Access our libraries online
Plus refurbishments on the way
How we’re improving your air
Get involved in Recycle Week
How you can become a Street Champion
I am delighted that one of our local MPs, Boris Johnson, is now the Prime Minister. He has already given instructions that there should be a review of the viability and value of the HS2 project and stated that he will be closely following the legal challenge against the proposal to expand Heathrow.

An expanded Heathrow would damage our borough’s environment immensely, through the loss of homes, the destruction of protected habitats and an increase in air and noise pollution. It would also significantly impact the health of our residents, particularly the elderly and young.

The next stage of the legal challenge, which may take some years to conclude, will commence in the Court of Appeal on 22 October where the presiding judge, overturning the decision of the Divisional Court to not grant an appeal hearing stated: “The importance of the issues raised in these proceedings is obvious and affords a proper basis for granting permission to appeal. I also accept that the appellants’ grounds are properly arguable.”

Unfortunately, HS2 Ltd is continuing with their enabling works to support the main construction activity regardless of the review. This means that after many years of council ownership and operation, the council has no alternative but to close Ruislip Golf Course. The HS2 Act gives the authority to HS2 Ltd to undertake necessary works on the course that would prohibit any further golf being played. In time, HS2 Ltd will be required to reconfigure the course to nine holes and return it to the council. These works and the closure of the course should not be taking place until the review of the viability of HS2 is complete. The council will be lobbying for a commonsense approach to be adopted with no further work taking place whilst the future of the project is in doubt.

In this issue of Hillingdon People, you can read about the experiences of some residents using our free and easy-to-use weekly recycling collection services and if you are not currently recycling I would encourage you to do so.

We are also continuing to address fly-tipping. Dumping rubbish on our streets is simply not acceptable and a new task force was created earlier this year to gather evidence and ensure offenders are prosecuted, and this has already seen initial success, see page 7 for more details.

The health and wellbeing of our residents is also important and in this issue you can read about a number of our initiatives to improve air quality in the borough. This month also marks the start of a new investment programme to refurbish all of the borough’s libraries to offer you the best facilities in a welcoming and modern environment.

As always, we will continue to protect our natural environment, invest in our built environment, respect our heritage and encourage civic pride.

Cllr Ray Puddifoot MBE
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
Plans for Heathrow expansion face a fresh legal challenge in the Court of Appeal in October. The Court of Appeal has allowed four days for a new hearing which will start on Monday 21 October. There will be four appeals which will be heard at the same time. The boroughs (Hillingdon, Wandsworth, Hammersmith and Fulham, Richmond upon Thames and Windsor and Maidenhead councils) will say that the government made legal errors in the steps leading up to the Airports National Policy Statement (ANPS) and therefore it should be quashed.

The Rt Hon Lord Justice Lindblom said in his ruling that “the importance of the issues raised in these proceedings is obvious to us and affords a proper basis for granting leave to appeal. I also accept that the grounds of appeal are properly arguable.”

The local authorities had warned that expanding Heathrow could bring long-term damage to the health of millions of Londoners with large areas of London and the home counties affected by noise and air pollution from actual flight paths as these were not known.

The boroughs had argued that the third runway could only be built by demolishing thousands of homes, adding large increases in road traffic and making life noisier and unhealthier for millions of Londoners. The government had not looked at this properly.

The Court of Appeal will hear how the Secretary of State failed to consult properly on noise - excluding people who may be significantly affected. It was not possible to assess the noise impact for communities based on actual flight paths as these were not known.

The council will also show how the Secretary of State failed to consider the effect of expansion on local plans. They will also argue that the Secretary of State did not properly consider the significant adverse impact of Heathrow expansion on protected habitats.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, said: “Being granted permission to appeal is a welcome step in the right direction to overturning the government’s highly flawed and misconceived decision to expand Heathrow Airport. “We have said all along that we will continue to fight the government in the courts for as long as it takes in order to protect our residents and our environment from the devastating consequences of a third runway and to bring this sorry saga to an end once and for all.”

A team changing vulnerable young people’s lives has been honoured with an MJ Award, which recognises the very best local government services.

The project involved transforming the north-west runway. The development of 31 homes but at the same time raising revenue to fund council services. The development of 31 flats (19 one bed and 12 two bed for both private purchase and to rent) in Victoria Road, South Ruislip is scheduled for completion in summer 2020. Mr Johnson visited the site for a groundbreaking ceremony on Friday 9 August and said: “This is an impressive project and the combination of providing homes for local people and generating income to pay for council services is a great initiative.”

As well as this Hillingdon First project, conventional affordable and social housing schemes in the borough continue apace. They include 88 homes in Grassy Meadows built last year and another 60 at Parkview in West Drayton which will be completed this autumn. Both are supported living homes which enable elderly people with additional needs to live independently.

There are also 33 flats, which include some earmarked for shared ownership schemes, in Acoll Crescent, South Ruislip, expected to be completed in early 2020. They are all part of a wide range of council developments across the borough.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, said: “We formed our own limited company to enable us to build homes for sale or let and retain the profit normally taken by developers. We have a number of such projects planned and I was delighted to be able to invite the local MP and now Prime Minister to launch the Heathrow development.

“Sound financial management is the foundation of the important and valued services we provide for our residents.

“This project is a perfect example of how we’re always looking to do more for our community, and I was pleased to see that the Prime Minister agreed.”

A new clubhouse for a new council scheme to boost services and housing has been officially opened.

The new clubhouse is part of a transformation of their facilities following the £318,000 refurbishment award won by the council’sdepot.

The council has upgraded its fleet of street sweepers. Nine new mini sweepers arrived at the end of June and are now being used across the borough. They are more manoeuvrable and more able to get into tighter spaces than their predecessors and can carry bigger loads, meaning fewer trips to the council’s depot.

The council needs to replace its fleet periodically to make use of new technologies.

The council has also been praised for its efforts to keep its fleet up to date. The regular models were joined by a brand new machine - a sweeper and scrubber in one which can focus its powerful motors on buffing away tough stains.

Cllr Keith Burrows, Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Recycling, said: “Residents tell us that keeping streets clean is a priority for them, which is why it’s so important to keep our fleet up to date and in the best condition.”

National award for service transforming young lives

A team changing vulnerable young people’s lives has been honoured with an MJ Award, which recognises the very best local government services.

The AXS project makes a difference to children at risk of exploitation. The team behind it was honoured at the MJ Awards on Wednesday 26 June.

The AXS project means Hillingdon Council can target its community safety and young people’s services more effectively by using data mapping. It is seen as the future of targeted intervention and joint commissioning.

Cllr David Simmonds, Cabinet Member for Education and Children’s Services, said: “I’m delighted that the AXS project has been recognised for the tremendous benefits it delivers. We have long since recognised that multi-agency working is the best way to safeguard our children and young people from exploitation of all types.

Ultimately, this award recognises that vulnerable children and young people in Hillingdon are receiving the level of help and support they need and deserve.”

The new clubhouse is an impressive project and the combination of providing homes for local people and generating income to pay for council services is a great initiative.”

New sweepers introduced

Groundbreaking: Boris Johnson promises scheme to boost services and housing

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Hillingdon flies more Green Flags

The borough has been awarded more Green Flags than any other local authority in the UK for the seventh year running. The total number of flags has increased to 55, (54 of which are maintained by the council) with Dowridge Park, Uxbridge North ward; Harmondsworth Recreation Ground, Heathrow Villages ward; Stafford Road Open Space, South Ruislip ward; Pole Hill Open Space, Hillingdon East ward and Sipson Recreation Ground, Heathrow Villages ward receiving the accolade for the first time this year. Green Flag Awards recognise and reward well-managed parks and green spaces. Each must meet stringent criteria, proving themselves to be clean, community-oriented and environmentally friendly.

Cllr Jonathan Bianco, Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Business Services, said: “This is great news for the borough. We’re absolutely delighted to be given a record amount of accolades for our parks and green spaces. “Green Flags are the highest honour a park or open space can receive and they require a great deal of time and hard work to achieve. We have more than 50 green spaces across the borough and I would like to thank all the community groups, volunteers and council staff who continue to keep our borough looking so welcoming and attractive.”

The Green Flags will be raised at ceremonies in the autumn.

CCTV system gets results

The Mayor of Hillingdon and Police Commissioner for the borough checked out the council’s CCTV control room during the summer. Mr Hurd was shown around by Cllr Douglas Mills, Cabinet Member for Community, Commerce and Regeneration, who told him how a recent £27.5 million investment has seen the borough’s entire network of more than 1,000 cameras across the borough replaced with state-of-the-art digital, wireless devices. These provide 24-hour coverage, seven days a week.

Cllr Mills said: “We’re very proud of our CCTV network and I’m very glad that Mr Hurd was able to come as Mayor for London and see why.

This is a new generation of technology which we invested in to deal with some of the issues we are facing. It is really good to see that Mr Hurd took the time to see what we are doing and where we are focusing our efforts.

The full list of his crimes were theft of a motor vehicle, criminal damage, going equipped for theft, failure to surrender, aggravated vehicle taking and dangerous driving. He was sentenced to a total of 47 weeks in jail for the offences.

Task force takes on the fly-tippers

A new council team has been tracking down fly-tippers in the borough and has already helped recover £30,000 served with hundreds of pounds of fines.

The task force patrols Hillingdon to clean up dumped rubbish and gather evidence so offenders can be prosecuted. So far, fly-tipping notices have been issued since April. The team’s formation came at the same time that the maximum fine was hiked from £100 to £400. Repeat offenders can be taken to court where even tougher penalties can be handed out, including fines of up to £50,000, as well as all time.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, said: “Residents are fed up of fly-tippers acting as if the rules don’t apply to them. Thanks to our new team, more and more fly-tippers are getting the message that they can’t get away with dumping rubbish on our streets.”

If you want to report a fly-tip or find out more visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/flytipping. If you have any large unwanted household furniture, the council runs a free bulky waste collection service. You can find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/bulkylwaste.  Fly-tipping licences have been issued since the scheme took effect.

New dog walker licences

A new licensing scheme for professional dog walkers is being introduced to make it fairer to everyone using our parks.

People who are paid to walk dogs will need a licence and be restricted to walking six at a time in Hillingdon’s green spaces. Those operating without a licence could face a fine of up to £100. The change helps to maintain the environment and support the upkeep of the parks and people’s enjoyment of them, through the effective management of commercial dog walking.

Like similar schemes across London, there is a charge to cover administration costs. The licence costs £175 for residents and £250 for non-residents.

Cllr Jonathan Bianco, Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Business Services, said: “Our residents tell us they love our parks but have also shared their concerns about there being too many professional dog walkers. This licensing scheme is a good solution to the problem and is fair to everyone involved.

Professional dog walkers have until Wednesday 30 October to apply. Visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/dogwalking or email licensing@hillingdon.gov.uk for an application form or to find out more.
Dementia-friendly screenings at the Compass

Cllr Philip Corthorne, Cabinet Member for Social Services, Housing, Health and Wellbeing, said: “I am delighted that we will be providing these additional film screenings so more of our residents can enjoy a classic film that will hopefully bring back some memories. “This will be a welcome addition to the range of other services we offer, including coffee mornings and Totterfals (interactive light game tables) at our libraries and work with the Alzheimer’s Society and other partners within the Dementia Action Alliance, which all helps to make Hillingdon as dementia-friendly as possible.”

The film programme and more information about support in Hillingdon can be found on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/dementia

Cinema can offer a way for people living with dementia to reconnect with memories. The screenings will also provide an environment where attendees can feel safe and relaxed, as the room will be tailored to suit the audience. A comfortable environment will be created by keeping the house lights on low, clear signage will be provided, sound levels will be lowered and attendees can sing, talk or move around during the film.

Visiting our historical sites

Enjoy a free sneak peek behind the doors of some of the borough’s heritage buildings and architecturally unique spaces as part of London Open House weekend this month. On Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 September, residents will gain unique access to a number of council-owned sites not usually open to the public. The venues taking part are Manor Farm, Ruslip (HA4 7SU); Eastcote House and Gardens (HA4 2QS); and Cranford Park (TW5 9RZ).

Manor Farm will open its Pram Shed exhibition of farming tools from the 18th and 19th centuries between 10am and 5pm on both days. Manor Farm House and the 700-year-old Great Barn will also be available to explore on the Sunday.

Eastcote House Gardens’ Grade II listed buildings, the Stables and Dovecote, will be open between 10am and 5pm on the Sunday, with volunteers from the Friends of Eastcote House Gardens running tours and providing information about the buildings and historical information. A classic car rally, organised by the Friends and local classic car clubs, will take place from 11am until 4pm between 10.30am and 4.30pm on the Saturday and 12.30pm and 4.30pm on the Sunday. St Dunstan’s Church, the stables of the former Cranford House and the secret garden will all be open for exploration in the grounds of Cranford Park.

At the church, visitors will be able to see a range of monuments, including the remains of its 14th century wall paintings. A display about the history of the park, which for 300 years was a private estate of the Earls of Berkeley, can also be viewed. Members of the Cranford Park Friends group will be giving informal tours of the site and collecting visitors’ memories for the park’s memory wall.

Team wins national award

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Hillingdon employees have been shown to be among the top trading standards teams in the country after being recognised in the Regulatory, Performance and Excellence Awards for their work at Heathrow Airport. As one of the UK’s 14 port authorities, the council is responsible for inspecting cargo at the airport. The trading standards team won a Highly Commended award at the ceremony on Thursday 20 June for carrying out their work to such a high standard.

The team was one of 11 finalists and won a trip inspecting cargo consignments at the airport and removing products that do not meet British and European safety standards. A typical inspection sees officers checking a variety of goods, including toys, cosmetics, jewellery and electrical items, and removing those which don’t meet British and European safety standards. The goods are to be sold online and at shops across the UK and Europe.

Other finalists in the category included Amazon UK, the British Standards Institution and the Britsh Toy and Hobby Association, as well as other local authority trading standards teams and regulatory organisations.

EXCITING DAY TRIPS

Julie Kinin, Pat Gilbert, Pat Coetzee and Jean McClaud in Brighton

Have you heard about the Leader’s Initiative for Older People? Read on to find out how the scheme can benefit you and your loved ones.

Community groups have been running events and activities for local older people across the borough and beyond thanks to grants provided by the council. These are part of the Leader’s Initiative for Older People, a scheme which is dedicated to keeping over-65s in Hillingdon safe, active and independent.

In the past few years, activities have included trips to the seaside, garden parties, visiting attractions in central London, afternoon teas, and Christmas lunches.

Everyone who has taken part says it has helped them to make friends and be given opportunities they would never had the chance to experience.

Rylstone Sheltered Housing’s tenants’ club, in Harefield, is one group which has benefited from the initiative. They held a garden party and a Christmas party last year and recently arranged for a meal out at the Toby Carvery in Denham, which nearly two thirds of their residents attended.

“The initiative was a great scheme, people love it,” said Grace Gemegah who manages the housing scheme. “A lot of residents wouldn’t be able to come to these activities without the funding from the council because they can’t afford it or don’t have the mobility or don’t have family to support them.”

The Rylstone Royal British Legion was also full of praise for the initiative which supported visits to the seaside last year, as well as Christmas parties and other events. It also funded a trip to Southend and another to Brighton this summer.

“I think the scheme is excellent,” said Treasurer Elaine Davies. “Everyone really looks forward to the activities. We’re very grateful.”

The funding for activities and events is just part of the Leader’s Initiative for Older People which has been running since 2005. It also includes a wide range of projects, such as providing thousands of free burglary alarms, free swimming and swimming lessons, free allotments, tea dances, financial advice, the Brown Badge Scheme to make it easier for older people to park, and a heater loan scheme for those whose heating fails in the winter.

For more information about the Leader’s Initiative for Older People, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/initiative.

Leader of the Council and Older People’s Champion, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, said: “The value of these experiences for the borough’s older people far outweighs any cost. ‘Our Initiative for Older People is one of our most important schemes, and one that the council is very proud to run. It’s great to see there is so much support for it in our community.’

You can find out more about the initiative and submit ideas for new projects at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/leaderinitiative
Judging for the council’s very own horticultural competition, Hillingdon in Bloom took place during July and August. The popular contest received more than 50 submissions from residents, businesses, community groups and schools from across the borough. Nicola Setterfield, a teacher from Newnham School in Ruislip, explained how nursery pupils aged between three and four planted their entry. She said: “The children love it as they enjoy getting messy, finding the worms and snails and having a go at planting. For us, it’s all about the students learning about growth and the environment around them.”

Baj Mathur, from Ruislip (pictured), entered for the first time on behalf of his wife Sharda, who has been tending to their garden for the last 42 years. He said: “After seeing an advert in Hillingdon People, I felt I had to enter my wife’s beautiful garden. Ever since we moved here back in 1977, whenever the weather allows, Sharda will be outside working on our garden.”

Winners will be announced at the Autumn Show at The Great Barn, Manor Farm, Ruislip on Saturday 21 September from 1.30pm. Residents can come along and attend the show for free and view entries from a variety of categories. For details, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/autumnshow.

Rather than holding a concentrated six-week programme of events in the autumn, our new-look festival will run throughout the year, offering residents the chance to attend even more events.

The council will host a selection of themed events in the borough’s libraries, theatres and heritage sites.

September events
September is the month for gin lovers, featuring a special author event and more.

Louise Doughty
Monday 30 September, 7.30pm to 9pm
Great Barn, Manor Farm, Bury Street, Ruislip, HA4 7QL
Cost: £10
Join the bestselling author of Apple Tree Yard as she discusses her gripping new novel Platform Seven. You will also receive a free copy of the book.

October events
In October we will be celebrating all things historical, from local history to murder mysteries, as well as a bit of folklore thrown in too. Culture Bite activities will also link with the annual Hillingdon Literature Festival events.

Hillingdon Literature Festival
Friday 4 to Sunday 6 October, times, prices and venues vary
Culture Bite is partnering with the annual festival organised by Brunel University for a host of events across the borough, which will include literary performances from internationally renowned authors, writing workshops, debates, industry masterclasses and more. For full details visit www.hillingdonliteraturefestival.com.

For a full list of events, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/culturebite or any library. Purchase tickets at www.hillingdonthetheatres.uk.
Get inspired this Recycle Week

Recycle Week runs from Monday 23 to Sunday 29 September. Hear from Hillingdon’s residents and businesses who say recycling is more important than ever before.

The council provides residents with various ways to recycle. Unlike many boroughs that are charging for or reducing collections, we continue to offer free, weekly and easy-to-use recycling and waste collections for our residents.

Each week we collect dry mixed recycling, food waste, garden waste, textile recycling and general waste. Recycling is important as it protects our planet and the local environment. It reduces the pollution caused by getting rid of waste and saves natural resources, such as wood and minerals. Making new items from raw materials costs much more and uses more energy than those made from recycled products.

The council also saves money for every item recycled, which can be spent on essential services. But don’t just take it from us. Residents and local businesses often tell us about why they’re passionate about recycling.

### Our residents

**John Flaxman (pictured below) and his wife Gillian live in Ruislip.** With friends and family visiting frequently, including three daughters and four granddaughters, they know that their recycling bags fill up quickly.

“Having grandchildren I am very concerned for their future in this throwaway society,” he said.

“I think we must all make more effort to recycle as it helps reduce harmful gases from landfill sites, and to preserve the rainforests for future generations.”

“I find recycling in Hillingdon is easy as it’s easy to understand. It clearly states what we can place in each bag, collection is on a weekly basis and the bags are provided by the council free of charge.”

**Anaesthetist Dr Melissa Dransfield,** said: “We are used to making a difference to people’s lives and recycling is no different. It is a key improvement that a health provider at the heart of the community should be making.

“Clinical waste is obviously dealt with separately, but in theatres we also get a lot of recyclable material - from packaging to plastics to paper - and as our trust supports us in recycling, we make the effort to separate it into the correct receptacles.”

“The trust is working on supplying more recycling bins in our hospital and educating our staff about what can and can’t be recycled.”

**Cllr Keith Burrows,** Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Recycling, said: “We’d like to encourage residents who aren’t taking part in recycling to give it a go. Our collection services are easy to use and it may mean making a few small changes to your daily routine but it can ultimately make a big impact and help to protect the environment now and for generations to come.”

For more information about recycling in Hillingdon, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/rubbishandrecycling.

### Local business owners

**Nayan Chande and Yoga Mogantas** run **MC Group**, a restaurant group with five outlets across the borough. They say recycling their rubbish from their businesses: Namaste Lounge, Tamara Lounge, Krawe Dessert Café, The Runway Bar & Kitchen, and The Locker Room, is really important to them. With about 5,000 customers across their restaurants every week, recycling makes a big difference to their impact on the environment.

“Our team strongly believes in recycling to help protect the environment,” said Nayan.

“Whether it be for cleaner air, reduction in water pollution or saving energy, we strive to ensure that the small changes we can make within our business are implemented, in order for us to make that difference.”

**Operating Department Practitioner, Natalie Wood,** said: “The council makes it easy to recycle because they recycle a wide variety of materials and supply us with the means to collect, store and dispose of them.

“Hillingdon’s recycling instructions are clear, and because a lot of our staff are from this community, they know how easy it is to do the right thing.”

**Help spread the message**

Thanks to all of your efforts the borough recycles 40 per cent of its waste. Last year we composted nearly 18,000 tonnes of garden and food waste, and recycled just over 19,000 tonnes of other waste between our household collections and recycling centres.

We want to do more, though, and we’d love it if you could tell more people about the variety of recycling options we provide:

• Did you know that we provide purple textile recycling collections, with the money made from their sale going to the Mayor’s Charity Appeal?
• Did you know that with one of the free kitchen caddies that we provide: that you can easily recycle food waste each week?
• Did you know you can recycle more difficult items, like car batteries, metal, and vegetable oil at Harefield Civic Amenity Site (New Years Green Lane, UB9 6LX) or at our West Drayton waste site at weekends (Railway Sidings, Tapstock Road, UB7 7QY)?

“If you could tell more people about why they’re passionate about recycling, we’d be very grateful.”

### How we recycle

We have everything you need to make recycling easy.

- **Kitchen caddies**: With a range of options for sizes of containers, frequency of collection and pricing.
- **Recycling bins**: Staff at Hillingdon Hospital’s operating theatres

**As a team who are big fans of animals, we also want to protect ecosystems and wildlife globally and if everybody recycled we can stop the endangering of species worldwide. To help future generations, we believe we need to reduce and eventually stop landfill, in order to allow everybody to enjoy the world like we have.”**

Yoga said: “Hillingdon provides a range of options for sizes of containers, frequency of collection and pricing.

“This gives us a lot of flexibility making it easier to recycle waste. Knowing that Hillingdon is saving natural resources, such as wood and minerals. Making new items from raw materials costs much more and uses more energy than those made from recycled products. The council also saves money for every item recycled, which can be spent on essential services. But don’t just take it from us. Residents and local businesses often tell us about why they’re passionate about recycling.”

### What can and can’t be recycled?

We provide a range of options for sizes of containers, frequency of collection and pricing.

- **Food waste** - Paper, plastic, glass, metal and organic waste.
- **Dry mixed recycling** - Cardboard, paper, plastic, glass and metal.
- **Garden waste** - Grass cuttings, leaves, weeds, plants and twigs.
- **General waste** - Cardboard, paper, plastic, glass and metal.
- **Car batteries**
- **Metal**
- **Vegetable oil**
- **Office waste** - Paper, cardboard, plastic, glass, metal and electronic waste.
- **Textile waste** - Old clothes, bedding, towels, soft furnishings and packaging.

Visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/rubbishandrecycling for more information.

For more information about recycling in Hillingdon, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/rubbishandrecycling.

### Environmental benefits of recycling

- **Saves natural resources:** Every item recycled saves natural resources, such as wood and minerals. Making new items from raw materials costs much more and uses more energy than those made from recycled products.
- **Saves natural ecosystems:** By recycling we can help to preserve the rainforests for future generations.
- **Reduces pollution:** It reduces the pollution caused by getting rid of waste and saves natural resources, such as wood and minerals.
- **Helps to protect the environment:** By recycling we help to reduce harmful gases from landfill sites, and to preserve the rainforests for future generations.
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Eyes and ears of our community

We held an event in The Great Barn at Manor Farm, Ruislip on Monday 8 July to show our appreciation for the top regularly reporting community volunteers, known as Street Champions, who do so much to keep Hillingdon’s neighbourhoods clean and safe.

The council relies on its network of some 500 Street Champions to actively report issues such as littering, fly-tipping and nuisance behaviour. Street Champions are given a priority telephone number and email address and can report issues as often as they like. Signing up is as easy as filling in a form on the council website, and there is no formal commitment.

Addressing the Street Champions at the event, Cllr Douglas Mills, Cabinet Member for Community, Commerce and Regeneration, said: “Thank you for being our eyes and ears and for helping us make progress. We recognised a long time ago that as a local authority we couldn’t solve every problem alone. So we wanted to encourage residents to actively tell us if something was wrong in case we hadn’t spotted it. The feedback we’re getting is that this ongoing partnership is working to the benefit of us all, whether you’re a Street Champion or not. I encourage anyone thinking of becoming one to do so.”

Register to become a Street Champion for your part of the borough at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/street-champions

Veronica Jones, from Northwood Hills, who has been a Street Champion for five years, said: “As a Street Champion you contact the council about an issue and they quickly deal with it. So, for example, if a hedge is encroaching over a path that children have to walk on or pushchairs have to go down, I can contact them and the council comes within 24 hours to clip it. It’s fantastic. And the street cleaners do an amazing job. ‘It really gives us a sense of community. I’d say join it, it really helps your area and you can report anything’.

Hiren Upadhya, from Uxbridge, a Street Champion of seven years, likes to make a game of it with his son. “Whenever we go for a walk, we say ‘let’s see how fast we can get this graffiti removed’,” he said. “And he gets excited when it’s gone! I’ve noticed a difference in my area and generally the borough is very good.” Hiren has encouraged a few of his friends to also become Street Champions.

Veronica Jones (left) and Eugenia Haywood

Botwell resident Pat Tugwell belongs to the scheme with her friend Sue Thomas from Hayes End. “It’s too easy to say, ‘somebody else will do that,’” said Pat. “People should be encouraged to take ownership of where they live and how they live - we all need to pull together. I used to walk around the park and every tree, bench, waste bin and sign board was covered in graffiti. We don’t get any of that now because it’s all cleared straight away.”

Pat Tugwell and Sue Thomas

A variety of activities and courses were held across Hillingdon thanks to our FIESTA programme.

The council’s ever-popular FIESTA scheme saw more than 70 activities and events held for young people to keep them occupied during the summer holidays. The variety of sessions meant there were many opportunities for young people to enjoy a selection of their favourite activities, or try their hand at something completely new. They were held at community centres, parks, and other locations across the borough, so there was always something nearby to take part in.

Courses included drama, BMX skills, self defence, motor mechanics, trampolining, first aid and street magic. The were either free or charged at a low cost and all young people aged five to 19 could take part in them.

Aidan, aged 10, from South Ruislip, who took part in a Summer Activity week. “It’s really fun and we learned a lot of new things, like how to make egg-fried rice,” he said. “The table football has been my favourite,” said Willow, aged nine, from Harefield, who also took part in the Summer Activity week. “It’s really fun and we learned a lot of new things, like how to make egg-fried rice," she said.

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‘Appy Families: How residents of all ages are enjoying our libraries’ digital services

More and more people are benefiting from the convenience of online loans of books, magazines and other digital resources.

Residents love visiting our 17 libraries, not just to browse the books but to enjoy the many events and activities that are held there. They have become real community hubs.

At the same time, we know that many of you have busy lives and it’s not always easy to find the time to visit and choose a book, and then to come back to return it when you need to.

This is where the council’s online library can help to meet your needs. Our digital transformation programme is ensuring that we adapt as these services become more popular. While we know that many of you love to read physical books, we recognise that more and more of you are wanting to read digitally.

The popular app BorrowBox enables residents to borrow books of all genres and audio books 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It was introduced less than three years ago and the service has been growing ever since. It now has more than 4,500 Hillingdon library members signed up.

Newspapers and magazines are available with the digital service too, with an app called Pressreader. It includes popular UK broadsheets and tabloids, as well as publications from many other countries in more than 60 languages.

Childminder Liz Webb, from Harefield, (pictured above) has recently started using BorrowBox. She said she often visits the borough’s libraries but is now a big fan of the digital service, too.

"I’d recommend it to anyone," she said. "When I first downloaded it I thought ‘wow, it’s so easy to use’. It’s good for adults and children, as well as those with additional needs as you can change the font type and size. "There’s so much choice and you don’t have to worry about having to go back to return your book. I get an alert on my Apple watch when my book loan is about to run out. "It’s great that it’s a free service provided by the council."

Residents who have joined the library with their Hillingdon First card or who have a library card just need to download the apps onto their e-reader, tablet or mobile phone. Anyone who would like help to download the app can bring their device to their local library and friendly staff will get them up and running in no time.

Once the loan period is at an end the book will delete itself from the reader - so there is no risk of a late fine. Readers can renew their loan through the app like they would in person.

You can find further details about BorrowBox and Pressreader and other digital resources at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/libraries.

Upgrades on the way

From September, the council will begin to refurbish all of the borough’s 17 libraries, starting with Ruislip Manor Library.

The £3 million works will provide an improved experience for customers with better seating and lighting, more room, upgraded computer equipment, and more.

While construction is taking place, our mobile library will be visiting the area twice a week and nearby libraries will be open as usual.

More information will be available nearer the time in Ruislip Manor Library, as well as on our website and social media.

Cllr Richard Lewis, Cabinet Member for Central Services, Culture and Heritage, said:

"Unlike many other local authorities across the UK that have closed these facilities, we are incredibly proud of our library service and recognise its importance to local communities. "In Hillingdon we are bucking the trend by continuing to invest in our 17 libraries to ensure they are well resourced and meet the modern day needs of our residents. Our refurbishment programme, which will begin this September, will refresh our libraries’ look and feel and equipment. I am looking forward to seeing the final outcome."

A real community hub

Our online loans may be more popular than ever but that doesn’t mean our libraries are any less loved.

There are activities taking place for all ages such as pre-school storytimes and dementia support groups, plus a rolling programme of other events.

You can come to the libraries and use our public computers and free wi-fi. You can also collect your recycling bags and visitor permits.

Of course, you can still come and borrow from our extensive collection of paperbacks, hardbacks and talking books using your HillingdonFirst card or library card.

Find out more on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/libraries.

You can find further details about BorrowBox and Pressreader and other digital resources at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/libraries.
The council hosted a variety of free events and activities for residents and visitors of all ages throughout June, July and August.

**New Bikespiration on Tour**

Our annual Bikespiration event, which celebrates all things cycling, returned this year with a new successful format.

In previous years, the free-to-attend summer event took place on the forecourt of the Civic Centre in Uxbridge. This year Bikespiration went on tour, hosting themed events in green spaces across the borough. It proved extremely popular with residents, attracting more visitors this summer compared with previous years.

The four events took place in June and July at The Closes Park, West Drayton; Dowding Park, Uxbridge; Hayes Community Family Fun Day, Barra Hall Park on Saturday 6 July; and Pinn Meadows, Ruislip. The annual event, which was first held in 2013, is organised by the council and volunteers from the Friends of Pinn Meadows community group.

The festival, which attracted more than 100 attendees, included a range of activities such as scything (cutting grass by hand), pond dipping and riverfly monitoring.

**Hayes Community Family Fun Day**

More than 2,000 residents came along to participate in this year’s Hayes Community Family Fun Day at Barra Hall Park on Saturday 6 July.

The annual free event, which celebrates Hayes and its diverse community, hosted a fantastically varied programme of free family-oriented entertainment for all ages, including zorb racing, an assault course, arts and crafts and other interactive activities.

The crowds also enjoyed performances from funky upbeat brass band BrassBound, Jay Kumar and Dance Asia, and Verona Chard and her Musical Balloon Band.

Younger revellers got the chance to try a new activity for the first time or brush up on their skills. Visitors also had the chance to enter the ‘Catch of the Day’ competition and meet top angling commentator Keith Arthur. Younger attendees also enjoyed free bird box making and a range of children’s activities.

The free events, which welcomed all ages and abilities to have a go at fishing, took place at Little Britain Lake, Cowley. On the day, equipment and bait was provided, which made it the perfect opportunity for residents to try a new activity for the first time.

Visitors also had the chance to enter the ‘Catch of the Day’ competition and meet top angling commentator Keith Arthur. Younger attendees also enjoyed free bird box making and a range of children’s activities.

**Family Fishing Fun Days**

Our popular Family Fishing Fun Days returned for their eleventh year on Sundays 28 July and 11 August.

The free events, which welcomed all ages and abilities to have a go at fishing, took place at Little Britain Lake, Cowley. On the day, equipment and bait was provided, which made it the perfect opportunity for residents to try a new activity for the first time.

Visitors also had the chance to enter the ‘Catch of the Day’ competition and meet top angling commentator Keith Arthur. Younger attendees also enjoyed free bird box making and a range of children’s activities.

**Catch of the Day prize winners**

1st prize, Patrick Healy (28 July)
2nd prize, Satish Jassal (28 July)
3rd prize, Pranav Nadendla (28 July)

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The Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr David Yarrow, attended accompanied by Mayorress Mary O’Connor MBE. Both got involved with the day’s activities with great enthusiasm.

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Breathe it all in - how we’re improving your air

Our air quality action plan sets out a range of measures we’re implementing to improve air in Hillingdon.

Proposals for the next five years were agreed this summer and many have already been set in motion. There are things we don’t have control over, like Heathrow Airport (although we are fighting its proposed expansion) and major roads cutting through our borough, but there are a lot of things that we can do and residents have been working with us to make it happen.

Collect your free trees and help make Hillingdon a greener place to be

We’re offering residents a tree-mendous giveaway. The council is providing thousands of free saplings to help Hillingdon become a greener and healthier place to live, work and visit.

All you need to do is cut out the voucher below, which entitles you to up to 10 saplings, and bring it along to various locations to be redeemed (more than 10 may be available by request). Collection points include the Rural Activities Garden Centre in West Drayton Road, Hillingdon, UB8 3JZ, and libraries. There are a total of 5,000 trees available.

For more details and handy hints on how to plant and care for your new trees visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/freetrees.

The council wants to increase the number of trees in high pollution areas throughout the borough and has also introduced a new planting programme to ensure they prosper in our parks and open spaces.

This has already begun and includes Stoneline Field, Fairway Recreation Ground, Northwood Recreation Ground, Reillys Recreation Ground, Barra Hall Park and Hammondswood Recreation Ground.

This is in top of our usual tree planting programme, which sees new trees planted across the borough every year.

Parent pledge puts the brake on problem parking near schools

Parents and the council have recognised for their efforts after they teamed up to help cut down the traffic and pollution surrounding schools.

The council’s Parent Parking Pledge sees parents sign up to a scheme which shows their commitment to making their school surroundings a safer and healthier place to be.

The pilot was launched in February and has already gained the support of more than 920 parents across six schools – St Helen’s School in Northwood, St Helen’s College in Hillingdon, Hermitage Primary School in Uxbridge, Lady Bankes Infant and Lady Bankes Junior schools in Ruislip, and Ruislip Gardens Primary School in Ruislip. More are planning to follow this September.

Parent parking pledge

The scheme was announced as a runner-up in the 2019 London Road Safety Award at the London Road Safety Council Annual General Meeting on Friday 12 July in Southwark. The London Road Safety Council runs the event each year to highlight and reward innovation and good practice.

The pledge can include promises by parents to help their children travel actively to school, to agree to drive with consideration for others, to park away from the school gates, to never block a driveway, and to always turn off their engines when parked.

Once they’ve made the pledge, parents are given a car sticker to put in their window to show the difference they are making to their community. To find out more, contact the school travel and road safety team at stars@hillingdon.gov.uk.

How your cash can go up in smoke

The borough is a smoke control area which can lead to a £1,000 fine for those who break the rules.

You don’t need to worry about a barbeque in your garden (unless you are causing a nuisance to your neighbours) but people who use their fireplace at home or want to light a bonfire may run into trouble if they don’t follow the rules.

Fortunately there is a lot of guidance online about fuels you can use which don’t emit harmful smoke and other helpful facts at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/smoke.

For more advice, email contactcentre1@hillingdon.gov.uk or call 01895 556000.

Find out more about air quality in Hillingdon at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/airpollution.

PROTECTING SCHOOLS

A wood and willow screen was enhanced with a hedge of Portuguese laurel around playgrounds in the borough to shield them from traffic pollution.

The project began earlier this year with St Andrew’s Church of England Primary School in Nursery Way, Uxbridge, and Young Ones Nursery in Gating Way, Uxbridge. At the Young Ones Nursery, the screen was made of wood and woven willow. 

AirTEXT is a free service which anyone can benefit from to keep them informed about high pollution episodes (such as the recent Sahara dust cloud in April) heading towards London.

The service is provided free by the council and can be a great help to people who have respiratory problems, like asthma. Knowing that a high pollution spike is on its way can help people plan their day to ensure they keep themselves protected from the effects of poor air, and have their medication close at hand.

Pollution alerts are sent out automatically to all Hillingdon schools, care homes and GP surgeries. You can find out more and sign up for free on www.hillingdon-air.info.

Free Trees

This voucher entitles the bearer to up to 10 saplings.

For more details about where to collect your trees and handy hints on how to plant and care for them, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/freetrees.

No idle threat - stationary motorists who leave their engines running have been facing the cost

Hillingdon was one of the first boroughs to issue fixed penalty notices to drivers who leave their engines running for more than five minutes at a time.

After a successful trial it now operates across the borough. More than 1,430 fixed penalty notices have been handed out in the three years since August 2016.

Having your engine running while waiting in traffic or parked in the street releases a host of harmful gases which are bad for your health and the environment. It can also be costly, as leaving your engine running can burn more fuel than switching it off and on again and excessive idling can damage your engine’s components.

In June, Hillingdon won a bid to the Mayor’s Air Quality Fund to take part in a series of idling awareness campaigns. These will take place in the borough during the next year and be focused on schools and other areas, such as town centres, to raise awareness of the issue and provide information.

Protecting our schools - green screens mean pupils can play free of pollution

The council has been installing screens made of wood and woven willow

Cllr Philip Corshorne, Cabinet Member for Social Services, Housing, Health and Wellbeing, said: “We know air quality is a key concern for residents as there is nothing more important than the air we breathe.

“We continue to find new ways to ensure residents can breathe easily, now and in the future, including developing and implementing our air quality action plan.”
The scheme rehabilitating offenders while responding fast to residents’ concerns.

Offenders who commit less serious offences are working unpaid across the borough as part of their sentence. It’s part of an initiative called Community Payback and the work can help them atone for their crimes and be part of their rehabilitation.

It’s a national scheme which has been running for many years and involves activities like cleaning, rubbish in parks and landscaping. Here in Hillingdon, there’s a team that operates a little bit differently - they give residents a say on where they want them to go.

A mobile team of eight offenders directly respond to residents’ concerns, making sure they can quickly clean up the areas which most matter to communities. It has been active since March 2019. Since then 148 offenders have been part of the mobile team, putting in 1,036 hours.

Their work has included clearing fly-tips and overgrown areas. Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, said: “Having Hillingdon residents decide where the borough’s Community Payback mobile team is most needed is another example of how we continue to put residents first.

“We’ve had some positive feedback about how it is benefiting everyone involved - including the offenders themselves who say they get a lot of satisfaction from the gratitude residents show them.”

The mobile unit’s work is on top of the Community Payback’s regular work at 13 parks and council-owned sites across the borough.

The regular, static team’s work has included creating a relaxing garden at Harlington Hospice, working at the Dogs Trust in Harefield which has seen teams make a garden, and transforming the grounds of Southlands Arts Centre to help it win Green Flag status for its conservation area which saw the reinstatement of aquatic plants to their large pond.

One of the offenders on Hillingdon’s Community Payback scheme said giving back to the community made him feel good. “As a lad I didn’t know what to expect but knowing people appreciated the work I was doing gave me a sense of peace inside,” he said.

“It was 110 per cent rewarding and made me want to volunteer afterwards.”

If you live in the borough and would like the Community Payback team to visit your area, the best way is to contact your local councillor. You can find their details, including how to contact them, at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/councillors.

Never seen it so clean - the payback team reacts fast

A private alley in Ruislip was causing a problem for residents until the Community Payback team got involved.

The business responsible for it had closed down and more and more rubbish was being dumped there. That was until the council was contacted by 77-year-old Phyllis Danley who got the payback team involved.

“They arrived in just a couple of days and spent a few hours with their shovels,” said Phyllis, who lives near the alley in Bridgewater Road, Ruislip. “It was very organised; they were very well mannered and very hard working. They got straight down to it and did the job.”

“I’ve lived here for more than 50 years and it’s never been so clean. I would recommend them to anyone.”

On fly-tipping and how the council is tackling this issue, see page 7 or visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/flytipping.

Aggie the Alien discovers how earthlings in Hillingdon manage their health

Hillingdon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has launched a new video featuring Aggie the Alien, who recently landed in our borough from outer space and discovered how our residents manage their health.

The video (available on YouTube, search ‘Aggie the Alien’) was produced by the CCG to give children a greater understanding of how local health services work, and how many common illnesses can be treated at home.

Aggie met a group of children, who told her how their parents keep a self-care kit in the home. Having a self-care kit helps to keep common illnesses under control.

It includes things such as cough medicine, headache tablets, and plasters and bandages for any small injuries. But remember, keep medications out of reach of children so they don’t take them by mistake!

Aggie also found out that the local pharmacy has lots of useful healthcare items and provides expert advice if she has a minor health issue. If the problem is more serious but not an emergency, she can give NHS 111 a call — a trained operator will ask what’s wrong and advise on what to do and the best place to go for treatment.

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Health Help Now is also available. It’s a digital app with lots of health advice, a symptom checker and information about local health services. The app can be downloaded for free on the Android and Apple App stores.

You can also read about Aggie’s adventure in Hillingdon in her book Help Aggie the Alien Navigate the NHS available to borrow for free at all Hillingdon libraries in the family section.
Voluntary service recognised

More than 150 council volunteers who have jointly accumulated in excess of 1,600 years of service have been rewarded.

The majority of the volunteers attended one of a series of long service presentation ceremonies at council venues across the borough during the summer. They were given pin badges in the following categories: Bronze (for five years or above); Silver (for 15 years and above) and Gold (for 25 years and above).

The awards acknowledged volunteers who support our green spaces, sport and physical activities, museums, theatres and libraries.

Among the 155 recognised was one of the council’s longest serving volunteers who received an award for 40 years of service.

Each volunteer received their lapel pin from the Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr David Yarrow, at the events, which took place at the Battle of Britain Bunker Exhibition and Visitor Centre, the Mayor’s Parlour, Ruslip Lido Woodland Centre and Eastcote House Gardens.

Those unable to attend were sent their award.

The Mayor said: “In this day and age when so many of us have extremely busy lives with various commitments and external pressures on our time, it is refreshing and uplifting to find that there are still people who provide voluntary service for the benefit of others.

“I hope you will wear your pin with pride and satisfaction in knowing that your efforts really do make a difference for our borough, and that it is something for which we are truly grateful.”

Rachel Moustafa, 71, Hayes, received an award for six years of volunteering, where she has been supporting the council’s healthy walks programme, leading walks from Reading Library. She said: “My career was in public health so I have always been passionate about promoting health and wellbeing.

“The healthy walks are a great way to get out and about in the fresh air and to meet new people from different walks of life.”

Bob Barton, 64, Hayes, has volunteered for seven years with green spaces and is Secretary of the Cranford Park Friends Group. During this time, his duties have varied depending on the season, but have included maintaining Cranford Park’s secret garden and community orchard, leading guided walks and cutting back ivy from historic walls.

He said: “It’s wonderful feeling to be recognised. While I enjoy volunteering, this is the icing on the cake for myself and our fellow volunteers who are getting recognised.”

Mark Morgan, Ruslip, was recognised for 40 years of service with green spaces. Mark started off on the Ruslip Woods National Reserve, going on to manage the woods for 27 years and he is now a trustee of the site. He continues to volunteer there on Saturdays, maintaining the space to help ensure it stays clean, safe and tidy for visitors to enjoy.

He said: “I feel honoured to have been recognised for my volunteering, which I have been doing since I was at school. I’ve thoroughly enjoyed the experience of doing it. I feel proud that I am one of the longest serving volunteers and would highly recommend volunteering to anyone thinking about it.”

The council and many local community groups offer a wide range of volunteering opportunities. For more details visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/volunteering.
Summer is over and the nights might be drawing in but there are still a range of events, shows, concerts and activities on offer across the borough for residents. There’s also plenty of fun coming up for half-term.

**THEATRE**

**An evening with John Betjeman**

**Thursday 26 September, 2310pm**

A one-man show, performed by Brian ERA, on the life and poetry of John Betjeman.


Book at www.hillingdonarts.co.uk or call 01895 256015, Compass Theatre

**Live Screening of the National Theatre’s**

**A Midsummer Night’s Dream**

**Monday 28 October, 7.15pm**

This performance of the much-loved Shakespeare play will be captured live from London’s Bridge Theatre.

Cost: £12.50

Book at www.莎uthfieldartscentre.co.uk or call 01895 256015, Compass Theatre

**KIDS**

**Monstersaurus Live!**

**Saturday 14 September, 2pm and 4pm**

A family-friendly touring children’s theatre company Ragged Rose presents a Junior tour of the critically acclaimed show for 4-9 year olds. The show features a host of dinosaurs in a story based on Roald Dahl’s classic.

Cost: £9

To book, visit www.hillingdontheatres.uk or call 01895 256015, Compass Theatre

**MUSIC**

**Eastcote and Ruislip Choral Society**

Every Tuesday during term starting on Tuesday 17 September, 8.30pm to 10pm

This friendly choir welcome new singers. They sing the established repertoire, and also secular and show music, sometimes with an orchestra and professional soloists.

Their Christmas concert will be held on Saturday 14 December at 3.30pm and will feature Benjamin Britten’s Ceremony of Carols as well as a range of traditional carols.

For more information or to join the choir, call 01895 904556 or visit www.eastcote-ruislip-choral.org.uk

**Ruislip Methodist Church**

**Frank Griffith Jazz Trio.**

**Saturday 14 September, 2.30pm**

A trio of established jazz musicians make their debut at the church.

Cost: £10.

To book, visit www.hillingdontheatres.uk or call 01895 256015, Compass Theatre

**For more Hillingdon events or to advertise your own visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/whatson**
Music by the Royal Air Force March and Drums 2019 Concert Series RAF Squadrons - Wednesday 10 December Central Band of the RAF Regiment - Tuesday 12 November Central Band of the RAF - Tuesday 10 December All at 7.30pm Three of the finest military bands in the Royal Air Force will be performing much loved jazz classics starting in October. You’ll be able to expect such classics as Asoke and Soul and The Girl from ipanema as well as the music of John Coltrane and Sonny Rollins at the first of the concerts, with the Royal Air Force Squadronaires. They will be followed in November by the Band of the RAF Regiment and Sonny Rollins at the first of the concerts, with the Royal Air Force Squadronaires. They will be followed in November by the Band of the RAF Regiment and RAF Band of the RAF Regiment.

**First to Fight: The Polish War 1939**

Friday 25 October 7.30pm Roger Townshend’s narrative brings life to a cast of generals, politicians, soldiers, and civilians. If you first to fight debunks myths that still surround the events of the Second World War and challenges our understanding of the Polish role in and France entered the Second World War.

**Cost:** Free.

**Book at culturebite@hillingdon.gov.uk**

**West Draylon Library**

**Spinle, Shuttle and Needle: The Folkslore of Wool and Wood**

Wednesday 30 October, 2pm to 3pm

Join folklorist and researcher Mark Norman discusses the importance of spinning thread, spinning and associated crafts, through folk and fairy tales, customs and more.

**Cost:** Free.

**Book at culturebite@hillingdon.gov.uk**

**Bewtol Green Library**

**From Miracles to Mouldwarp - The superstitions of Tudor England**

Tuesday 29 October, 11am to midday

Join historian, author and playwright Rosie Norman for a discussion exploring some of the superstitions held by the Tudors. The talk will include ghosts, prophecies, omens and, of course, the Mouldwarp legend which attached itself to Henry VII.

**Cost:** Free.

**Book at culturebite@hillingdon.gov.uk**

**Hillingdon Library**

**HISTORY AND CULTURE**

**Battle of Britain Day**

Saturday 5 September, 10am to 5.30pm

Commence Battle of Britain Day with a talk by Val Bourne entitled Romans and Peacocks - A Marriage Made in Heaven. Val is an award-winning garden writer, organic gardener and lecturer and there will also be plants for sale. The society are a friendly group of experienced gardeners and enthusiastic amateurs who all share an interest in horticultural perennials. They usually meet on the first Monday of every month.

**Cost:** £5 but members are free (this can be redeemed upon membership).

For more information, email hello@spmsociety.org.uk or visit www.personalmedicine.org.uk/fieldjunior

**Field Junior School**

**Musgrave Poetry Evening**

Saturday 28 September, 7pm

Enjoy classic, obscure, and new poems being read aloud by anyone who would like to read. They take place in an atmospheric room with...

**Cost:** Free.

For more info email book@www.hillingdon-theatres.org.uk or call 0899 250615.

**Compass Theatre**

**Apple Day and Macmillan Coffee Morning**

Saturday 5 October, 10am to 2pm

This event celebrates the area’s once common crops, which you can visit the community orchard and join the Sussex Gardening Club. Men in a traditional ‘Wassail’, and try apple juice using a fruit press. As well as making your own cider and cakes in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. "Wassail Day and Apple Morning." The event has been joined by The Great Barn, Friends of Cranford Wood and Friends and Hillingdon Council. Email: secretaty@cranfordparkfriends.org or call 0208 813 6046 to find out more, or visit www.cranfordparkfriends.org.

**Hardy Plant Society Midlands Group**

Monday 7 October, 7.30pm to 9.30pm

This event celebrates the area’s once common crops, which you can visit the community orchard and join the Sussex Gardening Club. Men in a traditional ‘Wassail’, and try apple juice using a fruit press. As well as making your own cider and cakes in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. "Wassail Day and Apple Morning." The event has been joined by The Great Barn, Friends of Cranford Wood and Friends and Hillingdon Council. Email: secretaty@cranfordparkfriends.org or call 0208 813 6046 to find out more, or visit www.cranfordparkfriends.org.

**Cost:** Free.

**Book at culturebite@hillingdon.gov.uk**

**The Great Barn, Manor Farm**

**Leisure**

**Super September Fayre**

Saturday 14 September, 10.30am to 4pm

Enjoy stalls such as colouring for the kids, toys, books, CDs, plants, and more. There will also be stalls selling toys, books, CDs, ice creams and drinks, as well as music,反射ology and a fortune teller. Actresses for children will include walkabouts, football, a roundabout, face painting, and a petting zoo. The facilities are also suitable for people with physical and learning difficulties.

**Cost:** £1.15 in advance.

Free to under 16s.

For more information, visit www.hso.org.uk or email info@illuminatedhealth.com or visit www.illuminatedhealth.com.

**Needle: The Folklore of Wool and Wood**

Saturday 21 September, 10am to 4pm

Mark Norman discusses the importance of spinning thread, spinning and associated crafts, through folk and fairy tales, customs and more.

**Cost:** Free.

**Book at culturebite@hillingdon.gov.uk**

**Bewtol Green Library**

**Battle of Britain Bunker Exhibition and Visitor Centre**

**Avenue**

**Battle of Britain Bunker Exhibition and Visitor Centre**

**Cost:** Free.

**Book at culturebite@hillingdon.gov.uk**

**St Lawrence Church**

**4pm to 5pm**

Saturday 2 November, 2pm to 5pm

Michaelmas fair.

Sunday 3 November, 10am to 5pm

The facilities are suitable for people with physical and learning difficulties.

**Cost:** Free.

**Book at culturebite@hillingdon.gov.uk**

**St Mary’s Church Hall**

**Battle of Britain Bunker Exhibition and Visitor Centre**

**Cost:** Free.

**Book at culturebite@hillingdon.gov.uk**

**St Lawrence Church**

**4pm to 5pm**

Saturday 2 November, 2pm to 5pm

The facilities are suitable for people with physical and learning difficulties.

**Cost:** Free.

**Book at culturebite@hillingdon.gov.uk**

**St Lawrence Church**
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