

# Ickenham Calling .....

The Newsletter of the

*Ickenham Residents' Association* Autumn 2018

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 committee members have been busy this quarter attending meetings to try to influence decisions that will protect the character of Ickenham.

Firstly, the Hillingdon Local Plan Part 2 was published by LBH some time ago, and we sent our comments and objections during the period of consultation. In August the plan underwent an examination to test whether it meets legal requirements. Interested parties were invited to attend and make comments. On behalf of the Association, we attended for two full days and where relevant, made representations on proposals for site allocations, garden grabbing for development, Conservation Area retention, expansion of local schools for local children, flooding management and air quality in Ickenham. We gave strong support for the LBH's stated refusal to de-designate any local Green Belt land in the plan. We await the publication of the Inspector's report and look forward to engaging in the process of updating the Hillingdon Local Plan Part 1, which will commence when Part 2 is 'adopted'. It is a bit like painting the Forth Bridge.

It has been some 15 years since The Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC) reviewed the LBH ward boundaries and committee members attended an evening presentation by LGBC on the review that has now commenced. The reasons for the review are to achieve electoral equality for voters, represent community interests and identities, and ensure effective and convenient local government. The LGBC presenter mentioned early on that the current Ickenham ward with three ward councillors, was more highly represented per registered voter than many other wards, particularly some in the south of the Borough – and as their association members pointed out, their wards consisted of many unregistered residents, so the actual population was far higher than it seemed. We are keen to retain our three Councillors, so will be making representations to try to expand our Ward to reflect the true boundaries of Ickenham. Such a boundary would match the boundaries as agreed by LBH for the Ickenham Neighbourhood Plan, including The Greenway, Ickenham Green and the Ickenham Marshes, which are all currently in other

wards. We shall be asking Ickenham residents to also send in their own comments, as numbers matter here, and just one letter from us on behalf of residents won't be sufficient to sway the review.

Thanks to all who have renewed their membership already – we frequently quote in planning and related matters that we represent a large proportion of Ickenham households, and it is important to keep that level as high as we can.

*Jill Dalton*



## HS2

The HS2 Early Works programme continues with the movement of water mains pipes in Breakspear Road South and the surrounding fields, requiring

the road to be closed for 3 weeks. This was planned to coincide with school holidays, but of course there were no contingency plans, if other roads became unusable due to burst water mains. There are further plans to close Breakspear Road South during the autumn and winter, when work starts on rebuilding the site north of the Chiltern Line bridge. We are still in discussion with HS2, the Contractors and London Borough of Hillingdon regarding the scheduling of these closures but it is hard to see how this can be done without a major impact on traffic and our quality of life in Ickenham and other parts of the Borough.

During 8 years of participation in HS2 Community Forums and petitioning in the House of Commons and Lords we were constantly reassured that no roads would be completely closed, there would not be 7 day working and Ruislip High Street would not be used. It is of great concern that before the Main Works have even started these reassurances have proved to be worthless, although HS2 contractor lorries are not currently using Ruislip High Street everybody else's has to ! ).

We meet with HS2 and their contractors on a regular basis and try to represent the interests



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CHAIRMAN'S  
COMMENTS

HS2

VILLAGE DAY 16.06.18

ARE YOU PROUD OF  
YOUR GARDEN?

MEMBERSHIP

UXBRIDGE GOLF  
COURSE FIRE

ICKENHAM MARSHES

HEALTH MATTERS

POLICE MATTERS

RAF 100 YEARS  
POLISH WAR

MEMORIAL CEREMONY

DATES FOR YOUR  
DIARY

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  
August 2018



of the residents and how HS2 interacts with our community. We have been continuously pressing for improvements in the help desk and communications. HS2 has agreed to run drop-ins locally where residents can meet with the HS2 representatives without a prior appointment. Please consult the HS2 commonplace website (<https://hs2inhillington.commonplace.is/>) to see the dates and location(s). HS2 are planning more public events in Harefield, Ickenham and Ruislip; the dates and contents have yet to be finalised but we would expect the exhibitions to include more information on the Colne Valley viaduct design, West Ruislip tunnel portal and an archaeological site of interest.

The Contractors along the Phase One line have been working on the project plan and designs for the last 9 months. It appears their costings exceed HS2 estimations and the Contractors have been given an extra 3 months to develop solutions within budget. This means the Main Works will now not start until June 2019. This gives us cause for more concern; previous plans were to have the maximum lorry movements coincide with the summer holidays – will this still occur? Cost cutting may result in inferior designs and additional burdens for our communities.

**Brian Adams**

## VILLAGE DAY SAT 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE ICKENHAM FESTIVAL

A very big thank you to all those of you who stopped by our pitch for a chat and to take part in our photo competition.

It was really good to see you all and to see the interest in guessing where the photos were taken

The 3 winners have been given their prizes and the answers were posted on our website within 24 hrs.



16.06.18: From left: Mayoress Fiona Morgan, Humphrey Tizard (Comm.) Mayor John Morgan, David John, (Comm.) Neena Bedi (Comm.) - by courtesy of Sean Kelly -

Thank you also to the person (not a committee member) who created the competition for us.

Looking forward to seeing you all again at the Christmas Festive Evening

**June Reyner**

## ARE YOU PROUD OF YOUR GARDEN (OR ALLOTMENT)?

Would you like one (or more) pictures of it to be displayed at this year's **Festive Evening** in December? Last year we did "Characters of Ickenham" and the year before "What makes Ickenham Special". We capture your pictures to a DVD and play them back as a movie on a TV screen on our stand in the Village Hall.

Your pictures can be taken at any time up to the end of October, then I need to start organising them, sorting out captions and creating the movie. If you'd like your garden or allotment to be featured, please let me know by email or text and I'll include you in the plans. Many thanks,

**David Tebbutt**  
([gardens@tebbo.com](mailto:gardens@tebbo.com) or 07711 567 726)

## MEMBERSHIP

Once again I am appealing for anyone who can spare a few hours every quarter to assist with the delivery of the Association newsletter and to collect subscriptions annually.

We are particularly interested to hear from anyone who can help in the following roads;

The Greenway (part)  
Shorediche Close  
Swakeleys Road (part) and shops  
The Grove and Grove Close  
Hoylake Crescent (part)  
Willowtree Close  
Lawrence Drive  
St. George's Drive

We are also looking for an Area Steward to take over in the Glebe Estate.

If you can offer any help please contact me by email [Ickres.memsec@gmail.com](mailto:Ickres.memsec@gmail.com)

**Maureen Pemberton/Membership Secretary**

## UXBRIDGE GOLF COURSE / Frays Farm / Denham Lock Wood

Simon Tulhill (London Fire Brigade Borough Commander for Camden) captured the picture on page 3 (see white demarcation line) on 24 July showing how close the grass fire on the golf course got to the Frays Farm Meadow. Eight crews from across NW London attended the blaze. Simon noticed the information board about the local water voles, and tweeted: #savethevoles! The scorch marks along the fence



line are roughly aligned with the route of the proposed HS2 haul road; construction of which is still to be confirmed.

*Chris Mountain*



## HEALTH MATTERS

The latest headline news makes uncomfortable reading. It concerns The Michael Sobell Hospice, which has provided end of life care at Mount Vernon Hospital for more than forty years. It is under serious threat, and is considering its future. Michael Sobell's IPU (inpatient unit) has a focus on improving quality of life for patients by providing relief for distressing symptoms. This may also be care, comfort and support for local people with life limiting illnesses. Patients may also be admitted for symptom management, rehabilitation, support, or for care in the final days of life. Therefore a recent announcement on the charity's website, stating that the inpatient building had been declared unsuitable, because of current concerns about "the inpatient unit's environment". This announcement by the Michael Sobell Hospice Charity in partnership with the East and North Herts NHS Trust, has come as a great surprise and shock! Interim measures to keep this essential service going includes temporary relocation of the inpatient unit into two wards in the main block of Mount Vernon Hospital. The hospice trust is continuing to treat outpatients in the Day Care Centre and continues to fully fund both inpatient and outpatient care. The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, which owns the building, has contacted the East and North Herts Trust as a matter of urgency to discuss and establish what the impact of this move will mean to patients who are referred to the hospice. In this continuing situation, the Charity's work goes on, and the end of life care needs are at the heart of the matter. The charity says "It is essential that we carry on as usual and give the help and support that will be needed in the future."

Contacts: All queries should be sent to: Michael Sobell Chief Executive:

Judy Byrne at [jbyrne@michealsobellhospice.co.uk](mailto:jbyrne@michealsobellhospice.co.uk) and E&NH Manager at Mount Vernon Hospital, Sarah James at [sarahlucy.james@nhs.net](mailto:sarahlucy.james@nhs.net)

## Ickenham Marshes Partnership



### ICKENHAM MARSHES

Many thanks to those of you that signed the Festival Village Day petition in support of the LBH proposal to establish public rights of way on the Marshes. More news on that when we get it.

The Marshes featured more than ever during festival week, with over 200 attendees across 4 events. Balsam bashers saw several skipper butterflies and witnessed Simon from the Wildlife Trust slipping down the riverbank whilst warning of the dangers of slipping down the river bank!

The bug hunters discovered lots of tiny frogs and also got to ride hay bales. Wildlife walkers were treated to a glimpse of poisonous caterpillars while over 100 rambblers followed the Yeading Brook over to Ruislip Gardens and back again.

On the river monitoring front, July saw a slight upturn in results on the Yeading Brook - with over 100 freshwater shrimp collected during the 3 minute sample. In May and June barely 10 shrimp availed themselves.

100+ of one of the 8 target bugs gives a score of 3. To put our meager '3' in context, the Misbourne (upstream from the sewage works near the M25) regularly scores 15.

*Chris Mountain*

A recent inspection by the CQC (Care Quality Commission) of Hillingdon Hospital NHS Trust, has rated it as inadequate, and requiring improvement. To get to the heart of patients experiences of care and treatment, they ask five questions of all services. The rate of the quality of service against each key question, is outstanding; good; requires improvement; or inadequate.

The results for Hillingdon Hospital were disappointing. They are as follows:

- |    |                          |                             |
|----|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Are services safe?       | <i>Inadequate</i>           |
| 2. | Are services effective?  | <i>Requires improvement</i> |
| 3. | Are services caring?     | <i>Good</i>                 |
| 4. | Are services responsive? | <i>Requires improvement</i> |
| 5. | Are services well led?   | <i>Requires improvement</i> |

The latest inspection was on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018. Report published 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018

The sad ending of Community Voice was announced early in June. I would like to congratulate and thank Joan Davis and her committee, on behalf of the Association, for the sheer energy and momentum they maintained by informing, and sometimes challenging, the never ending changes that will be forever the story of the NHS. It will not be forgotten.

*David John*



## POLICE MATTERS

We have seen a number of changes in our local policing of late. Rob Bryan, who built up a good reputation as the Inspector for North Area (including us), now has to look after the whole of the Borough. He still publishes regular monthly bulletins to keep us up to date with events. Our local sergeant (John Hine) has been promoted and moved, so we now have a new one in the person of Sarah Fordham, who I met at a Ward Panel meeting in July.

The OWL (Online Watch Link) is now up and running. Those who have signed up for it seem pleased with the timely information it provides. However, at the moment, it is still not perfect, even though Ickenham is the best area in the Borough. Not all police officers have yet received training in its operation at the time of writing. If you would like to be added to the informants you can sign up at [www.owl.uk](http://www.owl.uk). OWL is a secure system, free to use and your details will never be sold or passed on for marketing purposes. I am happy with it.

The 101 number to report non-urgent crimes is creaking at the seams, with often long waits to get through. If the crime is very recent, or still in progress, it is OK to ring 999. Also let Neighbourhood Watch know (see below) as soon as possible, so that our CCTV system can swing into action. We have provided the evidence that has led to quite a number of criminals getting caught and prosecuted.

Regarding Uxbridge Police Station, the present situation is that it is no longer open to the public but still in use as a 'patrol base'. The Council have offered to buy it and rent it to the Police so that it can be brought back into full service, but no conclusion has been reached as yet. The Hayes End site is unsatisfactory on several counts.

Recent burglary reports show that the emphasis has shifted to sheds and detached garages, with bikes etc. stolen. Have a look at locks with a view to making the doors more secure and simple shed alarms are freely available. How about a sign saying 'beware of the snake'? If going on holiday it may be a good idea to move bikes or valuable tools into the house.

Fake text messages have broken out again concerning utility bills, on the lines of 'we have been unable to take your latest payment – please confirm bank details'. Also there have been calls claiming to be from the police (often, for some reason, at Hammersmith) saying that they have one or more cloned cards and asking for card details to check. Put the 'phone down, wait a while, or use another 'phone, and report it to 101, if you can get through! Our Neighbourhood Watch is also interested in any such attempts. Report them to Brian Walters on 01895 673281 or e-mail [all@hillingdonnhw.co.uk](mailto:all@hillingdonnhw.co.uk).

By the time you read this, the nights will be drawing in so make sure that lights are on in the house if you are going to be out after dusk. Hardware shops stock a variety of timer switches which are easy to use and quite cheap.

Finally some encouraging stats: Crimes per 1000 residents in London 8: Crimes per 1000 residents in Hillingdon Borough 7: Crimes per 1000 residents in Ickenham 4: I wonder if our extensive CCTV system has anything to do with it? Or is it that we take Neighbourhood Watching seriously?  
*Vic Silk*

## SWAKELEYS HOUSE

Open Saturday 22.09.2018  
10am—4pm  
<https://openhouselondon.org.uk/>



## NORTHOLT COMMEMORATION CEREMONY

Polish Air Force Memorial, South Ruislip, Middlesex,  
1st Sept. 2018 12.00 noon

The annual and 58<sup>th</sup> Ceremony of Homage to Fallen Polish Airmen during World War II will be held at the Polish Air Force Memorial at Northolt on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018. The ceremony will be conducted in both English and Polish and everyone is welcome. Wreaths will be laid by representatives of the Polish and British Governments, Local Authorities, The Air Force and Royal Air Force. Veterans of individual squadrons or their descendants will lay wreaths for each Polish squadron that flew alongside the RAF from 1940 to 1945.

The replica of the wartime Wilno Standard of the Polish Air Force will be paraded and the ceremony will also feature a detachment of Officer Cadets from the Polish Air Force Academy, Dęblin, trumpeter and drummer of the Central Band of the RAF, and the band of the Middlesex Wing of the Air Training Corps. Young people from the various Polish schools in London, in addition to the Polish Scouts and Guides, will also participate.

There will be a fly past by the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight at the end of the ceremony, subject to contingencies and weather.  
*June Reyner*

\*) We are aware that this information will come too late in this publication, but we did advertise it on our website and sent it out to subscribers of our e-mail link in August.

### RAF 100 Years

We are sure you enjoyed the centenary fly past maybe personally in London or as broadcast on TV on 10.07.18 celebrating 100 years of the RAF.

### NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY

This year's Festive Community Night – organised by Festival of Ickenham, will be held on Friday, 07.12.18, at the Centre of Ickenham and the Village Hall.