Singer’s praises:
Recycling clothing rocks p32

Park’s renaissance:
Gunnersbury’s future p38

Crossrail coming:
New stations on-track p40

WIN
Theatre tickets p60

Class action
High schools expansion p10
Education special
A&E services have now changed at Central Middlesex Hospital and Hammersmith Hospital

On 10 September, the A&E departments at both hospitals closed.

Urgent Care Centres at both hospitals are open 24/7 to treat minor illnesses and injuries that are urgent, but not life-threatening. Adults and children can go there for:

- Sprains & strains
- Minor burns
- Cuts
- Minor infections
- X-rays

In an emergency, call 999.

For more information and advice, visit www.nwlondonemergencycare.nhs.uk
This is a packed, varied edition. There is lots to read. But the first section of the magazine is themed around the new academic year.

In July, the school summer holidays always used to appear as an infinite expanse stretching before us, with an endless procession of long, hazy days providing mind-boggling opportunities for fun.

Then, all of a sudden, your mum would be taking you to the shops to ‘get ready for school’. School? What is this strange thing you speak of, Mum? Yet, before you knew it, it was September and you were sitting on the bus or Tube in a uniform again, heading towards the familiar, unknown territories of a new term.

Good luck to all for the year ahead. Around Ealing’s winter edition will be out for the start of December.

Richard Nadal
EDITOR
1 Up to 6,000 runners and charity fundraisers are gearing up for the third Ealing Half Marathon on Sunday, 28 September. The race will start and finish in Lammas Park, close to South Ealing Tube station. The 13.1-mile race will start at 9am and take in parts of central Ealing, Montpelier, Pitshanger, West Ealing, Hanwell and St Stephen’s before returning to the park, where there will be a ‘race village’. Visit www.ealinghalfmarathon.com and, for news on road closures, visit www.ealing.gov.uk

2 A new sports pavilion, café, tennis courts, games area and repaired football pitches have opened at Scotch Common Fields in Ealing’s Pitshanger Park. The new pavilion has changing rooms and a meeting room. It also provides a base for Pitshanger Football Club and replaces an old clubhouse that was demolished after falling into disrepair. It was funded by Sport England, the LTA (Lawn Tennis Association) and Will to Win, as well as the club and council.

3 Our parks have won the highest number of Green Flags in the borough’s history, with 13 of the prestigious awards being given this year, almost doubling the previous number. Green Flags designate cleanliness, maintenance and how actively involved the community is.

4 Ever wanted to change bus timetables and wished you could pass these and other observations to the operators? Ealing Passenger and Transport Users Group wants to hear from you. It collects views from passengers and will pass them on when local bus tenders come up for renewal. Go to www.EPTUG.org.uk

Ealing Council has made a compulsory purchase order (CPO) to enable the development of a £100 million ‘cultural quarter’ in Ealing Broadway.

The notice of the CPO has been served on owners of the site including the owners of the former Empire Cinema.

Under an agreement entered into last September, the council and its development partner Land Securities have sought to acquire the site, at market price. Under the terms of the agreement, Land Securities will then reimburse the council for any costs it has incurred.

It will bring about a long-anticipated mix of cultural attractions, including an eight-screen, arthouse cinema; performance space; a café, a bar, restaurants, shops and homes. It will also enable a more open town centre, linking New Broadway, Bond Street and Walpole Park. The planned work could be completed by 2018 and create approximately 350 new jobs.

The CPO follows attempts to reach a negotiated settlement with all the owners, and it will be submitted to the Secretary of State for confirmation.

Council leader Julian Bell said: “We have a development partner, a cinema operator and the necessary planning permission to make this scheme a reality. While we would have preferred not to have needed to issue a CPO, the people of Ealing having been waiting for a cinema for six years now. After all the delays we want to ensure this comprehensive scheme happens, along with all the benefits it will bring.”
Ever November for the past few years, when I have stood at Greenford’s war memorial for the town’s Remembrance Day service, I am lost in thought. I think about the sacrifices given and the ordeals undergone by ordinary people like you and me.

When you read, or listen to, the stories of the men and women who braved and endured all manner of trials and hardships, and pain – to help their country, friends and family survive – it brings the human face of war into sharp focus. I think the two stories highlighted in this edition of Around Ealing’s local history article (pages 58–59) sum up just how much our nation of individuals pulled together, in any way they could, during the First World War. Both contributed to the war efforts, albeit in disparate ways and in different countries. Both are remembered on one memorial.

Tales like these, which lie behind the names on our memorials, are so important to remember. It is much more than a list. That is why, to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the First World War, the council is reviewing our borough’s war memorials and assessing any repairs and renovations that might be necessary. In this way, the stories they preserve can be kept alive for future generations.

Poppies, so evocative of the same war, have been planted by the council on green spaces across the borough. Each year they blossom will be a nod to this anniversary. You can read more about the planned services in November on the following page. And, please keep an eye out for other projects to mark the anniversary between now and 2018.

In this magazine (from page 53) you can read a summary of the council’s accounts for 2013/14. Over the next five years, the council expects the amount available for us to spend on our services will drop by 40%. This will mean an unprecedented saving target of £96million by April 2019 – on top of the £87million of budget reductions the council has already managed since 2010.

It reflects increasing demands on council services combined with forecasts of our main government grant being obliterated over the next five years. I want you to understand the scale of cuts being forced on the council which will mean many services will need to change – and it is possible some may even have to stop. Proposals will be drawn up, and I am determined to consult on difficult decisions. But I am even more determined that we protect the most vulnerable and distribute any cuts as fairly as possible.

‘A&E services have now changed’, proclaims the advert from the NHS on page two of this magazine. I suppose that closing two vital A&Es is a ‘change’, but one which I vehemently oppose. As you know, I have been involved in an ongoing campaign to save local hospital services, which I will continue to support. We have allowed the NHS to publish the advert because it is crucial people know these services will no longer be there from 10 September.

Poppies were planted in Perivale Park to commemorate the anniversary

—

Councillor Julian Bell
Leader of the council
A two-minute silence will, as ever, take place for Armistice Day. And official Remembrance Day services and events will take place at war memorials across the country.

They will take on particular significance this year, with it being the 100-year anniversary of the start of the First World War (1914-18).

To commemorate this milestone, Ealing Council is carrying out a review of all the war memorials in the borough and will aim to make any necessary repairs to those that need them. Where appropriate, the council will look at improving and restoring certain memorials further, between now and the century anniversary of the end of the war, in 2018.

Poppies, which became indelibly associated with the First World War when they sprung up in the bloody killing fields of Europe, and have since become emblematic of the remembrance of sacrifice, have been sown at a number of open spaces across the borough. They came into bloom for the first time earlier this year. They will continue to bloom during the course of the anniversary years.

Other commemorative projects will take place during the four years. You can follow the council’s Twitter feed @EalingCouncil to see ‘on this day’ key anniversary dates that affected our area and its people during the war.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICES

The local branch of the Royal British Legion marches each year to Greenford War Memorial from its headquarters in Oldfield Lane South for a public service at 11am. It is due to be attended this year by council leader Julian Bell and deputy mayor of Ealing Councillor Harbhajan Kaur Dheer.

A parade also traditionally begins in Manor Park and passes through Southall on the way to Southall War Memorial on The Green for a service at 11am, this year due to be attended by previous mayor of Ealing, Councillor Kamaljit Dhindsa. The parade will then continue through the town.

Meanwhile, the mayor of Ealing, Councillor Tej Ram Bagha, is due to attend a service at Ealing War Memorial on Ealing Green, in front of Pitzhanger Manor, with a two-minute silence at 11am. Deputy leader of the council Ranjit Dheer is also due to attend, along with the Deputy Lieutenant Major John Rodwell.

For more information, visit www.ealing.gov.uk

On 11 November the country will stop to commemorate the sacrifice of our armed forces, past and present.
Star opens enclosure

Two of the borough’s newest residents, an inquisitive pair of female meerkats, were onlookers as Stephen Fry opened their new enclosure, which they share with a rescued porcupine.

The TV presenter, author and actor was delighted to do the honours at Brent Lodge Animal Centre in Hanwell, describing himself as “prouder than a proud person on the international day of being proud” and praising the zoo’s keepers for their “wonderful” work.

Hatai the porcupine, who has featured in Around Ealing previously, was rescued by the council’s centre (also known as ‘the bunny park’) last year. He is settling into his new home and awaiting a female mate, who keepers plan on bringing in later this year.

The enclosure, which has inside and outside spaces for the animals, was built on a disused area of the centre.

Plugging drain

Ealing Council has reduced its water consumption by 33% in the first year of a five-year project to cut water use. And Thames Water is offering you freebies to help you save water costs too. The council’s savings added up to 74 million litres of water, the equivalent of around 30 Olympic-sized swimming pools, thanks to measures introduced in council buildings. Meanwhile, the council is also supporting Thames Water’s scheme to offer households a range of devices, including showerheads, swivel taps and shower timers.

Visit www.thameswater.co.uk/freebies

New council homes

The £4million construction of new homes in Greenford, Northolt and Southall is under way and should be finished next year.

In Greenford, three one-bedroom and three two-bedroom flats will be built on the site of former council bedsits in Allenby Road. In Northolt three-bedroom family houses will go up in Wincanton Crescent. In Southall, a trio of three-bedroom houses and five four-bedroom houses are being built on the old Disraeli Nursery, which was closed and demolished several years ago. Two of the houses will be sold to cover construction costs of the remaining six homes, which will all be kept for council tenants.

The Greater London Authority is contributing a grant of about £450,000 towards the cost of the project, which is part of the council’s New Build programme that will see more than 300 new homes built across the borough by the end of 2016.

Fine art future

Pitzhanger Manor House and Gallery, in central Ealing, has received almost £500,000 in funding – which will mean, for the first time, the gallery will be in a position to borrow some of the world’s finest art works from national galleries and museums.

The money from Arts Council England will be used to refurbish the art gallery and replace the roof, bringing it up to a world-class standard. This funding is in addition to the £4.42million awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and a £4.1million contribution from Ealing Council towards completely restoring the manor house, which is a Grade I listed building set in Walpole Park. Visit www.pitzhanger.org.uk
A healthy reward

Hundreds of residents can look forward to healthier futures thanks to the efforts of Ealing Council employee Sapna Chauhan to encourage people to have NHS health check screening. Sapna’s exceptional efforts as part of the council’s public health team have been recognised in its annual staff awards, with her being named Employee of the Year.

Over the last year the uptake of health checks in the borough has been increased by 14 percentage points, an unprecedented amount that puts Ealing among the best areas of London and the country. Visit www.ealing.gov.uk for more information.

Heritage register

A Victorian pillar box, remnants of old walls in Acton and a few well-known pubs are just some of the new additions to Ealing Council’s list of heritage assets which has been updated for the first time in 13 years. The new list contains more than 1,000 locally listed buildings, structures and monuments of architectural or historical importance, and is in addition to the borough’s 300 statutory listed heritage assets and 29 conservation areas. The buildings were assessed in accordance with English Heritage guidelines. The Local Heritage Register will now be updated annually. Visit www.ealing.gov.uk

Under scrutiny

Four new scrutiny panels have been set up by the council to give you the chance to air your views, and to hear evidence from experts.

The contracts, demands and partnerships panel will make recommendations on how contract arrangements can be made more efficient. The Ealing 360 Degrees panel will look at a wide range of council operations. An ‘Ealing’s customers’ panel will examine how the council engages with residents and businesses. And the Ealing 2024 panel will endeavour to understand what the borough will be like in 10 years’ time. Get involved – email scrutiny@ealing.gov.uk or call 020 8825 7497.

speedread

The biggest change to voter registration in a lifetime has taken place with a new, individual electoral registration (IER) system. Up until now, one person was asked to register all eligible adults in their household. Now, in a bid to reduce the risk of fraud, everyone eligible to vote will have to register themselves individually. Ealing residents who are already on the electoral roll are automatically moved to the new IER system. They will have received letters over the past couple of months asking them to check their details and make corrections if necessary. If the details are correct, no action is necessary. People who are not on the electoral roll can register online easily, but postal registration is also available. To find out more about the changes go to www.gov.uk/yourvotematters. Or, to register to vote go to www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

More than 300 cyclists of all ages joined free, guided bike rides on an 11-mile route through the borough. Led by experienced marshals, the council’s Ticket to Ride event started at both Gunnersbury Park and Brent Lodge Park in Hanwell. The route took cyclists along roads, the canal towpath and through parks. Visit www.ealing.gov.uk/cycling

Council leader Julian Bell was recently appointed to the executive of London Councils as lead on transport and environment for the coming year. London Councils represents all 32 boroughs in the capital and works with the government and other organisations to get the best deal for Londoners. He said: “Neighbouring boroughs are facing similar challenges as us and I look forward to working with them to help Ealing and the capital as a whole.”
**SCHOOLS NOTICE BOARD**

Visit www.ealing.gov.uk/education for lots more helpful information and advice

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**INSPIRED FILM**

A film by Brentside High School pupils has been on display at the National Portrait Gallery.

An Ealing Trilogy was made by Year 10 GCSE pupils with the help of filmmaker Eelyn Lee at locations around the borough, including Pitzhanger Manor House. It features the young people, their artwork and a guest appearance from Trevor Baylis, who invented the wind-up radio and studied mechanical and structural engineering at Soil Mechanics Lab in Southall.

It was inspired by celebrities and inspirational figures who lived, worked or studied in the borough – and portraits of many of them have been hung alongside the film installation. This includes Freddie Mercury, who studied at Ealing Art School before forming Queen; filmmaker Steve McQueen, who attended Drayton Manor High School; actor Sid James, who lived in the borough; singer Dusty Springfield, who went to St Anne’s Convent School; and Margot Fonteyn the ballerina, who took dance classes locally.

Other portraits include footballer Peter Crouch, who went to school at North Ealing Primary and Drayton Manor High; film director Gurinder Chadha, who grew up in Southall; legendary Who guitarist Pete Townshend, who regularly played at The Ealing Club; and former Prime Minister, Spencer Perceval, who lived in Ealing Common.

It will be on view until 14 September. Visit www.npg.org.uk/whatson/creativeconnections

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**OUTSTANDING GOVERNORS**

Governors from schools across the borough were celebrated and thanked at the fifth Ealing Governance Awards:

- **Outstanding Full Governing Body** went to that of Stanhope Primary in Greenford thanks to its transformation from being judged as ‘inadequate’ by Ofsted in 2012 to ‘good’ in 2013
- **Outstanding Chair of a Governing Body** was given to Shirley Kenworthy of North Ealing Primary. Shirley has been chairwoman for 18 years and a governor for 22 years
- **Outstanding Individual Governor** went to Glendra Read from Petts Hill Primary, Northolt
- **Outstanding Clerk to a Governing Body** award went to Orla Brady at Oaklands Primary, Hanwell.

Mayor of Ealing, Councillor Tej Ram Bagha, presented the awards. Visit www.egfl.org.uk/governance for more information on governorships.

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**TERM DATES**

Welcome to the new academic year. The term dates for 2014/15 are as follows:

**Autumn term:**
- 1 September–19 December
  - Half term: 27–31 October
  - Christmas holiday: 22 December–2 January

**Spring term:** 5 January–27 March
- Half term: 16–20 February
- Easter holiday: 30 March–10 April

**Summer term:** 13 April–23 July
- May Day: 4 May
- Half term: 25–29 May

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**RAPID RAFTING**

Students from Featherstone High School did some white water rafting on the same rapids that challenged the world’s best athletes during the London 2012 Olympics. The school represented Ealing in the fourth annual Schools Festival at Lee Valley White Water Centre, where Team GB won gold and silver just two years ago. The festival is backed by Canoe England, Tottenham Hotspur Foundation and the Watt bike challenge – each of which ran activities during the event. Visit gowhitewater.co.uk
A consultation was held in the summer to allow parents of pupils the chance to give their views on early plans to increase the places available at Brentside and Elthorne Park high schools, both in Hanwell.

Since 2008, the council has been finding ways to increase primary school places because of the rise in demand. Consequently, there are now 28 extra permanent forms of entry in the borough’s primary schools – which is the equivalent of 5,880 additional places when all the year groups are full. The latest projections indicate that even more will be needed.

Of course, these children will then need high school places in time, as they grow older. So, the council is now preparing for this upturn in demand – with the first substantial increase in applications for high schools expected in 2016. It is thought that at least 21 extra forms of entry (3,150 places when full) will be needed by 2021.

William Perkin High opened in Greenford last September, but Hanwell is now deemed an area of need.

The council is planning to meet the growing demand for high school places by expanding existing schools and by identifying possible sites for new ones, as Deborah Dickey discovered.

**WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS?**

Brentside High School’s governing body has been consulting on creating two extra classes in each year group for ages 11-16. This would provide an additional 280 places if the plans were to go ahead. Governors at Elthorne Park High School, meanwhile, have also been asked to take more pupils. They have been consulting on creating an extra 300 places. The sixth forms at both schools would also expand if the proposals were agreed.
Other options being explored include expanding The Ellen Wilkinson School for Girls, in north Ealing; and Greenford High School.

If these initial proposals are agreed, a wider, formal consultation will take place in the autumn.

In addition, a report on a search for sites to build new high schools in Ealing and Acton is due to be presented to the council’s cabinet for consideration in September.

**TACKLING DEMAND**

Councillor Binda Rai, cabinet member for children and young people, said: “I believe that every child is entitled to a good education and that means providing them with a good school.

“The situation in London is not to our liking, because all London boroughs are having to deal with a high demand for school places, with Ealing being no exception.

“Through careful planning and investment, Ealing has successfully met the growing need for primary school places and is now tackling the predicted demand for high school places.

“In some cases, this is being done through the expansion of existing high schools. Here, I must thank all the governing bodies for working positively in partnership with the council to expand our schools so that, together, we are able to help meet the need for extra places.

**BUILDING THE BEST**

“I would like to assure parents that we are determined to provide the best facilities and buildings for our children and young people.

“When we permanently expand a school, we don’t just add extra classroom space; we invest in the whole school. The primary schools that we have permanently expanded have benefited from new social spaces, dining facilities and other resources.

**SEARCHING FOR SITES**

“However, we recognise that this expansion programme in itself won’t be quite enough to meet the need for places; we are therefore also looking to create other new high schools in areas of high demand, as we did with William Perkin High in Greenford, which opened last year.

“The biggest challenge is finding suitable sites for a school, so I am looking forward to receiving the results of our borough-wide site search, later in the year. This should help to signpost us towards land that is both suitable and available, so we can create more local schools. The big increase in high school applications isn’t expected until 2016, but we are taking action now to ensure that we have sufficient places for the future.”

**MORE INFO**

- Visit [www.ealing.gov.uk/education](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/education)
Clifton Lodge
Preparatory School, Girls and Boys 3–13 years

8 Mattock Lane, Ealing, London W5 5BG
Tel: 020 8579 3662
Email: admissions@cliftonlodgeschool.co.uk
www.cliftonlodgeschool.co.uk

WE PROVIDE A STIMULATING AND CARING ENVIRONMENT
- Small classes sizes
- Subject specialist teachers from Year 4
- Excellent academic results
- Drop off from 8am & after school care to 6pm
- Holiday clubs available

OPEN DAY
Saturday 4th October 2014
10am – 12 noon
Contact our Admissions Registrar to book an Open Day place or to arrange a private tour.

Clifton Lodge

St Benedict’s, Ealing
Independent Catholic Day School
Teaching a way of living
Co-education from 3 years through to 18

OPEN MORNINGS in NURSERY: 30 September, 14 October, 20 November
JUNIORS: 18 September, 7 & 11 October  SENIORS: 15 September, 3, 11 & 16 October
SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING: 25 September

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES IN SENIOR SCHOOL
To book a place at an open event or for more information, please contact:
T: 020 8862 2254  E: enquiries@stbenedicts.org.uk  W: www.stbenedicts.org.uk
We respect the dignity of all and welcome children of other faiths.
The summer holidays are over and the Northolt High School community has come back together again to begin another productive year. The academic year 2013-14 saw the school continuing to take giant strides in raising standards in all areas.

The focus of the school will continue to be the same for 2014-15 and that includes ensuring high quality lessons and the best academic outcomes possible. The commissioned local authority reviews of learning and teaching that took place over the course of last year judged 87% of lessons to be ‘good’ or better. We believe that ongoing and objective external reviews in the context of rigorous internal quality assurance procedures, is partly responsible for this excellent headline figure.

The school motto is ‘excellence as a habit’ and originates from Aristotle. We have the highest expectations of our students and are proud of their positive attitudes to learning and consistent desire to do well.

You may recall from an earlier edition of Around Ealing that the Duchess of Cambridge came to visit the school earlier this year. It was a great honour, a wonderful event and definitely one of the highlights of the school year. It was one example of the school inviting the outside world in with the effect of inspiring and motivating the school community to excel even further. Other examples have included visits from speakers such as: Tim Prendergast, an elite paralympian athlete; Dan Freedman, author of the Jamie Johnson football books; and world class artists such as Charlotte Olympia, a shoe designer, who ran a series of workshops as a result of the outstanding partnership that the school has with the Art Room Charity.

We believe that broadening the horizons of our students and creating as many positive experiences of the outside world as possible is important in developing confidence, character and nurturing aspirations. For example, a group of students and staff went to France to experience first-hand the horrors of the First World War by visiting battlefields and cemeteries. The school regularly receives positive feedback about on these visits and the fact that they are wonderful ambassadors for the school.

There are still things that I would like to achieve as headteacher of Northolt High School, including a remodelling of the school buildings. However, we have come a long way over the last two years, we are relentlessly ambitious for our students and I am very proud of our collective achievements. I hope that you will take the time to come and speak with us and see for yourselves. Please find details of our open evening this year on this page. We look forward to seeing prospective students and families at this event.

Gloria Lowe
Headteacher

OPEN EVENING
Wednesday 24 September
5.30-8.30pm (Headteacher’s talk 6.30pm)
Northolt High School
Eastcote Lane
Northolt UB5 4HP
Tel: 020 8864 8544
Email: admin@northolthigh.org.uk
Acton High School’s recent 2013 Ofsted report praised its developing Sixth Form, noting that “both teaching and the support given by teachers” in the Sixth Form were highly rated by students, and that students in Year 12 were making very good progress. The report also praised teaching across the school, rating a large majority of lessons as good or outstanding “across a wide range of subjects”. It also commented on the effective promotion of students’ “spiritual, moral, social and cultural development” and the creation of a “carefully moulded” curriculum that “suits all students”.

Dr Sievewright said, “We are proud to be the first Ealing high school to be awarded “Good” for overall effectiveness and in all the four separate Ofsted judgement areas under the new, very rigorous, Ofsted framework. This reflects the fact that Acton High School is a vibrant community hub, promoting inclusion, diversity and tolerance, and confirms that our extensive extra-curricular programme provides all students with fantastic opportunities to fulfil their potential. However, we know that we cannot be complacent, and are determined to perform to an even higher standard going forward. We will strive to ensure that all Acton High School students receive an outstanding education.”

“I am really happy that I have chosen Acton High School. I particularly enjoy Science where we have lots of opportunity to do experiments”
Year 7 student

Open Evening
Dates: 16th September, 2014
Times: 6-8pm Headteacher’s Talks 6.30pm & 7.30pm
Contacts: enq@actonhigh.ealing.sch.uk
www.actonhighschool.co.uk
We continue to achieve record-breaking GCSE results at Featherstone. We are regularly placed in the top 1-3% of schools for the academic progress students make. Our A-level results and progression on to top universities have proved beyond question that our outstanding provision is also firmly embedded within our sixth form.

In October 2009, Ofsted concluded that our success was down to our ability to “get the big picture right”, enabling all groups to enjoy success. We offer a wide range of GCSEs, BTECs Levels 1, 2 and 3 and A-levels. Our classes are small: 24 students in each.

We operate a staggered day with three 90-minute lessons. Years 7–9 begin their day at 8.30am and finish formal lessons at 2.15pm with Year 10 and 11 students starting and finishing later. This staggered start has a number of benefits including maximising concentration spans and maintaining a calm learning environment.

We offer a far-reaching programme of enrichment activities. Year 7 students have more than 50 clubs on offer each week. Our enrichment weeks operate in the summer. We collapse our timetable and organise a vibrant programme of trips, external speakers, visiting artists and workshops to support the curriculum.

We have a strong code of behaviour and our ground rules are well understood by all and consistently applied by staff. We are committed to the view that for effective learning to take place, there must be very clear expectations and consequences.

We operate a rigorous tracking and intervention system allowing us to monitor at an individual, class and subject level against challenging targets. Our Pupil Progress team oversees this and ensures students who are underachieving receive additional support.

Our use of new technology is advanced and innovative. Served by a wireless network throughout the school we have class sets of laptops and iPads and all sixth form students are issued with a Netbook.

It will not take you long to appreciate that Featherstone High School is a warm and hardworking community striving for excellence in all we do. We want children to leave school having maximised their academic progress but also to really enjoy their time with us and to leave with fond memories.

We are proud of our success. Whatever the criteria: academic, social and personal, or sporting, this is an exceptional school.

OPEN EVENINGS AND DETAILS
Year 6 to 7:
Thursday, 2 October
6–8.30pm
Headteacher’s talk at 6.15pm and 7.15pm
Sixth form:
Thursday, 27 November
From 7pm
Featherstone High School,
11 Montague Waye,
Southall, UB2 5HF
Tel: 020 8843 0984
www.featherstonehigh.ealing.sch.uk

Featherstone Health and Social Care Teacher, John Andrews being presented with the Teacher of the Year award (London and South East) by Ian Hislop.
Choose Ealing Fields High School.

Opening in September 2015, Ealing Fields is a brand new, mainstream, state funded secondary school for the community of south Ealing. It is a non-selective, non-denominational, co-ed school for 11 to 18 year olds. For further information visit www.ealingfields.co.uk

OPEN DAYS

Tuesday, 30 September from 7pm at Fielding Primary School
Tuesday, 7 October from 7pm at the *Navasartian Centre

*Navasartian Centre, 223 Northfields Road, Near Northfields tube station

OPEN EVENING

Tuesday, 16 September, 5-8pm
Headteacher’s talk at 6.30pm and 7.15pm
Tel: 020 8566 6446
Email: jrran@dwhs.co.uk
Website: www.dwhs.co.uk
Dormers Wells High School, Dormers Wells Lane, Southall, Middlesex, UB1 3HZ
(pedestrian entrance via Allenby Road).

Dormers Wells High School is a high performing specialist maths, computing, applied learning and leading edge 11-19 comprehensive. We were judged to be “good” with outstanding capacity to improve by Ofsted in 2012.

The report stated: “All students receive outstanding academic and pastoral support and quickly settle in this most calm and harmonious school.”

This oversubscribed, popular school continues to go from strength to strength, aided by a new building, which provides a first class learning environment supporting innovative teaching.

Ofsted 2012 stated: “Teachers are enthusiastic, make lessons interesting and build up students’ confidence. Ofsted also noted that: “Behaviour is good overall but exemplary in many lessons and around the school.”

Our thriving sixth form offers a wide range of qualifications including A-levels and BTECs. This year, a considerable number of students have received offers from Russell group universities including Cambridge and the LSE. Ofsted 2012 found: “Sixth formers speak highly of the teaching they receive.”
Learning and achieving together

September 2014: The start of a new school year and, for Year 7 students at Brentside High School, it is the beginning of a very exciting journey that will ultimately impact on the rest of their lives.

An exhilarating challenge touched, no doubt, with a hint of fear from students and parents alike. Deciding where to send your child to school is not easy. Will my child be safe and happy? Will they succeed? Is this the best school for them?

At Brentside High School we take pride in knowing that the answer is a resounding ‘yes’! How can we be so sure?

Many parents look to Ofsted for help and Brentside’s last inspection judged care, guidance and support for students as ‘exceptional’. The report also praised “a culture of high expectations, mutual respect and success.”

A key indicator of this success is the progress made by students in English and mathematics, which places the school in the top 2% and 5% respectively of all schools in England. As a result, we were very proud to be asked by the Mayor of London to join the Gold Club, which champions exceptional London schools to achieve excellence and invites us to share our good practice with others.

Another unique feature of Brentside is its high quality partnerships and recent examples include students broadcasting on Radio 4 at the royal opening of the new BBC Broadcasting House, being involved in a special exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery where our students’ work is currently being exhibited and starring in a training video for Transport for London. Our staff really do go the extra mile to make such opportunities a reality for our students.

What better way to help you make your choice than to hear what other parents have to say? One Year 7 parent said: “Our son absolutely loves it. We are more than pleased with his progress and are confident that we made the right decision.”

Another said: “Our daughter is doing really well academically. The support that students receive is, quite simply, excellent.”

The Brentside atmosphere is evident as soon as you step through the doors. There is no escaping the warm community feel of this highly successful school. But please do not take our word for it; come and see for yourselves!

Brentside High School
Ealing’s Specialist Arts College

OPEN EVENING
Thursday, 2 October, 5.30-8.30pm
SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING
Thursday, 16 October, 5.30-7pm
Brentside High School
Greenford Avenue
Hanwell W7 1 JJ
Applying for high school

The borough’s high schools are accepting applications for children to start school next year.

If your child was born between 1 September 2003 and 31 August 2004, he or she will be due to leave their primary school next summer and start year seven at a high school in September 2015.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 24 October 2014 or, by the absolute latest, the final, statutory deadline of 31 October 2014.

SCHOOLS INFORMATION
To find out more about your preferred schools, you can visit the education pages on the council’s website at www.ealing.gov.uk/education or, alternatively, you can contact the schools themselves. Each school will also be holding an open evening, details of which are on these pages.

HOW TO APPLY
You can apply online at www.eadmissions.org.uk between 1 September and 31 October 2014. If you are unable to apply online, you can ask your current school for an application form to fill in, and ask them for instructions if anything is not clear.

If you choose to apply online you must not complete a paper application as well. If you do not live in the London borough of Ealing you must contact your own home authority.

The Cardinal Wiseman (Catholic) and Twyford (Church of England) high schools require a supplementary information form to be completed to assess denominational commitment and these may be obtained either from the schools themselves, or from the council website at www.eadmissions.org.uk
GET ADVICE
You can attend the admission advice sessions at Perceval House, in room M0.24 on 15 October and room M.021 on 16 and 17 October between 10am–4pm.
You can also attend an admissions fair on 7 October, between 4–8pm, at Ealing Town Hall in the Liz Cantell room.

OPEN EVENINGS FOR PARENTS AND PUPILS SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2014

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<td>Thursday, 9 October 5.30–8.30pm</td>
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<td>Thursday, 9 October 6–8pm</td>
<td>Alec Reed Academy</td>
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ANY QUESTIONS?
Visit www.ealing.gov.uk/admissions or you can get in touch with your preferred school. Alternatively, contact Ealing Council’s school admissions service by calling 020 8825 5522 between 9am and 12 noon, emailing mainroundadmissions@ealing.gov.uk or by post at Perceval House, 14-16 Uxbridge Road, Ealing W5 2HL
At Villiers High School we have been working really hard over the last year to develop opportunities for parents to become much more involved in the day-to-day life of the school.

A huge part of this work has been our ‘VHSEngage’ programme for parents. Jennifer Lewis, the programme co-ordinator, has described the main aim of these sessions as being to: “Create an opportunity for parents to understand more about how they can learn new skills and, as a result, influence their child’s education;” and also, of course, “to simply give our parents an opportunity to talk to each other, share concerns and celebrate successes.”

This is something parents of our students have welcomed, because they have not always felt confident to come into secondary schools, feeling that they are sometimes ‘less welcoming’ than primary schools.

Jennifer, who is one of our team of positive behaviour mentors, has been supported by the headteacher, Remo Iafrate, and the governing body to introduce VHSEngage. It involves a programme of activities and workshops for parents about the things that matter most to them when their child is at secondary school.

Saeda Elmi, a regular VHSEngage participant who has recently also become a volunteer at the school, commented recently: “I’ve really enjoyed getting to know what happens at school and it’s been a great way to get conversations going about school at home with my child.”

All of the sessions so far have proved to be extremely popular, with many being fully booked within 24 hours. Those parents who have already attended said that they were really happy when they heard that they could get the support that they wanted at the school and they also felt that spending time in the school meant that it was easy to find out about all of the other opportunities that were available to them.

Parents have also commented that they have found the programme content to be a really interesting, relevant and invaluable way of developing the skills that they need in an exciting but rapidly changing world.

The range of exciting opportunities that have already taken place this year have included:

- ‘Strengthening families, strengthening communities’, delivered by Munaza Zaman and Nadra Raja
- Parents employability workshops, delivered by Priya Bedi
- Somali parents’ group, co-coordinated by the Somali Advice and Community Centre
- Parents’ breakfast meetings
- English, maths and ICT classes for parents
- ‘Getting into employment’
- ‘Creating a CV and completing the perfect application form’
- Interview advice and techniques.

You can read more about these, and many other projects, in our VHSEngage newsletter which can be found on the school website at www.villiers.ealing.sch.uk or by contacting project co-ordinator, Jennifer Lewis at jlewis@villiers.ealing.sch.uk or on 020 3264 2120.

Parents go back to school
Currently, families of children and young people (aged 0-25) with additional needs must hold separate discussions with health, education and social care professionals.

But a more co-ordinated approach will bring all these professionals together with the aim of agreeing a comprehensive, longer-term plan with families.

Lots of discussions have taken place, and will continue to take place, with local families to make sure the new system will work for them.

From September, the old ‘statements’ system will be phased out and the new SEN assessments will take over. Children with existing SEN statements will be transferred over to the new education, health and care plans within three years. And young adults with learning difficulties assessments will be transferred within two years. Parents or carers will be contacted once the timing for transferring over to the new plans has been finalised – in the meantime, all statements will continue.

Matthew Jeatt, chairman of Ealing Parent and Carer Forum, said: “The council will also be publishing a ‘local offer’. This will list all of the services and support available for families locally. This should be another helping hand for parents who are trying to get the right services for their children at the right time.”

The forum is a voluntary organisation that works with Ealing Council and other local organisations, such as Contact a Family and Ealing Mencap.

**MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD**

If you want to find out more, or want to be part of shaping the future of SEN services and support in the borough, get in touch with the Ealing Parent and Carer Forum by email info@epcf.org.uk or by calling 07740 461 551.

**Come along**

A fun day and information event is being held for parents, carers, children and young people aged 0-25 with additional needs, learning and physical disabilities. It will be at Ealing Town Hall on 22 October between 1-6pm. No need to book – just turn up.

**MORE INFO**

- For details of local SEN services for ages 0–25, visit www.ealing.gov.uk/children and click ‘Local Offer’
- Visit www.ealinghelp.org.uk for listings, news and useful links.

Young people with special educational needs and disabilities will be supported in a much improved way from September, as Deborah Dickey found out.
More than 160 people aged between 16 and 24 have been taken on since the council’s scheme started in 2007. Almost all of these 160 apprentices, who were placed within different council departments, have successfully completed the full scheme to ‘graduate’. Some have then gone into jobs with the council. Others have moved on to employment, education or further training elsewhere. And the council is now looking for its latest group of apprentices.

The scheme involves a one-year training agreement with the option of a second year, and an allowance starting from £160 per week. In return, the council is looking for enthusiastic and motivated people aged 16-24 who are willing to learn new skills. It is designed to give young people a chance to gain valuable work experience within the council as well as vocational training qualifications. Apprentices have been placed in all kinds of roles, ranging from learning business administration to working in the parks team, or training to become a surveyor.

A ceremony on 3 September will see all these young people in the picture, and more, graduate from the council’s successful Ealing Apprenticeship Programme.
SIMONE’S STORY
Simone James, 20, works in the economic regeneration team but is switching over soon to facilities management. She first found out about the opportunity to be an apprentice at the council from an article in Around Ealing.

She said: “It opens opportunities to you that you wouldn’t otherwise have and it makes you much more employable. You need work to gain experience, but often employers want you to have experience before they will give you a job. So it is a Catch-22. Apprenticeships fix that.”

“You get so much support and guidance in an apprenticeship, which is kind of different to just ‘working’, and someone is always there if you need them. The best thing is, they don’t patronise you either. You are part of the team.”

SEAN’S STORY
Sean Kelly, 21, now has a trainee role in the planning policy service after completing a year’s apprenticeship in the team and impressing.

He said: “It gets you used to the work environment, and teaches you lessons you wouldn’t learn in education, such as how to conduct yourself and skills you wouldn’t learn at university. It has allowed me to apply skills I had – and also to find and develop other skills I didn’t realise I had.”

Now, not only has Sean been taken on permanently at the council, but he is able to combine it with studying for an urban regeneration degree at South Bank University, to enhance his training and contribution to the team.

“Through the apprenticeship I’ve gained a career,” he concluded.

HOW TO APPLY
Current vacancies, eligibility criteria, and application forms are available at www.ealing.gov.uk/apprenticeships

Dates
- Opening date for applications: 1 September 2014
- Closing date for applications: 30 September 2014
- Screening workshops: 14 or 16 October 2014
- Interviews: From end of October 2014
- Apprenticeship starts from January 2015

MORE INFO
- Call 020 8825 6234
- Email apprenticeships@ealing.gov.uk
- Visit www.ealing.gov.uk/apprenticeships

AND THERE IS THE NETWORK, TOO...
The council also runs the Ealing Apprenticeship Network which supports local businesses to set up and manage their own apprenticeships. Young people are needed for the latest screening workshops to see if there is an employer who might match.

Use the contact details on this page to find out more.
Alec Reed Academy’s passion is for learning. We want our pupils to be excited by their experience in our Nursery, Primary and Secondary phase classrooms and beyond, and committed to achieving their very best and confident about their futures. The combination of passionate and talented teaching and support staff and excellent facilities create an enviable learning environment, where traditional values, contemporary aspirations and creative curiosity underpin our pursuit of excellence.

‘I love this school; the facilities, the food, and the teachers – they make learning fun’ – Year 7 pupil

Alec Reed Academy (formally West London Academy) was renamed in honour of its founding sponsor Sir Alec Reed in 2012 and is proud to be an all-through Academy for ages 3-19. Our ‘state of the art’ facilities have benefited from extensive capital funding and our most recent developments include the Arc building in the Primary Phase and the Quad extension to the Secondary Phase. Impressive sports facilities including a Community Sports Centre are enjoyed by students, staff and members of our wider community.

The Academy is also fortunate in that it owns ‘Academy Fields’, a large section of fertile land and the perfect environment for outdoor learning.

There has been an exciting time of development at the Academy since welcoming new CEO and Principal, Gary Lobbett. From an outstanding Academy and National Teaching School in Cornwall, Mr Lobbett was encouraged by the significant potential in the pupils and staff at Alec Reed. He has already made a significant impact on developing the relationships and understanding between students, parents and staff. These are important to the solid foundation upon which sits a happy, high achieving Academy.

‘Our aim: to be an outstanding learning community where individuals thrive’
– Mr Lobbett, CEO and Principal

‘The encouragement and support from staff at Alec Reed Academy has given me so much confidence and motivation to achieve my goals’ – Post 16 student

Open Evenings
Primary Phase: 13th November 2014, 2-6pm
Secondary Phase: 9th October 2014, 6-8pm
Post 16: 16th October 2014, 6-8pm
The theme for the competition was ‘what looking after the environment means to me’, and 20 of the best entries will now be used as artwork on new ‘on the go’ recycling bins being installed in our parks – allowing you to recycle paper, cans, glass, card and plastic when out and about.

There were two grand prize winners: Inthusha Mathirooban of Northolt for the junior category (age five-10); and Milena Govorusa of Ealing in the senior category (age 11-16). This winning pair both received a family fun experience prize and £100 worth of book tokens for their schools.

Councillor Bassam Mahfouz, cabinet member for transport and environment, said: “There were some terrific entries and it was great to see so much enthusiasm put into the competition. Well done and thank you to all the children who took part. There is an encouragingly strong awareness among our pupils about the environmental benefits of recycling. The winning designs will really brighten up the new ‘on the go’ bins in our parks and help to attract people to make use of them. We want to make it as easy as possible for everyone to recycle and the messages on the artwork are an inspiration to us all to do as much as we can.”

Visit www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling for the full list of finalists.

Original artwork has gone on display across the borough following the success of the council’s environmental art competition for children, reports Jessica Bunker.

Winner: Inthusha Mathirooban, nine
Inthusha’s artwork shows us the world we hope for in the future, compared to a world which has been affected by pollution and waste.

Winner: Milena Govorusa, 14
Milena’s artwork creatively uses London’s attractions to show us the city in contrast. London, without recycling where people and wildlife are affected and London where recycling is common place creating a cleaner and greener city.
A little-known scheme that gives support to adults with learning disabilities within a family home is looking for more carers, reports Deborah Dickey.

Ealing Shared Lives brings adults with extra needs together with local families. Some adults live full-time with the carer they are matched with as an alternative to them living in a care home. But carers can also help by providing respite care – giving other families a much-needed break. Shared Lives carers are paid and receive training and support, as well as holidays and breaks.

‘COULD BE JUST WHAT I WANT’

Mary is 56 and has moderate learning difficulties. She lives with Myrna in Ealing Broadway and they have been together since December 2008.

Myrna said: “I was a support worker for adults with learning disabilities when I heard about Shared Lives and I thought ‘this could be just what I want’. I can work and earn the same money as before, without having to do the shifts, and I still have time to help out with my grandchildren. I got to choose what kind of placement I wanted.”

Mary is outgoing and knows her own mind. She has a busy life and enjoys taking part in the Impact Theatre group three days a week and attending a day centre for the other two days.

Mary and Myrna are obviously close and provide companionship for each other. Myrna continued: “Mary can’t live by herself and has no living relatives, so now she is part of my family. She’s got a ready-made family.”

“Yeah, I have. I play with the grandchildren,” Mary cut in.

“It’s made a tremendous difference to Mary, living here,” Myrna told me. “She’s much more confident and verbal than when she first came. I would recommend Shared Lives to anyone.”
Mary is a companion for me and it’s the best thing I ever did. I’ve enriched Mary’s life and she has enriched mine.”

‘I LOOK FORWARD TO IT’

Yvonne Lovell, of Greenford, is a respite carer for Shared Lives. Two years ago she was ‘matched’ with Geoffrey Cottrell. Geoffrey has Asperger syndrome which affects his ability to interact socially. He is intelligent and speaks five languages (as he proved during our visit) and loves playing, and winning, at dominoes – as you can see in the picture.

He lives with full-time carers but stays with Yvonne when they go on holiday. He also goes to an organised activity every weekday – and Yvonne looks out for him twice a week when she supports him at the Albert Dane Social Group at Hanwell Community Centre.

Yvonne, who used to be a social worker, said: “He looks forward to coming to the community centre because he is part of a group and he gets so much out of it.”

She is keen to point out the two-way nature of the relationship.

“I think I may even get more out of it than Geoffrey,” laughed Yvonne. “I look forward to it. I am a people person and empathetic so I enjoy the one-on-one support I give and the relationships I have built. All my family know Geoffrey now.”

Councillor Hitesh Tailor, cabinet member for health and adult services, said: “There are many positives to caring for an adult with learning disabilities, and Shared Lives benefits everyone involved. Carers, and those they support, all tell us what a great difference it makes to their lives, and it provides a good alternative to residential care. Our carers are critical to its success and we are hoping to recruit more. I would encourage anyone who is interested to find out about the allowances, training and support that we offer.”

MORE INFO

- Visit www.ealing.gov.uk/sharedlives
- Call 020 8825 5436
- Email kirazc@ealing.gov.uk
Free childcare for two-year-olds

Your two-year-old may be entitled to a FREE childcare/early learning place for 15 hours a week, 38 weeks of the year.

If your yearly income is less than £16,190 either from work or from benefits – the Family Information Service (FIS) can do a quick check using your National Insurance number to find out if you are eligible for a free place.

Only nurseries and childminders with ‘good’ or ‘outstanding’ Ofsted reports are able to participate in the scheme. So your child will have the opportunity to play, have fun with other children and start their early learning, in a safe and happy environment with skilled and experienced professionals.

Call today to find out if you are eligible
020 8825 5588 (Mon-Fri, 9am to 5pm)

Ealing
www.ealing.gov.uk
Hard plastic plant pots, plastic patio furniture or large, plastic garden toys for children can all now be recycled – as can old guttering and pipes, if you are giving your house or garage a bit of pre-winter maintenance.

Simply take them down to the new recycle bins for hard plastic items at the council’s Greenford recycling and reuse centre, in Greenford Road.

Councillor Bassam Mahfouz, cabinet member for environment and transport, said: “Outdoor toys can get heavily used in the summer months, and sometimes become damaged and dangerous for your kids to play with. But there’s no longer any need to just dump them – or other plastic garden items, either. It is a waste of useful material – and a waste of your money as well, because we all foot the bill for every tonne of waste sent to landfill.”

Visit www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling for more information.

**BE A BRIGHT SPARK**

On average, each person in the UK buys about three new electrical items each year. There is no need to throw your old ones away, though. They contain valuable raw materials that can be used again.

Ealing Council has installed 13 recycling banks for WEEE (waste electrical and electronic equipment) at sites throughout the borough. Anything that requires a battery, plug or charger is counted as WEEE and contains precious metals, useful plastics and more.

This includes mobile phones; computers and games consoles; televisions and radios; hair straighteners and hairdryers; kettles, toasters, and electric toothbrushes.

Councillor Mahfouz said: “The council has made it easier than ever before to recycle your old items. If electrical items end up in landfill instead of being recycled, hazardous substances can leak out and contaminate soil and water.”

**OUR WEEE BANKS**

- Asda car park, Western Road, Park Royal
- Morrisons car park, Acton
- Junction of Bollo Bridge Rd/Strafford Rd, Acton
- University of West London, Warwick Road, Ealing
- Opposite South Ealing Tube Station
- Junction of Camborne Avenue/Northfield Avenue, South Ealing
- Sudbury Hill, Greenford Road
- Fleming Road, Southall
- Junction of Bordars Road/Greenford Avenue, Hanwell
- Gurnell Leisure Centre car park, Ruislip Road East
- Lady Margaret Road, Southall
- Bromyard Avenue, Acton
- The Mall, Ealing (junction of Uxbridge Road/Hamilton Road).

You can also take WEEE to the recycling and reuse centres in Stirling Road, Acton, and Greenford Road, Greenford.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO A CHILD’S LIFE?

Fostering – Your chance to rewrite the script

We are always looking for more people to become foster carers to look after the children in our care, who are of all ages and backgrounds.

WHY FOSTER WITH EALING?

- We are a local service, caring for children in your community
- We provide excellent training and 24-hour support, seven days a week
- You will have the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised qualification in childcare - Level 3 Diploma for the Children & Young People’s Workforce
- You will be given free membership to the Fostering Network
- We pay generous allowances.

We welcome enquiries from people of any background, age, gender, sexual orientation, single or in a relationship, in rented or privately owned accommodation.

You don’t have to have a spare bedroom. It is possible for babies up to the age of two to sleep in a cot in your bedroom.

BE THERE. BE AN EALING FOSTER CARER.

Our next information sessions are on 8 September, 6 October and 3 November, in Ealing Town Hall. To book your place or for more information call Ealing Fostering and Adoption Connections on Freephone 0800 731 6550 Email fosteradopt@ealing.gov.uk

www.ealing.gov.uk
Gasping for air?

When you smoke at home your family smokes with you. As Andy Mahady reports, if you think your home is not particularly smoky, you and your family may still be at more risk than you realise.

Even if you smoke outside with the door ajar or a window open, harmful smoke still blows back inside. More than 85% of cigarette smoke is invisible and has no smell, so no matter how careful you are your family still breathes in the harmful poisons. And if you could see what is really there you would not smoke.

Your secondhand smoke contains more than 4,000 chemicals, including tar. Many are highly toxic and more than 50 are known to cause cancer. Babies and children’s lungs are particularly sensitive to the smoke – their lungs are still developing and their bodies find it hard to fight the infections the smoke causes.

Exposure to secondhand smoke increases your loved ones’ risk of lung cancer, heart disease, asthma attacks, childhood respiratory disease, sudden infant death syndrome and reduced lung function.

SUFFOCATING YOUR PASSENGERS?
Smoking in a confined space like your car means you and your passengers are even more exposed to the dangers. Lowering the window does not make it safe here either – it simply blows the smoke straight back at your passengers.

FIRE RISK
Smoking is also the second most common cause of house fires. More than 45 homes in our borough have caught fire in this way over the last three years.

The only way to protect your family from the health harms and fire risks of smoking is to have a completely smoke-free home and car.

LOCAL SUPPORT
Smokefree Ealing offers free help and advice to smokers who live or work in Ealing. If you want advice on making your home smoke free, or help to quit smoking altogether, this is local support that really works. You are four times more likely to quit successfully if you use support services.

MORE INFO
- Call Smokefree Ealing
  0800 876 6683
- Email ealingstopsmoking@nhs.net
- Visit www.smokefreeealing.co.uk
Stop. Do not throw your clothes away. A special event is coming up to give you the chance to ‘swish’ and swap. And if some are past their best, you can just recycle them instead – it is easy.

If you cannot find a new use for an item of clothing, nor ‘upcycle’ it with a bit of mending and revamping, and it is not in good enough condition to give to charity, then it can usually still be recycled. This even applies to bras, clean underwear and pairs of shoes.

It also goes for clean blankets, linen, tea towels and cloths. The council is encouraging everyone to recycle and reuse more textiles, as part of its campaign to recycle 50% of household waste by 2020. Latest figures show, thanks to your efforts, we have reached 44%.

Azadeh said: “I used to have clothes and jewellery swapping parties in the past with friends. Wearing nice clothes makes you feel good. Passing them on for someone else to enjoy is great – especially when you can pick something else that takes your eye.”

She will be performing at the West Ealing SoundBite Festival in September, which is supported by the council. See www.soundbitefestival.org

LITTLE BLACK DRESS EVENT

One way to make use of old clothes is to swap them for others...and the perfect chance to do just that is coming to Ealing in November.

On 26 November the council is holding The Little Black Dress and Christmas Glitz Swishing Party. It will be at Ealing Town Hall (Elizabeth Cantell Room) all afternoon, between 12–6.30pm. Everyone is invited, so you can come along and swish to your heart’s content. Bring last year’s dress or outfit and swap it for another, for free. There will also be expert advice to give you ideas on how to ‘bling up’, embellish or repair your clothes.
If you just dump clothes and materials in your rubbish bin they will end up being taken to landfill and will take years to decompose and break down, releasing damaging gases. It is estimated 1.4 million tonnes* of clothing is wasted in the UK in this way every year.

As well as being a waste of resources, this needlessly harms the environment and also adds to the charges (landfill tax) the council has to pay for every tonne of waste sent to landfill. This wasted money ends up trickling down to you, the taxpayer, to pay. It is a triple whammy.

**HOW CAN YOU RECYCLE TEXTILES?**

It is easy. Put it in your green recycling box (bagged to keep it dry) for collection, or place it in one of the textile banks that are located across the borough. Additional textile banks have recently been installed on some estates and near blocks of flats. These banks can also accept handbags, belts, blankets, bed linen and curtains.

The textiles which are collected from your green box or from the textiles bank are sorted into different piles, according to their condition, and are then either sent for reuse (including to charity) or are recycled to be made into something completely different.

Cotton and linen can be transformed into wipers, and wool can be converted into felt for roofing, or made into a new yarn. Mattresses can also be recycled, if you take them to Greenford depot (Greenford Road).

**‘IT IS THE LEAST WE CAN DO’**

Backing the campaign is singer-songwriter Azadeh, who toured recently with Robert Cray and Jools Holland and performed at the Hop Farm Music Festival in the summer. After finishing recording her debut album in Los Angeles, she is back home in Ealing. She said: “I need a lot of clothes to perform in. But I do not like to throw away clothes, books or jewellery, so I would rather sell them at car boot sales or give them away to charity shops. Or, now that I know I can put clothing out in my green recycling box, I’ll be doing that too. “I buy a lot of clothes from charity shops too – I love doing it. I bought this black dress from a local charity shop before touring with Deacon Blue.

“When you think about the things we waste, the least we can do is give clothes you no longer need to charity – and there is always someone who will love something you no longer want. “To find out that one million tonnes is wasted in the UK per year is shocking. It is unacceptable.

“I think it is important to set an example to other boroughs on this because if we work together we can make a huge difference – and not just with clothes, because I think London should be at the forefront of the recycling movement.”

---

**MORE INFO**

- Clothes: loveyourclothes.org.uk
- Textiles: www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling
- Accession community shops: Donate and buy www.accessionpartnership.com/community-retail
- Azadeh: https://twitter.com/azademusic or AzadehMusicTV on YouTube
- Independent blog on second-hand clothes in Ealing: huntresslondon.blogspot.co.uk

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*WRAP figures 2012
The Dominion Centre was constructed in the 1970s and has provided a haven for arts and educational activities in the area for many years. However, when it began to look a little tired and the number of visitors started to dwindle, Ealing Council decided to look at ways to inject a new lease of life into the centre, in partnership with the Indian Workers’ Association, which owns the building. After consultation took place, work started last year.

By enlarging the building, with front and rear extensions, it was possible to bring new services on to the site – including the library. Lots of the rest of the centre was refurbished, including the reception area, and it has now reopened to the public.

The new Dominion Centre, and all it offers, is central to the wider regeneration work taking place in the town as part of the Southall Big Plan.

NEW LIBRARY AND MORE
One of the biggest changes has been the relocation of the Southall Library into the centre. The new library is housed in a freshly built rear extension, designed to let in natural light and decorated with bright furnishings.

Modern features include: Self-service units to check-out and return items; ‘quick pick/top title’ stock for people to browse and borrow from, even when the main library is closed; charger plugs for laptop use; free Wi-Fi throughout the centre; as well as a study space that overlooks a redesigned forecourt.

In the main hall, a complete renovation has been completed,
along with the installation of audio visual equipment. The hall is available for the community to hire for events. Meanwhile, three new meeting and activity rooms can be used by community groups in the evenings and at weekends, and will also be used by the council’s adults’ services.

Ealing Music Service continues to be based at the centre.

INVITING AND ATTRACTIVE

Dr Patricia Walker, the council’s cabinet member for leisure, culture and customer services, said: “The possibility of placing several services together, and especially relocating Southall Library, in one, accessible ‘hub’, and the opportunity to create a lively venue everyone could use and which would attract new people to it, was important to our thinking.

So, after consultation with the Indian Workers’ Association and regular centre and library users, it was clear that a considerable revamp was the best way forward. A great deal of thought and work has gone in to making the building as inviting and attractive as possible.”

Sandra Wichelow, Ealing Council’s project manager of the Dominion Centre upgrade, said: “The centre has been transformed by clever use of design, colour and space and we hope that it will become very popular with our residents.

“As soon as visitors approach the gates they will see the new landscaping and lighting and be drawn in to see the rest of the centre. We particularly look forward to visitors enjoying the light, open and accessible new Southall Library.”

The borough’s collection of Martinware pottery has moved to a specially designed, permanent exhibition display in the new library at the Dominion Centre.

The Martin brothers of Southall were some of the first studio potters and were well-known local characters. They experimented with techniques and decoration at their studio, originally in Havelock Road. As part of the Arts and Crafts movement (1875-1920), the four brothers became famous for pioneering the use of salt-glazed stoneware.

Visitors to the exhibition in the George Twyman room will be able to see more than 200 pots of different shapes and sizes and discover the brothers’ personal stories as pioneering craftsmen.

MORE INFO

■ Visit www.ealing.gov.uk
■ Call the library 020 3700 1059 (10am–5pm Mon and Fri; 10am–7pm Tues, Wed and Thurs; 9am–5pm Sat; and 1–4pm Sun).
Have you ever experienced anti-social behaviour in a park? Or had to suffer noisy neighbours? Council teams and police officers are out there working to nip it in the bud.

It is not something everyone will have experienced. And, most anti-social behaviour is of a low-level. However, when it does happen to you it is never pleasant and, last year, the council received more than 8,000 complaints relating to noise nuisance, anti-social behaviour or criminal activity. Complaints varied from loud parties to harassment. For those officers out on patrol, no two days are ever the same.

And the council’s teams are leading up to a typically busy time of the year. With fireworks such a feature of autumn festivals, including bonfire night, they can unfortunately sometimes become tools for anti-social antics; and over-exuberance at Halloween can occasionally spill over into intimidation.

Councillor Ranjit Dheer, cabinet member for community services and safety, said: “Our council teams work hard to make our borough safer. By working together, and also hand-in-hand with the police and other organisations, they are very effective at identifying and tackling problems in the most appropriate way. And, when enough is enough, they do not hesitate to make sure robust legal action is begun.

“We want everyone to enjoy the festivals, fireworks and other events this autumn, but it is all about consideration for others. If behaviour becomes anti-social, the council is ready to do something about it.”

NOISE AND NUISANCE TEAM
This is a dedicated service which operates seven days a week, late into the night. Council officers are available to respond to complaints, gather first-hand evidence and approach the alleged perpetrators. In persistent cases of nuisance, the officers often take legal action by serving enforcement notices, seizing loud stereos or TVs, and taking noise makers to court if they are unwilling to alter their behaviour.

PARKGUARD TEAM
A recent addition, the ParkGuard officers are regularly tasked to patrol council-owned areas such as housing estates and parks – or anywhere recognised as a ‘hotspot’ of anti-social behaviour. It has proved extremely effective in gathering evidence and identifying problems, which helps the council and police to tackle anti-social behaviour across the borough. The ParkGuard team also

On call

The council’s ParkGuard officers on patrol with their dog

SAFER COMMUNITIES
PROSTITUTION
Street prostitution has become a problem in certain parts of the borough. Our reporter joined a local police team for a few hours one evening to get some insight.

To read the full story, click here

SAFER COMMUNITIES TEAM
These officers look at all kinds of anti-social behaviour within the borough, working directly with the police, mental health organisations, social services and many other agencies to find a resolution to cases that, often, are very complex. The safer communities team also has extra enforcement powers which complement the work of the noise and nuisance Team, including working to serve injunctions, ASBOs (anti-social behaviour orders) and eviction proceedings.

DRIVEN RAVING MAD
These three services recently combined forces to deal with widespread complaints from residents in Acton who had endured repeated sleepless nights as they were disturbed by loud, pounding music from raves taking place inside empty commercial properties.

The noise and nuisance team went down to the sites on a night when complaints were made, and gathered evidence from their own observations and from residents and neighbouring businesses.

This evidence was passed to the safer communities team, which used it, together with additional intelligence from the police, to successfully initiate a legal eviction. The officers oversaw the actual eviction, with the police. Once emptied, the properties were guarded by a ParkGuard team until it was properly secured.

NIGHTMARE NEIGHBOURS
Another recent case centred on a flat that was attracting numerous complaints about excessively loud music, and groups of young men congregating in intimidating groups in hallways and communal areas nearby.

The noise and nuisance team had previously taken action against the occupier by serving an enforcement notice. Nevertheless, the allegations continued. ParkGuard officers were tasked with patrolling the area – and they gathered evidence as they did so, including approaching the youths and getting their names and addresses.

This information was forwarded to the safer communities team. Subsequent police checks on the names and addresses provided further evidence against the occupier of the flat, and legal action was put into motion.

FIREWORKS
With thousands of fireworks likely to be sold across the borough in the coming months for a variety of traditional festivals, it is important to stay safe while you enjoy the fun.

For simple rules, and the law, visit www.ealing.gov.uk/staysafe

HALLOWEEN
If you find trick or treating at Halloween intimidating and would like to ask people not to knock on your door, there is a handy poster available to download and print at www.ealing.gov.uk/staysafe which you can display in your window.
Ealing and Hounslow councils share ownership of the 186-acre site. They joined forces to win almost £4.7 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) this summer to do the work. But the main work begins in earnest next spring, with both councils having also committed funding to the project.

Several of the listed buildings have fallen into disrepair and need significant restoration. The first improvements in the pipeline include restoring the Orangery, archways and terrace and other listed structures; building a new café; and reinstating the Horseshoe Pond.

Excitingly, there is also a plan to make the Round Pond suitable for boating again – an activity that has not taken place there for a decade.

A bid for further HLF money to restore and
remodel Gunnersbury Park Museum was also successful, with a grant of £4.1 million to help bring it up to the same high standard that the rest of the park will reach. The museum is based in the main building – once a grand mansion house.

**A PLACE WORTH VISITING**

As well as the physical transformation, an important part of the restoration project involves introducing new events, and educational programmes, that will allow even more Ealing and Hounslow residents to get involved with the park in the future.

New initiatives such as free horticultural training sessions, a community orchard and mini-beast safaris are all aimed at appealing to local people of all ages. Meanwhile, guided walks and nature trails throughout the year will mean more people will be able to take advantage of the park and all it has to offer.

Visitor numbers to the park are expected to increase from 600,000 to more than one million people per year once improvements are completed in 2017.

A range of activities designed to help Gunnersbury Park become more sustainable is also planned – including helping to train future generations of gardeners and conservationists by offering three horticultural apprenticeships to Ealing and Hounslow school leavers. This will be done in partnership with Capel Manor Horticultural College, which also shares the site.

**‘A LIVING, BREATHING PLACE’**

Julian Bell said: “The generous awards from HLF will help us make the kind of radical improvements Gunnersbury Park desperately needs to bring it back to its former glory. “We really want it to appeal to everyone, not just people who are interested in visiting stately homes or historic gardens. When all the work’s complete, Gunnersbury will be more beautiful than ever but it will also be a living, breathing place where lots of things are going on all the time and where visitors can really get involved, instead of just admiring this architectural treasure from afar.”

Carole Souter, HLF chief executive, said: “Our parks face an uncertain future and so it’s exciting to see how this new investment is going some way towards helping parks like Gunnersbury find new ways of funding and maintaining them so they are still here to be enjoyed long into the future.”

**MORE INFO**

- Visit www.ealing.gov.uk/parks

**Archway and steps**

**The Orangery**
Crossrail will run more than 62 miles from Reading and Heathrow in the west, through new tunnels below central London to Shenfield and Abbey Wood in the east.

Along the way, it will take in Acton Mainline, Ealing Broadway, Hanwell, Southall and West Ealing stations. These will each benefit from better buildings, new ticket halls and other improvements.

**FIRST ON THE TRACKS: EALING BROADWAY**

Ealing Broadway is the local station closest to having a final design, and it provides a taste of what might follow at our other four stations. Subject to permission, work would be expected to start in late 2015 after Ealing Council and other organisations successfully pushed for it to begin two years ahead of the original schedule.

After submitting initial proposals for Ealing Broadway at the end of last year, Crossrail worked closely with the council, community groups, developers and nearby landowners to revise and improve the plans for the station.

The final result was an eye-catching design featuring a long, curved canopy running the length of the forecourt. This glass station structure will replace the current dated façade and provide a new entrance that is twice the size of the existing one, and will allow much more

Five of the 40 Crossrail stations will be in our borough – and work will begin on Ealing Broadway next year. The plan is to provide a genuine change in public transport here: Better stations, faster journeys.
natural light into the building.

Inside the station, improvements would include:
- A ticket hall more than twice the size of the existing one
- Four new lifts
- Improved staircases for platforms
- Platform extensions to accommodate the new trains
- New toilets, information screens, signs, help points and CCTV.

The revised designs were open to public consultation before the council was due to take its final decision as Around Ealing went to press. Escalators were not included in the plans because of safety concerns and practical problems. The council agreed with Crossrail that lifts were a more viable option.

WIDER IMPROVEMENTS
That is not all. Crossrail and Ealing Council have been working on masterplans that set out how the area around the stations can be improved. In Ealing Broadway, this includes proposals such as improvements to the forecourt and better located pedestrian and drop-off areas.

There are also plans to provide easy access to the redeveloped Arcadia shopping centre, which is separated from the station by Haven Green. And, the council’s ‘mini-Holland’ scheme, which will bring improved and easier cycling around Ealing town centre, is being deliberately designed to link into the station and the nearby cycle hub.

Our borough’s other four stations will follow suit in years to come.

The Grade II listed Hanwell Station building would be preserved and the surrounding area improved. The council is working with Crossrail and Transport for London to identify how to improve disabled access. Separately to the scheme, the council has also worked with residents to realise the long-standing desire for a secondary entrance at the station, which will mean its south entrance will reopen by the autumn – making it easier for people to access it from the Uxbridge Road side.

In Southall, it is intended to improve the layout of the road and paving around the station, as well as the building itself – and to provide better access for pedestrians and cyclists. The project would tie-in to the ongoing Southall Big Plan regeneration scheme.

As you can see from the picture on these pages, designs are being drafted. Crossrail intends to relocate the West Ealing station building from Drayton Green Road to the quieter Manor Road. A new forecourt, a cycle hub and other improvements are also proposed.

A new station building will also be built for Acton Main Line, on the junction of Horn Lane and Friary Road – a new road lay-out, bus stops and bicycle parking, and also a new forecourt, are all planned.

‘POSITIVE SIDE-EFFECTS’
Council leader Julian Bell, cabinet member for regeneration, said:

“Crossrail will bring wide-ranging benefits to our borough. It will mean more attractive, effective and modern stations while also helping to regenerate the areas around them. And we will be better connected – which has other positive side-effects, including enticing more investment into our area.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Current journey time</th>
<th>Crossrail journey time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bond Street</td>
<td>23 mins</td>
<td>11 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tottenham Court Road</td>
<td>26 mins</td>
<td>12 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liverpool Street</td>
<td>35 mins</td>
<td>18 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canary Wharf</td>
<td>44 mins</td>
<td>25 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heathrow terminals 1,2,3</td>
<td>24 mins</td>
<td>15 mins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Autumn 2014, the journey times from Ealing Broadway to various stations are compared with the journey times expected with Crossrail.
YOU RAKE IT
WE TAKE IT

This autumn, why not have your garden waste conveniently collected from your kerbside each fortnight? With a choice of a wheelie bin or reusable sacks, and no need to take your clippings and prunings to the recycling centre, keeping your garden beautiful couldn’t be easier.

Subscribe from 1 October and receive a 25% discount.

Sign up now at www.ealing.gov.uk/gardenwaste
Direct debit and other payment options are available. Further 25% discount for residents over 65 and those in receipt of means tested benefits.

EAL
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Enrol Online. Pay Online.
www.ealing.gov.uk/adultlearning

Concessionary fees available

New courses for 2014-15
• First Aid
• Animal Care
• Building a Business
• Art Versus...Religion, Politics, Philosophy
• Creative Writing
• Garden Design
• Pilates
• British Sign Language
And many more!

Ealing Adult Learning
Email adultlearning@ealing.gov.uk
Tel 020 8825 5577
From community carnivals in Acton and Greenford, to a range of festivals at Walpole Park in Ealing celebrating in succession beer, comedy, blues and jazz, Ealing Summer 2014 was a riot of colour, music and fun. Were you there?

Here is a small selection of the photos we captured at the events. You can see galleries of each event at www.ealingsummer.com

London Mela was due to round-off Ealing Summer Festivals on 31 August at Gunnersbury Park.
Join the Residents’ Rewards Scheme and get rewarded for recycling. There are over 100 ways to reward yourself, including donating to community projects. Rewards start from just 30 points.

Joining the scheme is **free**. With so many reasons to join, we look forward to rewarding you for recycling soon.

**Joining is easy**

**Website**
Register for **free** at [www.greenredeem.co.uk](http://www.greenredeem.co.uk)

**App**
Download the **free** app for iPhone and Android

**Phone**
Call us on 0844 409 9490*

*Please note that calls are charged at 5p per minute plus network extras from a BT Landline. Calls from other networks and mobiles may vary and may cost more.

---

**Exclusive rewards**

**Haven**
Britain’s Favourite Seaside Holiday

- **50 points**
- Save 30% on touring and camping holidays

**everyone active**
Southall Sports Centre

- **50 points**
- Bring a friend for free

**SunJam**
Caribbean Festival

- **50 points**
- 10% OFF all orders

**Tangled Thorns**

- **50 points**
- 10% OFF flowers / treatments

For full details of all the rewards available, log onto the website, or browse on our free smartphone apps.

Residents’ Rewards by [greenredeem](http://www.greenredeem.co.uk) rewarding action

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[www.ealing.gov.uk](http://www.ealing.gov.uk)
Ealing Council sometimes finds itself on the end of fraudulent insurance claims: either completely fabricated, or exaggerated, by people looking to make some money.

Every year, this fraud results in millions of pounds of taxpayers’ funds being wasted in the UK. These criminal attempts to steal from the public purse are not victimless crimes. You, the taxpayer, are always left to pick up the bill – and, consequently, funding for our local services suffers. Even if an insurance claim is turned down, you are still paying for it to be investigated and defended. Every pound we save by preventing this type of fraud could be spent on local services instead. In these tough economic times, it is especially important.

By calling FraudLine, you can help us stop these crimes against our community. If you think you have some information about a fraudulent insurance claim you can call 0800 328 9270 – a special 24-hour hotline. It is free and confidential, and is manned by people with the expertise to help.

The council, and FraudLine, has the support of the government-funded Insurance Fraud Enforcement Department, led by City of London Police.

A fifth of insurance claims are fraudulent. These tricks and scams steal from the public purse – so it is your money they are spiriting away.

**TYPES OF TRICKS**

There are common types of insurance fraud. These include making exaggerated claims by pretending an accident was far worse than it really was; untrue personal injury claims that describe a false set of circumstances, time or place of an accident; completely bogus claims that use invented symptoms or an incident that never occurred; and multiple claims where the fraudster knowingly makes claims for the same injury in a number of different local authority areas.
EALING TOWN HALL
BOOK YOUR Christmas party

What’s included:
• GLASS OF SPARKLING WINE AND CANAPÉS ON ARRIVAL
• 2 COURSE MEAL
• UNLIMITED SOFT DRINKS
• DJ
• FESTIVE TABLE DECORATIONS

To find out more:
Web: www.ealing.gov.uk/halls
Email: halls@ealing.gov.uk
Telephone: 020 8825 6060
Facebook: ealingvenuehire

Do you have good quality, unwanted furniture or electricals?

We are a social enterprise that recycles quality unwanted furniture and electricals. Providing paid employment and training to disadvantaged people and bargain prices to the public.

 Supported Lodgings
Spare room ✓
Spare time ✓
Want to make a difference in a young person’s life ✓
Live in West London or surrounding areas?

Contact: 020 8832 1551 / 3 or 0777 304 7546
supported.lodgings@londonymca.org
Have you taken a tour of your freezer lately?

Take a look after reading this and see what you can find!

In the UK 800,000 tonnes of food, valued at £2 billion on shop shelves, is thrown away from homes because it is not used in time – and that’s where your fridge and freezer can save the day.

The average household has enough food in their freezer to make main meals for 11 days, in fact it’s estimated that UK homes have an enormous £860 million worth of food in them. We could all do one more thing to use our fridge freezers to keep food fresher for longer, here are a few ideas to try.

- Check your fridge is below 5°C. If it is, your chicken and salad will last three days longer
- Bread in the fridge goes stale 6 times faster, if you know you won’t eat a whole loaf before the mould moves in, freeze part of the loaf and defrost or toast when you need it
- Keep a shelf in your fridge for items that will go past their use by date in the next few days. Having them all at eye level makes them harder to forget. Food can be frozen up to the use by date so freeze it instead of throwing it out
- Split big packets of food into smaller portions and freeze what you’re not going to eat in the next couple of days – small portions are quicker to defrost too
- Place individual items such as part boiled potatoes or soft fruits on a baking tray so they freeze quickly and then pack them in portions into labelled containers or bags
- Ice cube trays aren’t just for freezing water, they’re great for tomato puree, pesto, chopped fresh herbs and cup-of-tea-sized milk portions too

Get more tips, ideas and information on our website.
‘Be united, be happy’

After serving the community for 20 years, Councillor Tej Ram Bagha took his seat as the first citizen of the borough. Neelum Bains paid him a visit to find out more about the new mayor’s journey.

“I had a very humble upbringing in India and didn’t have the opportunity to study at university level,” he said. “I am a father and grandfather and I am always reminding them about the importance of having an education and the chance to better your life.

“I have been a councillor since 1994, a member of many committees and a governor of many schools. My public life has helped me to learn, grow and even get through a terrible period of my life where I lost my mother and my wife. It has given me purpose and kept me driven.

“I have lived in the borough for more than 50 years and I have seen so many changes but the things that have always stayed the same are the friendly communities who choose to call Ealing home.

“We are so blessed with so many parks and open spaces, a big selection of food and religious places to visit and..."
so much arts and culture all across the borough. It is important that people who live here appreciate, enjoy and preserve those things.

“I want to spend the next 12 months focusing on improving things that affect young people and the elderly because I think both of these groups are very important. If we remember to take care of them, then everything else becomes easier to manage.”

“The borough slogan is ‘progress with unity’ and I would like to add to that ‘be united – be happy’.”

Since Councillor Bagha was sworn in as the mayor in May he has already attended dozens of official engagements.

**MAYOR’S CHARITIES**

Cancer Research UK, Age Link UK and Diabetes UK are the mayor’s chosen charities.

He said: “These charities help people who are living with illness, are vulnerable or going through a challenge in their life. I want people to be as generous as possible with their donations, but a large part of my work will also involve raising awareness about the charities and the great work that they do.

“I have been handed the mayor’s chain by my good friend, Councillor Kamaljit Dhindsa, who supported me and I was lucky enough to work alongside him as his deputy mayor last year. He broke the record for the most money raised for mayoral charities with £70,000. I have been set a big challenge, but I plan to do everything I can to beat his record, even if it’s by £5.”

The new mayoress duties will be shared by Councillor Bagha’s daughter Harpit Kumar and his daughter-in-law Manjid Kaur Bagha.

Councillor Harbhajan Kaur Dheer has become the new deputy mayor.
One of Ealing Council’s priorities is to deliver value for money for our residents. This is a four-page summary of the council’s accounts for the financial year ending 31 March 2014. It presents all income and expenditure across this period as well as the council’s assets and liabilities at the end of the year.

It is presented in a way to provide information for residents on where the council’s money is spent, on where the money comes from and what the council owes and is owed in a more straightforward way than the full 107-page version of the statutory Statement of Accounts 2013/14. However, if you would like to view the full version, you can do so online at www.ealing.gov.uk

Councillor Yvonne Johnson, cabinet member for finance and performance, said: “Despite the tough economic climate, the council maintained its financial strength, which puts us in a good position for the challenges ahead, including the continued uncertainty around local authority funding.

“The council’s general fund balance, its financial safety net, remains at £15.4million, in line with the target set in the medium term financial strategy. There is a small increase because of an underspend of £25,000 on the agreed budget of £275.3million. This is the tenth consecutive year of spending within budget, showing that tax-payers’ money is being managed carefully and responsibly.

“Indeed, thanks to this prudent financial management the council has been able to freeze council tax for a sixth successive year.”

The council’s income and expenditure account (shown on these pages), includes all expenditure on the day-to-day running of the council, including salaries, utilities, interest on borrowing, waste and recycling contract payments as well as income from specific government grants, council tax and from fees and charges.

The council’s detailed statement of accounts was prepared in accordance with accounting codes of practice in the manner required.

### Ealing Council’s income and expenditure account
**Year ended 31 March 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income and expenditure account</th>
<th>Expenditure 2013/14 £’000</th>
<th>Income 2013/14 £’000</th>
<th>Net spend 2013/14 £’000</th>
<th>Budget 2013/14 £’000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Service expenditure</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children and adults</td>
<td>265,004</td>
<td>(136,459)</td>
<td>128,545</td>
<td>128,545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regeneration and housing</td>
<td>63,258</td>
<td>(50,682)</td>
<td>12,576</td>
<td>12,634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment and customer services</td>
<td>77,601</td>
<td>(49,806)</td>
<td>27,795</td>
<td>27,926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate resources and chief executive</td>
<td>52,254</td>
<td>(22,499)</td>
<td>29,755</td>
<td>29,819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing benefit</td>
<td>280,753</td>
<td>(275,728)</td>
<td>5,025</td>
<td>4,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td>738,870</td>
<td>(535,173)</td>
<td>203,696</td>
<td>203,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Corporate items</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levies and concessionary fares</td>
<td>29,910</td>
<td></td>
<td>28,996</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest payable and receivable</td>
<td>36,237</td>
<td></td>
<td>36,237</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income and expenditure</td>
<td>1,701</td>
<td></td>
<td>5,235</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions to and from reserves and council tax freeze grant</td>
<td>3,746</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,064</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue spending</strong></td>
<td>275,290</td>
<td></td>
<td>275,315</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**How the revenue spending is funded:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013/14 £’000</th>
<th>2014/15 £’000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local council tax</td>
<td>(105,591)</td>
<td>(105,591)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection fund surplus</td>
<td>(2,010)</td>
<td>(2,010)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retained business rates</td>
<td>(66,466)</td>
<td>(66,466)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General grant from government</td>
<td>(101,248)</td>
<td>(101,248)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income and expenditure</strong></td>
<td>(275,315)</td>
<td>(275,315)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in general fund balance for the year</td>
<td>(25)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General fund balance brought forward</td>
<td>(15,413)</td>
<td>(15,413)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General fund balance carried forward</td>
<td>(15,438)</td>
<td>(15,413)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On this statement you will see income shown in brackets - this is intentional and is the conventional way to show income in local government accounting.
Financial position at 31 March 2014

Below is a summary of Ealing Council’s assets (what it owns and is owed by others), and our liabilities (what it owes to other organisations). It has a total of £1.844billion assets and £1.093billion liabilities, meaning its net worth is £751million.

### Assets and liabilities as at:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>31/03/2014 £’000</th>
<th>31/03/2013 £’000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land, buildings and other assets*</td>
<td>1,516,717</td>
<td>1,346,155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments**</td>
<td>219,668</td>
<td>252,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money owed to the council</td>
<td>88,072</td>
<td>60,889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash balances</td>
<td>19,295</td>
<td>15,188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets:</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,843,752</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,674,725</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borrowing***</td>
<td>(501,593)</td>
<td>(503,591)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money owed by the council</td>
<td>(287,616)</td>
<td>(265,521)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pensions liability****</td>
<td>(287,339)</td>
<td>(451,409)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other liabilities</td>
<td>(16,432)</td>
<td>(13,254)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities:</strong></td>
<td><strong>(1,092,980)</strong></td>
<td><strong>(1,233,775)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>750,772</strong></td>
<td><strong>440,950</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Land, buildings and other assets: This includes all physical assets the council owns, for example the council’s whole housing stock.
** Investments: Any short term surpluses of cash that the council holds are invested to gain extra income from interest.
*** Borrowing: Some of the investment in long term assets such as buildings schools is funded by borrowing. This is comparable to taking out a mortgage to purchase your own home.
**** Pensions liability: The council is required by regulations to calculate a liability for future draw drawing of pensions from its pension fund. Although this liability is a significant sum the pension fund holds assets of £867million to meet this commitment and there is a long term plan in place agreed with independent actuaries.

### Capital expenditure by service

- **Schools services**: 38%
- **Housing**: 29%
- **Environment and customer services**: 16%
- **Other services**: 17%
- **Other**: 17%

Capital expenditure relates to items that have a long term value to the council such as the buying or construction of buildings, road improvements or a significant purchase of equipment. This expenditure is treated separately from the day-to-day spending on services. In 2013/14 we invested more than £157million in housing improvements, new infrastructure, schools and regeneration programmes across the borough. Some of the highlights of this programme over the last year have been:

- Council housing improvements – £19.3million
- Housing regeneration Schemes – £22.6million
- Expansion of existing schools – £50.1million
- Parks and open spaces improvements – £3.2million
- Infrastructure renewal, roads and footways – £3million
- Disabled facilities grants – £2.3million
- Acton Town Hall community and leisure centre construction – £12.5million
- Building schools for the future – £17.5million.

Our funding for capital investment comes from different sources to our day-to-day spending on services and is a mix of borrowing, proceeds from the sale of assets, revenue contributions and central government grants.
Sources of income

In order to manage overall spending of some £1billion carefully and responsibly the council has to monitor both the money it spends on services to the public and the income it receives to provide these services. It is commonly believed that council tax pays for a lot of the council’s services but in fact income comes in a variety of forms. This includes grants, mainly from central government, and income charged to residents for specific services such as planning fees and pest control. In fact, although council tax is an important source of income, it may surprise you to know that this only made up 10% of the council’s total income received in the 2013/14 financial year. As the chart shows, the government grants for housing benefit and for funding our schools made up more than half of the council’s income.

Council tax breakdown

Although each council tax bill is not directly split up between the different council departments, we can give an estimate of how each person’s council tax was spent in 2013/14 based on the net cost of each service so that all council tax payers understand how the money they pay is used. We have used a band D council tax bill as an example, (band D is the average property band for the calculation of council tax paid by Ealing residents). Of the typical band D council tax bill, £303 goes to fund London-wide services provided by the Greater London Authority and £1,059.93 to fund services provided at a local level.
Council housing

The council performs the role of landlord for a number of the borough’s residents and owns 12,957 properties for which it charges rent. It is a legal requirement that this expenditure and income relating to council houses is accounted for separately. During the year, expenditure exceeded income by £1.423million because of money being set aside for the development of key initiatives and developments. There are available general reserves of £4.7million at the end of the year. The majority of this balance will be used to improve existing properties and build new ones. The costs and income associated with council housing are shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Year 2013/14 £000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Council house rents</td>
<td>(62,085)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>(6,738)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td><strong>(68,823)</strong></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Repair and maintenance</td>
<td>12,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and supervision</td>
<td>20,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and capital costs</td>
<td>25,252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other costs</td>
<td>7,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer to reserve for future capital project</td>
<td>4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditure</strong></td>
<td><strong>70,246</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Deficit for the year** 1,423

Questions and answers

**Q How does the council monitor its budgets?**

In February 2013 the full council set the budget for the financial year from April 2013 to March 2014. Each month every service has to report on how much has been spent compared to the budget they have been allocated and produce a forecast of how much more they expect to spend before the end of the financial year. If it is likely to overspend against its budget it must identify the steps they will take to counteract this. The council has delivered an underspend of £25,000 against the budget in 2013/14.

**Q Why does the council borrow money?**

The council borrows money to fund some of its capital expenditure, such as new school buildings and other major building works. The cost of these projects is too much for the council to pay out all at once, so we borrow the money instead, in a similar way to people taking out a mortgage to buy their house. Nearly all the money is borrowed from the government and the council is bound by legislation as to the amount it can borrow.

**Q What are long term assets?**

A long term asset relates to an asset the council owns for more than one year. This includes land, properties, vehicles, equipment, roads etc. At 31 March 2014, the council had physical assets worth £1,517million, of which council housing accounts for about half.

**Q What are levies?**

Levies are payments made by the council towards the costs of other public service organisations such as the West London Waste Authority and the Coroners’ Service. In 2013/14 these payments made up around 10% of the council’s net budget.

**Q Where can I find more information?**

The council produces a full 107-page statement of accounts that can be found on the council website at http://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/200687/council_budgets_and_spending/338/statement_of_accounts

Also further information on how your money is being spent is set out at http://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/200687/council_budgets_and_spending/1256/open_and_accountable

Alternatively, if you have any comments or questions on the council’s accounts or their presentation, you can email finalaccounts@ealing.gov.uk or write to The executive director of corporate resources, Ealing Council, Perceval House, 14-16 Uxbridge Road, Ealing W5 2HL.
Catch up

After the summer break, there are still many opportunities around the borough for people to get involved in many of the activities funded by their local ward forums.

More than 119 novice anglers, with young people in the majority, have been introduced to fishing through taster days provided by the Get Hooked on Fishing group based at Northala Fields.

With equipment and bait supplied through funding provided by Greenford Broadway, Northolt Mandeville and Northolt West End ward forums, beginners are able to learn tips about the sport from experienced anglers every Saturday between 11am-4pm.

Perivale ward has funded free football sessions for children aged seven years old and over. They are run by Motiv8 and take place every Saturday between 10-11.30am in the playing fields opposite Perivale Station, Horsenden Lane South.

Meanwhile...portable outdoor gym equipment has been bought as part of a new activity programme to improve young people’s fitness and agility in various open spaces in Acton; youngsters in Hanwell have been able to take part in art workshops in The Little Art Room in Boston Road thanks to the help of Elthorne and Hobbayne wards; and Dormers Wells ward forum has supported children and family activities organised by Emmanuel Church, in the Golflinks Estate, Southall.

GET INVOLVED

It is easy to get involved and have a say on developments that affect you where you live. For more information, visit www.ealing.gov.uk/wardforums or follow the @ealingcouncil Twitter feed.
More details on the cabinet are available at www.ealing.gov.uk/councillors

Councillor Julian Bell
Leader, and regeneration

Councillor Ranjit Dheer
Deputy leader, and community services and safety

Councillor Yoel Gordon
Chief whip

Councillor Hitesh Tailor
Adults, health and wellbeing

Councillor Binda Rai
Children and young people

Councillor Patricia Walker
Leisure, culture and customer services

Councillor Bassam Mahfouz
Transport and environment

Councillor Yvonne Johnson
Finance, performance and welfare

Councillor Jasbir Anand
Housing, employment and skills

Councillor Yoel Gordon
Chief whip

Councillor Jassbir Anand
Housing, employment and skills

Mayor of Ealing
Councillor Tej Bagha

Deputy mayor
Councillor Harbhajan Kaur Dheer

The Mayorality

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## Contact Your Councillors

Details of all councillor surgeries are available at [www.ealing.gov.uk/councillors](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/councillors)

### Key:
- Acton
- Ealing
- Greenford
- Hanwell
- Northolt
- Perivale
- Southall

### Northolt West End

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bassam Mahfouz</td>
<td>Labour</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Northolt Manorville

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natasha Ahmed-Shaikh</td>
<td>Labour</td>
<td>0787 943 7321 <a href="mailto:Natasha.Ahmed-Shaikh@ealing.gov.uk">Natasha.Ahmed-Shaikh@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
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<td>0775 837 4826 <a href="mailto:Chris.Summers@ealing.gov.uk">Chris.Summers@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### North Greenford

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Theresa Byrne</td>
<td>Labour</td>
<td>0758 723 5931 <a href="mailto:Theresa.Byrne@ealing.gov.uk">Theresa.Byrne@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>0795 837 6745 <a href="mailto:Shital.Manro@ealing.gov.uk">Shital.Manro@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Greenford Broadway

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Kelly</td>
<td>Labour</td>
<td>0777 174 0912 <a href="mailto:Anthony.Kelly@ealing.gov.uk">Anthony.Kelly@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aysha Raza</td>
<td>Labour</td>
<td>0772 031 2035 <a href="mailto:Aysha.Raza@ealing.gov.uk">Aysha.Raza@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simon Woodroofe</td>
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<td>0795 129 2484 <a href="mailto:Simon.Woodroofe@ealing.gov.uk">Simon.Woodroofe@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Greenford

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Julian Bell</td>
<td>Labour</td>
<td>020 8825 5173 / 0790 342 4905 <a href="mailto:Julian.Bell@ealing.gov.uk">Julian.Bell@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timothy Murtagh</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbhajan Kaur Dheer</td>
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<td>020 8825 8574 <a href="mailto:Harbhajan.Kaur@ealing.gov.uk">Harbhajan.Kaur@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Cleveland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lynne Murray</td>
<td>Labour</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Ealing Broadway

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Stafford</td>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>0774 209 3510 <a href="mailto:Alex.Stafford@ealing.gov.uk">Alex.Stafford@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Young</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Walpole

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paul Conlan</td>
<td>Labour</td>
<td>0780 893 0917 <a href="mailto:Paul.Conlan@ealing.gov.uk">Paul.Conlan@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Northfield

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Millican</td>
<td>Conservative</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theresa Mullins</td>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>0794 665 0621 <a href="mailto:Theresa.Mullins@ealing.gov.uk">Theresa.Mullins@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Reen</td>
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<td>0793 947 9968 <a href="mailto:Mark.Reen@ealing.gov.uk">Mark.Reen@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Hanger Hill

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joy Morrissey</td>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>0754 269 2165 <a href="mailto:Joy.Morrissey@ealing.gov.uk">Joy.Morrissey@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Ealing Common

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jon Ball</td>
<td>Liberal Democrat</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lady Margaret</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southall Broadway</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:Sarfraz.Ahmed.Khan@ealing.gov.uk">Sarfraz.Ahmed.Khan@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sanjai Kohli</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:Sanjai.Kohli@ealing.gov.uk">Sanjai.Kohli@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Jasbir Anand</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:Jasbir.Anand@ealing.gov.uk">Jasbir.Anand@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kamaljit Dhindsa</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:Kamaljit.Dhindsa@ealing.gov.uk">Kamaljit.Dhindsa@ealing.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorking Wells</td>
<td>Tejinder Dhami</td>
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Send letters to: Ealing Council, Town Hall, New Broadway, Ealing W5 2BY.
Who was Miss Harman?

If you look on the Ealing War Memorial outside Pitzhanger Manor you will see, among the list of names of those men killed in the First World War, that of Miss A. Harman; the sole female name on that memorial.

I first noticed this when reading a book about Middlesex and seeing her name in the section about Ealing, before checking the memorial. However, in the Borough’s Roll of Honour at Ealing Library there is no reference to her. Neither is she on the Commonwealth war Graves Commission listings (to service personnel killed overseas).

So who was she? Women were not employed in the fighting services at that time nor were there any air raids on Ealing during the First World War. Could she have been employed as a nurse and saw service overseas in the Red Cross or another nursing unit? What was her local connection? Not knowing her first name was a hindrance, too. I checked...
the 1911 census and found three possible contenders, two of whom were young unmarried women, one a servant and one of no occupation. Perhaps one of these might have been the lady in question? Or could it have been someone who moved to the district after 1911?

Eventually I checked the local newspapers. The Middlesex County Times was one of Ealing’s newspapers at that time and eventually it revealed the identity and tragic circumstances of the death of Miss A. Harman.

Her name was Alice Maud Harman, aged 24 and who lived with her parents and four siblings at 1 Glenfield Road in West Ealing. In 1911 she had been employed as a servant. Like many women, she had responded to the needs of war by working in a munitions factory from 4 November 1916. She was employed at Messrs H. Llewellyn Dent and Co., an engineering works located at Warple Way in Acton.

On 23 December she was taking her tea break, at about 10.20am. Unfortunately, she was still wearing her oily overalls when she was making coffee on the gas cooker and her clothing caught fire. Her own attempts to douse the flames were unsuccessful. Mr Mills, the foreman, used a fire extinguisher but the flames had taken too great a hold for it to be effective. Finally another employee, seeing a pail of clear liquid, poured this over her. It was only then that it was realised that this was paraffin, not water. The tragedy was heightened by her death coming but two days before Christmas.

The inquest decreed that this was a case of accidental death. The funeral was well attended and took place a week later, the service being at St Mary’s Church. Alice had been a regular worshipper at St Paul’s Church and the vicar said that she had led an exemplary life and her death would be much felt. She was buried at Ealing Cemetery amidst a multitude of floral tributes.

Another of the war’s local female casualties was Dorothy Maude Mary Crowther, aged 16, who was killed in an explosion in an Acton munitions factory in 1918.

Behind the names on our war memorials, there are many extraordinary tales – several of which we have told in Around Ealing over the past decade.

However, none have been so memorable as that of Harold Medlicott.

Brothers Harold and Sidney Medlicott’s family lived in Ealing and the pair fought and died during the First World War. Harold’s story reads like a Hollywood script. He escaped from prisoner-of-war camps at least 10 times. Prior to being imprisoned, he was one of the early Royal Air Force’s leading fighter pilots and his repeated escapes made him a hero to other prisoners. Thanks to the expertise of researcher Mike Lawson, we were able to tell Harold’s astonishing story.

Read Harold’s full story by clicking here
The Woman in Black is a gripping theatrical exploration of terror, ‘a masterpiece’ (The Guardian) that has been thrilling audiences of all ages with its unique blend of suspense, drama and bold stagecraft.

In a special competition for Around Ealing readers, you can win a pair of top-price tickets to see the play. There are five pairs to give away.

Celebrating 25 years in the West End, The Woman in Black is ‘a marvellous exercise in tension, spun from perfectly paced storytelling’ (The Independent) that has enthralled more than seven million people since its original debut.

Feel the power of The Woman in Black for yourself and experience the ‘most brilliantly effective spine-chiller you will ever encounter’ (The Daily Telegraph).

HOW TO ENTER
To be in with a chance of winning a pair of top-price tickets simply enter your details at hoticketoffers.com/competition/womaninblack with the competition code “EalingWIB”. Entries will close at midnight on 30 September and the winners will be notified 1 October.

Tickets valid Tues-Thurs performances until 27 November, excluding 27 October–2 November. Tickets are subject to availability.

For more information on the show, visit www.thewomaninblack.com

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† Based on weekly statistics provided by Siteimprove
**WHAT’S ON**

**Gunnersbury Park Museum**

Gunnersbury Park, Popes Lane, London W3 8LQ

The large mansion in Gunnersbury Park is an impressive (Grade II* listed) Regency house which once belonged to the Rothschild family, with grand reception rooms and a servants’ wing containing Victorian kitchens. Since 1929 the house has also been home to the museum, where you will find a wide range of exhibits reflecting life in Ealing and Hounslow from past to present.

Free entry unless otherwise specified. Advanced booking is sometimes required for events.

Open Tuesday – Sunday, 11am – 5pm (April – October), 11am – 4pm (November – March). For information contact: 020 8992 2247 / 1612

**Open House at Gunnersbury – 21 September, 11.30am–5pm**

As part of Open House London, The Temple, Princess Amelia’s Bathhouse, and The Orangery will be open to the public. The Large Mansion, once the country residence of the Rothschild family and now home to Gunnersbury Park Museum, will also be open as usual. **Cost:** Free. No advance booking.

Activities include:

- First World War themed art installation in The Orangery
- Landscape architect tour of Gunnersbury Park to discuss the restoration project starting in 2015. Meet outside the museum at 2pm.
- Meet costumed character Major Frederick Sadler, First World War officer and amateur archaeologist, in The Orangery.
- Architect-led tour at 11am on the restoration project for Gunnersbury Park Museum.
- Tours of the beautifully preserved Victorian Kitchens of the Large Mansion.

**Older People’s Tour and Tea at Gunnersbury – 16 October, 2.30pm**

Join our Victorian Housekeeper who will take you on a tour of Gunnersbury Park Museum and its beautiful Victorian Kitchens, and provide you with a fascinating insight into life ‘below stairs’ during the Victorian era. Then join us for tea and cake afterwards. £3 per person, payable in cash on the day. **Advance booking essential.**

**Illustrated Talk on Ealing Film Studios – 19 October, 2pm**

Join us for an illustrated talk on the history of Ealing Film Studios by Charles Bart, Professorial Research Fellow at St Mary’s University, Twickenham. The talk, which includes a rich variety of film extracts, focuses on the early years of Ealing Film Studios, when films such as The Lavender Hill Mob and Scott of the Antarctic were in production. £3 per person, payable in cash on the day. **Advance booking essential.**

**Terrific T-shirts – 28 October, 10am–3pm**

Children’s one-day holiday workshop – design and create your own t-shirt, inspired by museum collections. (Art materials and t-shirt will be provided.) **Age:** 7–11 years. Free but advance booking essential.

**Autumn Leaves – 29 October, 11am–12.30pm and 1.30–3pm**

Join us for an Autumn-inspired family craft workshop, using sewing and embroidery to make an Autumn leaf brooch, necklace or decoration. Led by members of the Embroiderers’ Guild. (Please note children must be accompanied by an adult.). Suggested age: 5+, but everyone welcome. £2.50 per child, payable in cash on the day. **Advance booking essential.**

**Gunnersbury Goblin Hunt – 31 October, 10am–3pm**

Children’s one-day storytelling and art workshop – join us for spooky goblin stories in Gunnersbury Park, then have a go at making your own scary shadow puppet to take home. **Age:** 7–11 years. £2 per child, payable in cash on the day. **Advance booking essential.**

**Stir-Up Sunday – 23 November, 11.30am–12.30pm / 1–2pm / 2.30–3.30pm**

Join our Victorian servants as they prepare for the Christmas festivities. Traditionally, Christmas preparations would begin on the last Sunday before Advent, known as Stir-Up Sunday. Our original Victorian Kitchens will be decked with holly and ivy to put you in the Christmas spirit, and you can help the servants pound the sugar and spices, stir the plum pudding and make a Christmas wish. (Please note children must be accompanied by an adult.) **Free. Advance booking essential.**

**Music in the Museum: Ladies’ Barbershop Quartet Christmas Concert – 30 November, 2–2.45pm**

Join us for a free Christmas concert by the talented local ladies’ barbershop quartet, Hot Flush. **Free. No advance booking.**

**Pitzhanger Manor House & Gallery**

Walpole Park, Mattock Lane, Ealing W5 5EQ

Pitzhanger Manor House & Gallery, Ealing’s flagship cultural venue, comprises of the Grade I listed Pitzhanger Manor House, designed by architect John Soane in 1800 and Pitzhanger Gallery, West London’s premier professional contemporary arts venues.

General opening times: Tuesday–Friday 1–5pm, Saturday 11am–5pm, Sunday 1–5pm (May-Sept)

For information contact: 020 8567 1227 or email pitzhanger@ealing.gov.uk or visit www.pitzhanger.org.uk or visit www.ealing.gov.uk/pmgalleryandhouse

**Crafting Narrative**

10 September to 19 October

The exploration of how contemporary designers and makers use objects as mediums to tell stories. The exhibition will focus on practitioners who challenge and investigate the narrative potential of objects and making to convey and reflect on themes as diverse as history, culture, society and technology. New and commissioned works will be shown alongside film, text and photography, highlighting how objects can be used as affecting and compelling narrative forms. Crafting Narrative is a Crafts Council touring exhibition, guest curated by Onkar Kular.

**Carl Clerkin, Broom, 2013 © Gallery S O, London**

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Pizthanger Gallery events

The Power of Possessions – 10 to 28 September
In this forthcoming solo exhibition, photographer Carol Hudson examines the objects left behind when someone dies, exploring the history of a life as evidenced in personal possessions. Hudson focuses on everyday objects, the value of which lies not in monetary worth, but in their power to evoke memory and the emotional frisson of touching something that once belonged. This exhibition is in The Studio.

Crossing the Field: WWI, football and the Christmas truce – 8 November to 10 January
Keep an eye on the website for more details of this exhibition.

Libraries in Ealing

There are 13 public libraries in the borough where you can borrow items from books to DVDs and CDs. Free internet access is available in all libraries to members and non-members. Libraries are free to use. Events are also free unless otherwise specified.

For more information visit www.ealing.gov.uk/libraries

Libraries events

Funding Workshop – 4 September, 12 noon
Find out about the various types of funding available and what makes a strong application for the bank to consider supporting a small business. Workshop delivered by NatWest.

Sources of funding for start ups – 8 September, 11am
Many new businesses find it difficult to raise finance. The session will explore funding options available to startups including StartUp Loans, grants and competitions. It will also explain criteria and process of applying for different sources of finance.

Venue: The Green Room at Central Library, Ealing Broadway Centre, W5 5JY

For more information about other events visit www.londonbusinessportal.com

Ealing’s Georgian legacy – 11 September, 6.15pm at Ealing Central Library, 103 Ealing Broadway Centre, The Broadway W5 5JY
History talk with Jonathan Oates

Why women talk so much and men don’t listen – 18 September, 6pm in The Green Room, Ealing Central Library, Ealing Broadway Centre, W5 5JY
Relationship experts and husband and wife of 23 years, Ayesha Walker and Alan Denman, combine humour, insight and the latest scientific research in this entertaining overview of the major differences between men and women, and show how this information can help couples to have better communication and relationships together. Places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment. Tel: 0203 700 1052
Email: ealing.centrallibrary@carillionservices.co.uk

Ealing’s Urban Myths – 25 September, 6.15pm at Ealing Central Library, 103 Ealing Broadway Centre, The Broadway W5 5JY
History talk with Jonathan Oates

Transport along the Uxbridge Road – 25 October, 10.30am at Hanwell Library, Cherington Road, Hanwell, W7 3HL
History talk with David Blackwell

Experience Africa
Celebrate African culture and music. Have a go at African drumming and listen to stories from across the immense African continent. Places are limited. Please book in advance through the respective libraries.

Drumming – 28 Oct, 12.30–1.30pm at Northolt Leisure Library and 3.30–4.30pm at Ealing Central Library, 103 Ealing Broadway Centre, The Broadway W5 5JY. Tel: 0203 700 1052

Storytelling – 30 Oct, 11am–12 noon at Northolt Library and 2.30–3.30pm at Jubilee Gardens Library, Jubilee Gardens Health Centre, Jubilee Gardens, Southall UB1 2TJ. Tel: 0203 700 1088

WW1 in an hour – 13 November, 3pm at Hanwell Library Cherington Road, Hanwell, London W7 3HL
From the assassination that sparked the Great War of 1914–18 to the burial of the Unknown Warrior, History In An Hour’s Rupert Colley talks about the First World War. From kings, presidents and generals to spies, soldiers and deserters, Colley will introduce us to some of the men and women who played a vital role during the conflict, and the events and innovations that helped shape the ‘war to end war’. Rupert Colley is the author of the bestselling ‘World War One: History In An Hour’, published by HarperCollins. Admission: Free – Places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment. Tel: 0203 700 1076. Email: ealing.hanwelllibrary@carillionservices.co.uk

Other events

Fostering, adopting information sessions – 8 September, 11am–1pm & 6 October, 7.30–9.30pm & 3 November 2014, 11am–1pm at Ealing Town Hall, New Broadway, Ealing, W5 2BY
Your chance to find out more about fostering and adoption. Also to meet people who are currently fostering or who have adopted. Please call or email to book your free place. Contact: Freephone 0800 731 6550, email foster info@ealing.gov.uk

Community courses
Enrolling now at Action Acton Learning Centre, 102–104 Hardy Court Bollo Bridge Road, Acton W3 8DD
Various paid-for courses, including 12-week English language, preparatory teaching plus FREE basic IT open to everybody. Costs vary (some are free to non-EU women – please check eligibility). Contact Maria Lima at maria.lima@actionacton.com or on 020 8993 5901 for more information.

Council meetings

September
Wed 3 Planning committee
Tue 9 Licensing committee
Thu 18 Scrutiny review panel 4: Ealing 2024
Tue 23 Health and adult social services standing scrutiny panel, Audit committee
Wed 24 Planning committee
Thu 25 Scrutiny review panel 1: Ealing’s contracts, demands and partnerships

October
Wed 1 Scrutiny review panel 2: Ealing 360 degrees
Wed 8 Scrutiny review panel 3: Ealing’s customers, Standards committee
Thu 9 Overview and scrutiny committee
Tue 14 Full council
Wed 15 Planning committee
Tue 21 Cabinet

November
Tue 4 Health and adult social services standing scrutiny panel
Wed 5 Planning committee
Tue 11 Scrutiny review panel 4: Ealing 2024
Thu 13 Overview and scrutiny committee
Tue 25 Cabinet
Wed 26 Planning committee
Thu 27 Scrutiny review panel 1: Ealing’s contracts, demands and partnerships, Standards committee

December
Tue 2 Licensing committee
Wed 3 Scrutiny review panel 2: Ealing 360 degrees

Meetings all due to be held at Ealing Town Hall, and correct at time of publishing. Visit www.ealing.gov.uk/committees for more details and to check dates and times.

For more events visit:

www.ealing.gov.uk/whatson
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Open Days
Saturday 10th May 2014
Saturday 11th October 2014
Sessions 10am-12pm or 1pm-3pm

Sixth Form Open Evening
Wednesday 1st October 2014
5pm

To book an open event place or a personal tour please visit www.saintaugustinespriory.org.uk/visit. Alternatively please contact the Admissions team for more information.