

The Community Magazine for the
Sudbury Court and Pebworth Estates

October
2018

The Courier

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The Courier



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The official publication of the Sudbury Court Residents' Association.

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Dear Neighbours,

The nights are drawing in with the onset of Autumn, but the changing colours of the trees are always a bonus.

Some necessary safety updates from the Safer Neighbourhood Team (pg 4-7), together with some words of reassurance. The SNT are also making note that we have an urgent need for new Ward Panel members (pg 17). Please do take note that, as well as our WhatsApp groups, it's up to us as residents to take responsibility for our community.

Our Councillor's Comments (pg 8-11) have an update on the One Public Estate which should interest you, as well as the possible introduction of Private Security on the Pebworth Estate.

You may be interested in the Byron Court School traffic consultation results (pg 21). It's good to know that when we act together we, as residents, can be heard.

And thank you to all residents who contact us at the SCRA, a couple listed on pg 22—it would be good to hear from more of you.

Finally, it's really sad to hear that one of our Councillors has received abuse for following up on noise nuisance complaints from residents. I have also received messages from residents who have received quite 'unsympathetic' responses from neighbours when making complaints about the same issue. Please refer to my article last month on this very subject—Please be considerate and respectful to our Councillors and your neighbours, otherwise it becomes difficult to resolve issues. This is a lovely place to live, and part of the reason for that is our community of people.

Until next time, with best regards,

Kaye

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Spate of Aggravated burglary:

The past month has brought with it two horrific attacks on resident's addresses whilst the residents were inside – the police term for this is aggravated burglary. On Weds 15th Aug the Asian residents of an address in KENELM CLOSE were in bed at about 11pm when four masked intruders broke in through the front door and attacked the family whilst making demands for money and jewellery. A similar attack occurred on a resident of LITTLETON CRESCENT on Weds 29th Aug, with three masked intruders quickly breaking entry via the front door and attacking the Asian occupiers with demands for where the money and safe is. Just off Northwick Park Ward patch, but very close by at the top end of Sudbury Court Drive, near Greenford Road, on 21st Aug, the Asian occupiers were at home when at about 00.30hrs four men burst in the front door and did a similar attack on the occupiers.

These horrific attacks are being investigated by Brent and Harrow CID departments respectively, however, the burglars that are doing it appear to be forensically aware and so there is little in the way of clues in order to track them down. A silver Mercedes was the getaway vehicle involved in one attack, a grey BMW in another, but I wouldn't get too focussed on car makes – as always, behaviour is something to look out for. As mentioned the victims have nearly all been Asian, and the burglars in these attacks have all made demands for gold.

The burglar descriptions do vary, (mostly white suspects) but there is certain behaviour committed at the scene, which leads police to believe that they are linked, and so sooner or later they will be caught—an eagle eyed resident will see something or a slip up at the scene, leaving a glove behind or something like that will have which will give police a breakthrough. In the meantime, vigilance is the order of the day!

Understandably, the residents in the roads off SUDBURY COURT DRIVE are naturally very worried and shaken by these attacks and have held various meetings and forums with regard to the burglaries. Established in these areas are What'sApp Watch groups, that a significant number of residents are members of.

I would like to remind residents that, despite these attacks, Northwick Park Ward is still amongst one of the safest wards in Brent, and London as a whole, to live in. The current activity is very unusual; I have worked in this area for 7 years and, up until August of this year, I could count on one hand the amount of aggravated burglaries carried out in this area.

As residents communicate with one another and, read this article, they are perhaps increasingly aware of things happening in the area—this has pros and cons. You could argue the old adage 'ignorance is bliss' might be better than constantly being worried about leaving your home or being in your home. Whatever way you would like to think of it, I think it best to focus on home security as a preventative measure, and vigilance—it can increase your chances of not being a victim of aggravated burglary.

Some home security advice:

When you are returning home late in the evening: drive slowly on the approach to your address; do you notice anyone hanging around in cars, looking suspicious, looking at houses, or concealing their faces? If so, take a mental note of the registration number and make of the car, best to remember make and the last three letters of the reg. if that is all you can remember (I try to make up a mnemonic for the letters). If you firmly believe that the occupants of this vehicle or persons on your street are up to no good ring the police (101 – non emergency, or 999 in emergency) and make specific mention of the recent spate of aggravated burglaries.

However, perhaps if you are a member of the resident's WhatsApp group, before you ring police, alert them to rule out any innocent party who is perhaps visiting a nearby address. Since, this spate has happened, believe me there has been a lot of calls to police reporting suspicious activity and, when looked into the people involved have been ruled out as non-suspicious. Even plain clothes officers on anti-burglary patrols in unmarked cars have been getting stared at with suspicious and worried looks; on occasion we have stopped to introduce ourselves rather than risk a 999 call about us!

Your household perimeter is your first line of defence and so cutting down overgrown hedges, particularly at the front of your house; having security lights, alarms, are all good measures. I would urge residents to make sure alarms are in full working order and set it appropriately so that there are no false alarms. Set your alarm at night. Double-lock your front door even when inside, particularly at night—you would be surprised at the amount of houses that I visit where the porch door is unlocked—lock and double lock both. Windows, above ground floor, not on a flat roof or adjacent to a climbable drainpipe should be ok to leave open at night time. If you are worried, install security locks that only allow windows to be partially open.

[THE MET POLICE WEBSITE HAS A WHOLE HOST OF INFORMATION ON HOME SECURITY – AT THE BOTTOM OF THE MAIN WEB PAGE HEADS 'INFORMATION AND SERVICES' – Crime Prevention is a sub-category.](#)

Finally, before leaving this topic: worry and stressing over something that might happen is not good for you, remember despite everything that you have recently heard, our area

is a relatively safe area to live. Adopt strong home security measures and remain vigilant.

Cold callers:

I cannot express more strongly that residents need to give cold callers the heave-ho. They love coming to this area to “fix” a roof or “clean” a drive or gutter or “lay a drive”, **do not contract them to do any work!** If you have elderly parents/neighbours—stress to them the dangers of contracting cold callers. If you are not elderly yourself and think you might get a bargain, the same cold callers will have your elderly neighbour over and charge them over the odds for minimal or no work. I see it again and again!

I am astounded with otherwise sensible people giving “work” to cold callers, because by doing so you are encouraging them to come into the area!

Recently, whilst cold callers were in the area, a workman had his van stolen from the driveway in Sudbury Court Drive in broad daylight. !!

Remember ‘cold caller’ is the term given to someone you don’t know who knocks at your house asking you for work / or to provide a service for a fee – driveway washing, guttering cleaning, laying driveways, roofing work, gardening/cutting down trees, etc. **Why on earth would you give someone you don’t know—never met before, don’t know their real name, where they live or anything else about them—access to your property?** It beggars belief! If they are on your driveway or doing your gutters, do you not think that they will get to find out who lives at your address, and the general layout of your property? Don’t be surprised if you get conned or burgled if you give someone who cold calls on you “work”. **Bottom line do not, do not engage with cold callers.**

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I have been asked how to address cold callers. I would simply politely decline their services saying that the "Police don't want us to employ cold callers" (true). If you can get a business or contact card, a make and vehicle reg, even better. If they ask why, say "I need the card for a friend in Brent who may be interested" (that friend is me, I am always interested in cold callers, it's true I am based in Brent!). If you feel uncomfortable with this then just decline their services!

Catalytic converter thefts:

In the past month, again, there have been a number of thefts on the patch – on Carlton Avenue West and Peel Road. Cars that have been targeted are Honda Jazz and Toyota Prius. The suspects are all white males, mid 20s, wearing baseball caps and have jacked up the victim's cars in order to remove the catalytic converter. A grey Alfa Romeo, grey Audi and white Audi, all on false plates have been involved. The offences have been happening in the daylight hours– early afternoon and evening. If you own a Jazz or Prius, please be aware and if possible park off-road, though the suspects have been very brazen.

Litter and fly tipping:

Recently, whilst conducting plain clothes burglary patrols, I spotted an otherwise respectable resident fly tipping their domestic refuse into the bin of St. Cuthbert's Church. I am using this as an example because,

despite this person's previous good character, not only is it an offence (fly tipping) but it is out of order to dump your household refuse in anybody else's bin, this also goes for Brent Borough street bins, which are for personal litter only. **Residents please be reminded that we will prosecute fly tipping**, as happened in the case of this individual who did the deed in St. Cuthbert's bins.

What has your team been up to?

Patrols, in particular burglary patrols, various arrests for drugs offences, 'equipped to steal', various vehicle seizures; court appearances to do with various offences – all found Guilty.

Overview of offences—10/08/18 - 10/09/18:

2 Aggravated burglaries: (i) Kenelm Close (low odds, 15/08, 2300hrs) (ii) Littleton Crescent (in 30s, 29/08 2240hrs)

2 Robbery Person: (i) Woodfield Avenue (22/08 at 1330hrs, two males approached and grabbed large amount of cash off victim); (ii) Northwick Park Hospital Grounds (05/09 at 2030hrs, victim heading to car park was robbed of bag by persons on moped)

5 Residential Burglaries: (i) Elms Lane (in 10s, evens side 10/08 1145-1602hrs, suspects entered rear ground floor window left slighting open, cash stolen); (ii) Pebworth Road (very low odds side, 15/08 at 2015hrs, ground floor front window forced, burglars



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escaped out rear, jewellery stolen); (iii) Perrin Road (flat in 2nd floor at front, entered without damage, between 2120hrs on 19/08 to 2320hrs on 19/08, laptops and electronics stolen); (iv) Carlton Avenue West (in 110s, evens side, early hours of 19/08, front door forced, car key to 66 plate Merc stolen, subsequently recovered); (v) St. George's Close (low evens, on 23/08 between 1100hrs – 1600hrs, bottom door panel forced, items stolen)

3 Commercial burglary: (i) Watford Road (in 200s odd side, 15/08 at 0242hrs, two males on motorcycle break into shop via front door, cash stolen); (ii) East Lane (26/08 1640hrs, cash taken from till when shop open, male reached into cash register – classed as burglary) (iii) Watford Road Playgolf (26/08 2100hrs – 27/08 0645, premises entered and cash stolen)

2 Theft of Motor Vehicle: (i) Northwick Avenue (evens side in 30s, 61 plate Vauxhall Insignia between 2300hrs on 12/08 and 2100hrs on 13/08); (ii) Sudbury Court Drive (in 100s, odds side, from driveway on 22/08 0939 – 1120hrs, keys left in van);

5 Theft from Motor vehicle: (i) Peel Road (in 40s, 21/08 1245hrs, catalytic converter stolen from Honda Accord); (ii) Carlton Avenue West (in 130s, odds side, 21/08 0700hrs – 22/08 1300hrs, registration plate stolen from Toyota Corolla); (iii) Carlton Avenue West (in 60s, evens side, 23/08 1312hrs, catalytic converter stolen from Toyota Prius), (iv) Peel Road (22/08 1700hrs – 24/08 1815hrs,

catalytic converter stolen from Toyota Prius); (v) Peel Road (in 40s, 02/09 2100hrs – 05/09 1000hrs, rear doors of van forced and tools stolen)

1 Attempted theft from motor vehicle: (i) Carlton Avenue West (23/08 1300hrs, attempted theft of catalytic converter from Toyota Prius)

Your team would welcome any information on anti social behaviour or criminal offences that are occurring in the area - please feel free to contact us on 0208 721 29 69 or email: NorthwickPark.snt@met.police.uk

Please consult the websites listed for crime prevention tips or, if you do not have access to the internet perhaps speak to us and we might be able to arrange that you obtain a crime prevention pamphlet.

Useful numbers:

Dial 999 in the case of an emergency, where a crime is in progress or where life is in danger.

For non-emergencies, ring 101

To give information anonymously call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

Useful websites:

The websites below have a whole host of useful information from crime prevention to crime statistics to Identity theft!

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Councillor's Comments

Cllr Keith Perrin - Northwick Park Ward

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Sudbury Court Drive Traffic Calming—As

I write, the scheme is out to consultation and we should have the results in time for the next Courier. The scheme is aimed at preventing dangerous manoeuvres and accidents at the junction with Sudbury Court Road; providing two pedestrian crossing points around the junction, and lowering the speed on the dual carriageway. Our next task is to make Sudbury Court Road safer.

The traffic lights at the junction with Harrow Road: we have asked that TFL be contacted with urgency, to have the timing adjusted and repairs to the pedestrian warning lights.

Noisy Works—We continue to receive complaints about noisy works outside the permitted hours. Noise Abatement notices have been issued against properties for allowing this (as per the article in the last issue, noisy works are only allowed Mon - Fri 8am - 6pm and Saturday 8am - 1pm & not at all on Sundays or Bank Holidays.)

I will no longer deal with noise nuisances personally due to the abuse I have received recently. In future, all reports I receive will be sent direct to the ENS team via email for

formal investigation.

Finally, out of hours working is allowed as long as is not audible beyond the boundary of the property.

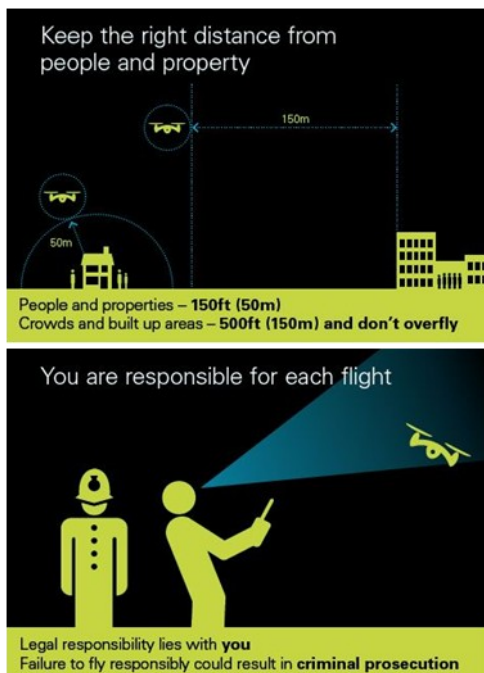
Drones - There have been numerous complaints about drones flying over properties throughout the ward and people have asked what the rules are.

In short, it's illegal for a host of reasons. To be able to do so, they need to have the permission of the land owner; **they are not allowed to fly in any built-up area at all** – unless they have a CAA license – something that's called a PfCO – training for this licence is apparently very time consuming and costly to obtain. It's also a legal requirement to have specialist insurance, just as it is to drive a car. Then, to fly in a road it must be blocked off, and have spotters to control the area. Basically, a hobbyist flyer can fly in the countryside **with the land owner's specific permission**, but **never near property or roads. Even flying in their own back garden is illegal** – doubly so if the drone has a camera on it – and then the new laws on GDPR also kick in.

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I draw your attention to this for reference:
<https://dronesafe.uk/drone-code>

Brent Council is currently drawing up a policy for drone use within the Borough, and I suspect that non-compliance will result in prosecution. May I implore **all drone flyers to desist from flying in either the parkland or in residential areas.**

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Whatsapp Groups—You may be aware of these recently formed groups, initiated by residents, in response to the types of recent burglaries and the perceived increase in burglaries and robberies generally (see page 4-7, SNT article).

To date 4 groups have come to my notice, they are: SCRA Residents Watch (Sudbury Court Estate), Spencer Road Residents (discussion group for the streets surrounding Byron Court School), Pebwatch (Pebworth Estate and peripheral areas such as odd numbers of SCD and Watford Road), and Kenelm Close. Pebwatch and Kenelm were set up in response to particularly nasty crimes - many thanks to Krupa and Akee for the idea and managing Pebwatch, and to the volunteers who have been door-knocking.

For those residents not within one of the already defined NHW areas, we councillors and the Safer Neighbourhood Team suggest setting up your own groups (Pebwatch and SCRA have their basic watch groups for current safety/ASB events, and also Discussion Groups where other matters can be discussed without swamping the actual Watch Group warnings). If any areas would like to discuss setting up a new group please contact me, and I will assist as much as possible, but in the end, it is down to residents to participate to make the groups work effectively.

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Finally, many of you may have heard about the Pebwatch and Kenelm groups moving towards employing Private Security Companies (PSC) to patrol their areas. I can only speak in detail about the Pebwatch Group (of which I am a member). Residents within Pebwatch have not moved lightly towards PSC: there have been 4 public meetings over the last 3 months. The initial meeting was arranged because of the conversations on the Pebwatch Whatsapp and some 40 plus residents attended; the consensus of that meeting was that PSC should be researched. Some weeks later 2 open meetings were arranged to explain what had been found out, everyone within the Pebwatch area was invited by circulating an invitation to all properties in the area. These 2 meetings were attended by around 70 residents – the outcome being that there was a general support for the introduction of PSC, however, more information was still required.

On the night of the 3rd meeting there was a really nasty burglary and, as a consequence, an emergency meeting was held the day after (our police sergeant attended to answer

questions raised). It was decided by those present (some 60+) to door-knock all properties in the area and gauge the take up to move toward a trial period of PSC. So far most of the streets involved have more than a 60% take up of the scheme. There is still much to do.

My view: I was totally against the idea of PSC, as this is the job for the Police, however, we all know about cuts to our SNT etc. Over the last 3 months I have slowly come to the conclusion that this is the only way to reduce potential future crimes, it will also reduce Anti Social Behaviour (ASB), littering, drug dealing and taking of motor vehicles etc. I believe that the presence of PSC will make for a safer and more pleasant area to live in; at a cost of course. Finally may I say that the local police are supportive of the PSC solution and will not 'neglect' the area because of the PSC (this was made clear by the police at the 4th meeting).

There is so much more to explain to residents, but the Pebwatch Committee are trying their best to engage and keep residents informed of progress.

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Pavement Parking

See **page 17** for my final word for this month, regarding pavement parking—a subject that many residents have talked to me about—many of you complain about it, and yet some residents are also guilty of contributing to the issue.

One Public Estate (OPE), Northwick Park—



Residents will recall that for some time now, I have been keeping residents up to date (as Brent's disclosure of documents allows) on the OPE plans for the Hospital/Tube end of Northwick Park (3400 new dwellings by 2035, and a commercial area). The pink area above is the proposed Regeneration Area which includes some MOL and some protected Grade One Nature Conservation Areas.

Issues of particular interest to us locally are shrouded in some mystery. We keep on with Freedom of Information (FOI) requests to the Council; we have requested information on the discussions between the Council and the GLA on the proposed Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) swap, and the positioning of the proposed new access road - after waiting patiently and arguing with the Council on detailed FOI grounds for transparency since last December - which is now being considered by the Information Commissioner as the Council refuse to give any new detail, at the same time as telling us to wait for the FOI response!!!

A new report on OPE featured at the August Brent Council Cabinet. This gave some

'news' - and the chance for a bit of detailed questioning in person. This was regarding: Changing references to Northwick Park as a "**Regeneration**" area for planning purposes; Where the Council is looking at putting the new access road; the effect of all of this on our Park - protected MOL /Open Space and including Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC).

At Cabinet, we got not only support in person from other residents' associations and park forums, including Harrow (13 of us in attendance) - but also coverage in the Brent & Kilburn Times. There is a continued reluctance on the part of the Council to come clean about the access road. Another question has been posed to Full Council on 17 September.

We know that the Council propose a "MOL swap" of the pavilion space for the triangle of MOL by Northwick Park station because of its very high development land value. This proposed swap ignores the fact that pavilion space is already MOL - not to mention that it defies sense to move the changing facilities for the playing fields half a mile from some of the pitches and a third of a mile from the car park!!! Part of the FOI was to seek GLA correspondence on MOL, and the swap.

"**Regeneration**" mentioned earlier means allowing higher density housing, i.e. high rise blocks - and we are now told that this change in Local Plan designation will be consulted on, probably later in the year. Although we were firmly told at Cabinet that we had to wait for the outcome of the FOI request - which could take months - coincidentally, a Council FOI officer has been in touch to promise the results of identifying 2414 relevant pages of information will be with us shortly. As the copy documents will be re-dacted, watch this space for what we learn!

Residents' Surgery

Remember our surgeries are held on the 1st Saturday of the month, excluding January, August and any election months, at St Cuthbert's Church Community Room, 214 Carlton Ave W, Harrow, Wembley HA0 3QY

The Memory Cafe

Support for those experiencing memory problems



I wonder when it is that we stop singing? My school days had a lot of song in them – singing at assembly and the like. Plus I was mad about music, so I was always singing at home. On a Sunday morning my dad used to blast our music from the stereo and I was woken by the sound of him singing downstairs.

Over the years, the singing died down. I began to realise I was listening to less music and I had no place to sing with others. I didn't realise it at the time, but I missed singing. I am glad to report that my singing days have begun again as a result of Memory Café.

We set up a singing group at our weekly Memory Café some time ago - and it is thriving. It isn't high-pressure and you don't need

a 'good' voice. All you need is to sing in the way that feels right to you. The singing is led by Francis and Anna, and it is simply beautiful. It always cheers me up and we get so many joining in.

Something amazing has happened, too. Our little group has been asked to sing at Southwark Cathedral on the evening of the 8th November at 7.30pm. It is a big event to celebrate singing and we are going to be the final choir of the evening. We will all be going by coach, and I think it will be one of those great and moving days that any life is happy to contain.

Why not come and sing with us on a Thursday? We'd love to welcome you.

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As many of you know, I have become very interested in the old Saints, and in the very lyrical and ancient Celtic influences on faith. When the Romans left Britain in a hurry, those people who were left carried on despite tremendous difficulties. The faith that resulted was a very gentle one, that took pleasure in the Creation and nature, and valued families and feasting and joy.

I think that families, feasting and joy are very good things. Indeed, any world view that is joyless is unlikely to lead to us flourishing as people. The world is hard enough and puts a great deal of pressure on each of us. The modern world seems to specialise in loneliness and alienation and we have to work hard to build communities of love and care and respect. So when I read some of the beautiful ancient poems that we have

from the Celts, they make my heart sing.



The other thing that I love is a little bit of peace and silence. Living near the main road makes this a bit difficult. This especially so as we get a regular dose of ambulances and police cars. However, I try to make some quiet time for myself each day, and I thoroughly recommend it. Sometimes I put on some lovely old monk music and just sit and enjoy it, or I spend time looking into my garden, or watching my cats playing.

Wherever you are at, I wish you a peaceful season, and a time of joy and feasting. I am going to be thankful for what I have and try to live as simply as possible. This is a season where the fire of summer begins to burn out and Autumn takes hold. I intend to let the season be part of my life as well.

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The Flu Vaccine

Autumn approaches and we need to think about keeping ourselves healthy and protecting ourselves from infections. Flu is a respiratory illness, caused by the infectious influenza virus, which generally lasts about a week. The symptoms include headache, high fever, chills, sore throat, aching joints and a dry cough. Although, it is not generally serious for most, it can lead to serious illness or complications, especially in vulnerable adults and children. Most healthy people only get flu two or three times in their lifetimes, but it can be draining and debilitating and can leave you weary and depressed for the rest of the season.

Whilst older frail people suffer most from flu, it is children who are the most efficient at spreading it, which is why Public Health England recommend now that some children are immunised as well. Unfortunately, we now realise that the flu vaccine in recent years has not been very effective in older people, and this year there is a different vaccine being offered to the over 65s in the hope and expectation that it will be more effective.

The Department of Health recommends flu vaccines (and sometimes pneumonia vaccines) to be given to those over 65 years, the "at risk" groups and to children age 2 to 9 years. Cost is

the only reason it is not offered to everyone.

We would recommend that everyone considers having the flu vaccination this autumn to provide protection against the main strains of flu we anticipate will circulate this winter. There could be some mild side effects, which are outweighed by the benefits:

- * It may decrease the risk of respiratory illness;
- * it may reduce visits to the doctor and hospital admission;
- * it does not cause you to contract flu

The vaccines available this year are: (i) 3 strain (Adjuvanted vaccine): This vaccine is being introduced this year in the UK and is recommended for those aged over 65 years, as it is more effective in this age group than the 4 strain Vaccine. It has been used for 20 years in other countries and more than 93 million doses have been given worldwide. (ii) 4 strain (Nasal Vaccine) for children age 2-18 years old (iii) 4 strain (Quadrivalent Vaccine): Injection for children age 6 months to 2 years and adults age 18 to 64 years.

Flu vaccines will be available from early October

DR JANE WOYKA
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The Ward Panel is made up of a group of people who are supposed to be representative of the area in which they are based (residents ranging from young and old, business owners, religious establishments, community groups).

The Ward Panel group liaise with the police, council and local agencies about crime. In Northwick Park, we have had a very active Ward Panel that has recently been dwindling in numbers, so we would urge you to get involved and in touch with us about becoming a member.

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What is Swift?

Swift is a new pioneering technology, developed in the UK, which has been licenced for the general treatment of skin lesions in Foot Health and Dermatology. The machine uses microwave energy which is delivered through a special probe applied to the skin to treat the affected tissue. Microwaves have been in safe clinical use for more than 30 years and are also used in the effective treatment of cancer.

How many treatments will I need?

This depends on the type of lesion, severity of infection and on how you respond to treatment. Studies show an average of three or four weekly treatments.

Who can receive this treatment?

With a few exceptions, most people with skin lesions would be able to have this treatment. We will assess and advise you prior to treatment.

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Thanks for reading,
Firoz

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



Insp Colman, based at Brent, has taken over the lead for NHW in Brent and is keen to meet and expand NHW in the borough. So, shall we, on the Sudbury Court and Pebworth Estates, give it our best and set up some Watches hereabouts?

You make it as busy (or not) as you wish, however many properties you think manageable and try and get a few more like-minded residents to give you their help and support. My committee and I will give you all the help you need.

Nothing like a good community working together to prevent crime and look out for each other in these times of police cut-backs. Whilst modern technology is great, there is still nothing quite like the personal touch.

So go for it and get the whole of the Sudbury Court and Pebworth Estates in NHW. Good luck!

Jill Gilbert
NHW Co-ordinator
jill.gilbert21@virgin.net

PAVEMENT PARKING

... And finally, from Cllr Keith Perrin

Residents, visitors and tradesmen continue to park on our pavements, drop kerbs and grass verges. This practice is illegal within Brent, unless an exception has been granted by the Council. Besides being illegal, it creates dangers for pedestrians; on several occasions the services below (i.e. gas and water supplies) have been damaged so badly that major repairs have been necessary. We all know our pavements and verges are in a terrible state with trip hazards galore, most of these have been caused by deliveries and long-term pavement parking.

It should be noted that roadway parking restrictions also apply to the pavements, verges and drop kerbs. Do these drivers not realise that they can park on yellow lines for a few minutes and not receive a fine, whereas, if you park on the pavement you risk an immediate fine if caught?

Please, try to make sure your tradesmen do not park on the pavements, verges and drop kerbs - if they cause damage, I ask that you have it repaired as soon as possible, and if the damage is dangerous to users that you have it made safe immediately as you will be held personally liable for any claims induced by the damaged highways. If you are unsure of your position, please contact one of us or Highways Department at Brent Council.



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SUDBURY COURT BIRD WATCH

By Rod Lake, 24 Amery Road, Harrow HA1 3UQ

Email: lake510@btinternet.com



It's October and the birds are coming back! Look carefully, and you will see that those birds which are around in your garden are sporting their new attire. No longer old feathers, torn and ragged, but bright and clean plumage ready for the winter months. More than that, they are ready to start looking for a mate with which to breed next spring, and they want to look smart for that!

They have come through their annual moult and now a new cycle of creating life once again has begun.

I am keeping an eye out for the newly moulted **blackbirds**, hoping to see if my lady blackbird returns safely. Apparently, blackbirds have quite a rough time during their moult, some finding it quite difficult to fly at all.

The **great tits** are through okay and have been at the fat balls with great enthusiasm. The whole range of our resident birds will be around again in these coming weeks. The quality of the light should be good as well - what better time to enjoy some really good birdwatching!

Many species fly huge distances from northern lands to overwinter here and they will begin to arrive this month at many reserves: swans, geese, etc. And don't forget to look out for **fieldfare** and **redwing** on the estate.

It's a busy time for the birdwatchers!

Hobby

Should you go up to Harrow Weald for a Sunday walk, you will find yourself in good birdwatching country. Although, to be honest, you will not usually see birds hanging

about, waiting to be seen!

Buzzards and red kite are there. If you are lucky, **goldcrest** and **firecrest** may be seen.

The local vet, who is often covered in mud from tending the local horses(!), tells of seeing a hobby's nest which she observed from the ground underneath. But she also saw that the birds were using decoy nests in order to fool any predators in the vicinity.

I have seen a **hobby** only once, when I was at Minsmere - I was looking for something else at the time! I thought it was a swift first of all, but I realised that I was seeing something rather larger. And faster!

Their main diet consists of small birds; swallows, martins, swifts, together with large insects and dragonflies. All quite fast moving prey, requiring considerable speed, together with some adroit manoeuvrability, to catch.

Hobby are sometimes seen flying around the Horsenden Hill area - never when I am there though!

They will have returned to Africa during September, together with their swallow/martin/swift prey - another example of nature keeping the balance of species in hand.

Haiku

Not a bird species, but a three line Japanese blank-verse poem, an example of which we printed earlier in the year. Grace has another one for us, intended for November, which I hope to include next month. What about one from you for December? Three lines; 5/7/5 syllables, reflecting on the moods/activities of nature.

Rod Lake



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Byron Court Consultation—result

Following on from last month's article, we have an update with regards to the agreed Highways changes in the area around Byron Court School. I am very pleased to note that residents were listened to, and most of the unnecessary (and punitive to residents, in my view) proposals have been removed from the scheme, although some of the omissions may cause traffic gridlock once the new school opens. The agreed interventions will be introduced during the October half term holidays:

- * The proposed introduction of a formal one-way system in Spencer Road has been replaced with "No right turn" and "No left turn" for vehicular traffic going through Abbots into Spencer: operational during school 'pick up' and 'drop off' Mon-Fri 8-9.15am & 3-4pm term time only.

- * The proposed kerb build-out and raised entry at the junction of Spencer and Norval, including the concrete cube bollards, have been removed.

- * The proposed introduction of waiting and loading restrictions (Mon-Fri 8-9:30am & 2.30-5pm) on Norval, between the junctions of The Fairway and Spencer, has been removed.

- * The proposed 'At any time' waiting and loading restriction (Mon-Fri 8-9:30am & 2.30-5pm) at the junction of Spencer and Abbots have been amended: operational only until 4.30pm. The restrictions on the south side of the junction have been reduced to cover the junctions only and the restrictions in the turning circle has been removed.

- * The proposed extension of operation hours on School Keep Clear markings at Spencer school entrance has been removed.

- * The proposed removal of existing waiting

and loading restriction outside the school entrance on Spencer Road and the introduction of a School Keep Clear Markings Mon-Fri 8-9:30am & 2.30-5pm has been amended to reduced operational hours until 4.30pm, covering only the busiest hours.

- * The proposed two new speed tables in Nathans Road have been amended to facilitate access to properties and improve drainage.

- * The proposed 'School Keep Clear' marking outside the new school entrance in Nathans, operational Mon-Friday 8-9.30am and 2.30-5pm have been amended so they are operational only until 4.30pm. The proposed 'School Keep Clear' marking on the opposite side of the new school entrance in Nathans Road has been removed, as the current temporary restrictions are considered sufficient and will be reviewed for the making of a permanent traffic management order.

- * The proposed new footpath and a pedestrian shelter in Northwick Park will be constructed as proposed. (Please note that the footpath has been completed, although, as far as we can gather, without planning permission for MOL land).

- * The proposed introduction of waiting and loading restrictions (Mon-Fri 8-9:30am & 2.30-5pm) on The Fairway, outside the entrance gates to Northwick Park, have been amended to reduce operational hours—Mon-Fri 8-9:30am & 2.30-4.30pm to cover the busiest periods.

- * The proposed waiting and loading restrictions at the junction of Norval and Nathans have been amended to operate Mon-Fri 8-9:30am & 2.30-4.30pm to cover the busiest periods.

All will be reviewed after 6 months—so, residents, keep notes and take pictures!

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Readers Comments

"Dear Editor,

Please be aware that in addition to the scams we receive by email and by phone, that there are fraudulent mail drops too.

You may have received a maildrop in late August offering screening tests at the Clementine Churchill Hospital and at Harley Street. These are fraudulent and do not come from the Clementine or Harley Street, you may realise that when you read of the extensive tests being offered and the postal address which is a PO Box, so please beware.

Best wishes, Jane Woyka "

Thank you both for getting in touch—I'm always happy to hear from residents—especially if they have messages for other residents—whether it's words of warning, or positive words. Look forward to hearing from more of you!

Kaye

"Dear Editor:

Re: Our outing to Hastings.

I thought I had to reply as to read the article on SENIORS OUTING, last month you would think that no one enjoyed themselves.

Both my friend and I had a lovely day, along I think with all the other members.

It was a sunny day and the pier was lovely to walk up along with the promenade and the small steam railway and tea room at the end. So much effort was put in to the arrangements and we had a very good driver, who only stopped on request from fellow passengers who needed the toilets!

The only thing that could have been better was another hour in the sun.

So looking forward to next year's outing.

Thank you all,
Gillian Haston"



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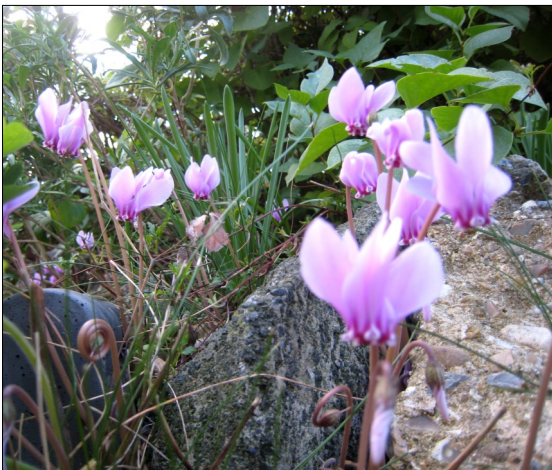
Sudbury Court
Horticultural Society

Your local gardening club

Writing soon after the August Bank holiday, it seems that the year has tipped suddenly into Autumn: the sun is still warm, if lower in the sky, but everything is growing more slowly in response to the shorter hours of daylight; fruit has been harvested; time spent making jams and pickles or storing any surplus in the freezer. However, this year has proved to be a poor season for plums and apples. The birds and wasps select the best fruit to peck and enjoy, then the rot sets in and showers of damaged windfalls are fit only for the compost heap. When I picked one lovely apple from the tree, a wasp flew out of a small hole, then another and another and another. Eventually nine wasps emerged from that single hole, having chosen perhaps the best apple on the tree to make their home.

There is still plenty of colour in our gardens, the dahlias will go on flowering until the first frosts. Chrysanthemums are at their best. Miniature cyclamen too, are the flower of the moment! Every Autumn they suddenly appear, more each year as the seeds set in crevices, these tiny flowers attract the bees and come with reflexed petals. As each flower fades, its stalk carrying the seed pod coils into a spring which, when the seeds are ripe, shoots them far and wide. Only then do the beautifully patterned heart-shaped leaves appear. Potted cyclamen make

welcome gifts and, if planted in the garden, that gift is renewed each year – a happy thought – but true, I guess, of any plant that comes as a gift.



Our Autumn Show on 15th September comes too late for a report in this issue. However, our **Walk in Northwick Park**, scheduled for **Wednesday 24th October** in the middle of the Autumn half term holiday, will definitely take place. We plan to meet in good time for an 11am start at the Fairway entrance to Northwick Park. We shall

have some expert guidance on the various trees in the park which should then be full of Autumn colour. Although this walk is an activity planned for children, accompanied of course, by parent(s) or responsible adult(s), anyone wishing to explore the trees and hedgerows in the park is very welcome. Everyone who wishes to come please e-mail or telephone me to book your places, details below.

The Society's AGM and presentation of prizes to round off the SCHS season will take place on **Saturday 28th October**. We meet at 3pm in St Cuthbert's Church Hall where everyone is welcome to come and share tea and cake as well as ideas and plans for the 2019 gardening season. Please come and join in.

Margaret Roake
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ONCE MORE UNTO THE BREACH.....

(see page) As there are only 35 tickets for each performance, please book early.

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You'll be able to bring your own device and do some tranquil and leisurely work.

CHESS activate your brain

The popularity of our Saturday chess sessions is growing. Players and Learners of all ages welcome between 12 to 2p.m.

Don't miss our SHOP at the Station

At time of writing, our Shop at Sudbury Town underground station is under threat of closure as Transport of London want other uses for the space. . . . We offered to share!

Just in case, we are holding a sale of Books, CDs, DVDs, Vinyl Records, Toys and even some of our furniture.

Please come and support us during our Shop Opening – Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 3 to 7p.m. and Saturday 1 to 5p.m.

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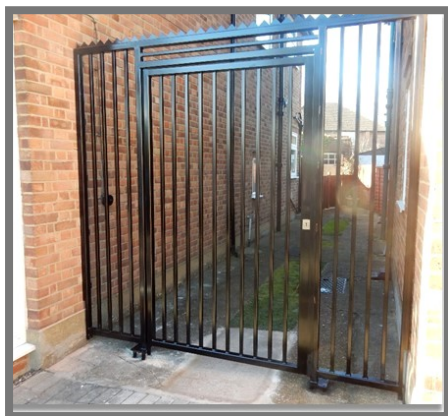
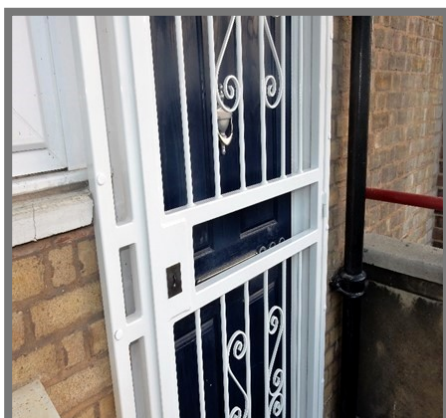
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Kids' Page



(Have you got a favourite joke or riddle? If you email it to me we'll print it on this page—see if you can make our neighbours laugh!)
preeyaatthecourier@hotmail.com

What falls in winter but never gets hurt?
Snow!

Which local building has the most stories?
The public library!

What did one volcano say to the other?
I lava you!

How do we know that the ocean is friendly?
It waves!

How does the moon cut his hair?
'E-clipse it.

How does a scientist freshen her breath?
With experi-mints!

How can you tell a vampire has a cold?
She starts coffin.

What was the first animale in space?
The cow that jumped over the moon



Riddles

You draw a line. Without touching it, how do you make it longer?

You draw a shorter line next to it, and then it becomes the longer line

They come out at night without being called, and are lost in the day without being stolen. What are they?

Stars

What comes next in this sequence?
JFMAMJJASON . . .

The letter 'D' - the sequence contains the first letter of each month.

Did you spot the deliberate mistake?

Answer - 'animale' should be animal






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WHAT'S ON

IN AND AROUND THE ESTATE?

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

A free community service -
just let the Editor know.



HARROW PHILHARMONIC CHOIR—have started rehearsing (at Harrow High School, Gayton Rd) for the autumn concert, Saturday 17th November. We'll remind you next month, but book early to avoid disappointment. This concert will highlight the peace, following the end of WW1, to include works by English, French, German and Russian composers.

SUDBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE— Our fund raising events will be as follows.
Wednesday **3rd October** at 1.30pm, a Tea Party at £7 per person, matched by Tesco Ltd with our thanks. Phone 0208 9081220 to book.
Saturday **13th October** 10.30 a.m. a bargain SALE. We have some excellent bargains in clothing, linen, shoes and Bric-a-brac, come and buy!
Our Christmas Fair will be on 24th November.

HARROW CHORAL SOCIETY— new season begins 3rd Sept. Take a look at the website for more information. www.harrowchoral.org.uk

CUTH'S TODDLER'S GROUP—Fun. Play. Stories. Support. **Every Friday** 10-11.30 (except school holidays) £1.50 per family. St Cuthbert's, 214 Carlton Ave West, HA0 3QY 020 8904 1457 www.stcuth.org

SPIRE CAFE - 3rd Saturday of every month 10am-3pm - Pop-Up Cafe. Climb Harrow's landmark hill for home cooked brunches, snacks and treats. In aid of St Mary's roof appeal. Check out the menu at www.tinyurl/spirecafe. Nick 07771 595 883

BADMINTON – every **Thursday** 8–10pm in a local school, Sudbury Court Badminton Club welcomes League level/good club players. Contact Arvin 07748 642706, Alkesh 07956 453734 or Trevor 07771 998729

HIP HOP—with Elan Arts. Saturdays at the Yellow Pavilion, Wembley Retail Park, Engineers Way, HA9 0EG. 5.30pm for under 13s; 6.45pm for over 13s; 8pm for over 17s. One hour dance sessions—FREE of charge

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