bike was being stolen! As bicycles are far from cheap, it is worth getting them marked for identification. Our local shop 'Bikewise' will be happy to do this.

Finally, by the time you read this, the weather will, hopefully, have turned warm. Last year, while out collecting subs., I still saw houses that looked unoccupied with large casement windows open. Even an upstairs one can be used as an entry by villains posing as workmen or window cleaners. It is doubtful that an insurance company would pay out in that event. Remember that even if you are in the garden you would be unlikely to hear an intruder.

Vic. Silk

