Merry Christmas

Town centre fun p10

1960s therapy:
Coping with dementia p21

In your Bubble:
Good neighbours p24

Streets alive:
Reclaim your road p28

Changes to Freedom Pass p9
Seasonal Greetings and a very Happy Christmas to everyone

Should any of my constituents need assistance please do get in touch by phone, letter or email. I am always happy to help.

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If you would like to follow my work locally and in Parliament you can do so on my website at www.angiebray.org.uk
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Promoted by Emily Knight on behalf of Angie Bray MP both of House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
Merry Christmas, or Chanukah, to you all – and a happy new year to come.

As well as the seasonal stories you would expect in this edition, there is a ‘community’ feel to many of them, too: From the amazing dementia pods (p21) to the introduction of Bubble (p24), and from PlayStreets (p28) to apprenticeships (p26).

There is always a lot going on online too.

If you have not already registered to receive monthly Around Ealing Extra emails, which point you to stories, video, blog posts and additional photos online, you can do so easily on the council website at www.ealing.gov.uk/register – simply tick the Around Ealing Extra box as you do so.

You can also take a look at some of the extra Around Ealing stories and information on the Around Ealing Extra pages, any time, at www.ealing.gov.uk/aroundealingextra

Richard Nadal
EDITOR
Less to go round

Cuts are a gloomy thing to be pondering at this time of year. However, unfortunately, we cannot ignore the looming, dark shadow of severe budget savings, nor their consequences for us all – but I want to assure you the council is doing everything it can.

Services used by many of the borough’s residents will have to be significantly reduced, or even stopped, from April 2015 as Ealing Council responds to a huge reduction in the amount of funding available.

Despite having already been forced to find an unprecedented £87 million of budget savings over the past four years, we now face the unpalatable prospect of having to find an even larger amount, £96 million, all over again. This is, not least, because the money we get from the government to run local services is expected to plummet further.

Every effort is being made to ensure the council operates as efficiently as possible, to cut costs. And opportunities to share costs through partnerships with other councils have been seized. But despite these steps, significant and wide-ranging cuts to frontline services are now inevitable.

HOW BAD IS IT?

Our current projections show that, by 2019, the council will have lost more than half the money it gets from the government to spend on local services, over the course of the decade. Money for schools and housing benefit is separate and largely not in the council’s control.

Between 2010-14 we found savings to reduce spending by £87 million, but by the end of 2018/19 we expect to have to reduce it by a further £96 million.

This new savings target also takes into account rising population, increasing demands on services and a shortage of housing in the borough.

Indeed, it comes at a time when more people than ever are reliant on the council for help – whether for housing or social care – yet no additional funding is available to deal with this growing demand. And, budgeting also needs to respond to continual increases in costs through inflation.

WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT IT?

Concerted efforts by the council to operate more efficiently, such as by cutting management and supplier costs, has enabled previous reductions to be achieved with minimal impact on residents, and especially the most vulnerable. Having largely exhausted those opportunities, however, the council is now preparing to implement radical changes to the way it operates, but many services will also need to be reduced and some to be provided in a different way or stopped altogether.

One of the biggest changes is
Some of you may have started to buy presents and seasonal food by now, and I hope you have felt able to ‘shop local’. There are lots of reasons why you should – including fun activities in our town centres (see pages 10-11). Happy shopping. I wish everyone a merry Christmas, and a happy new year.

Volunteering in the community is stronger than ever before, and people feel more confident to organise themselves into groups to achieve things together – whether it is to close-off their road for a street party (see pages 28-29), set up a summer event or combat anti-social behaviour with gating. I think it is the stuff that binds neighbours together. That is why the council is hoping to support this grassroots work by making it easier than ever, with schemes like Bubble (see pages 24-25).

Go to www.ealing.gov.uk/aroundealingextra to read this ‘note’ in full.
These merry meerkats, Chiku and Kali, opened their Christmas stockings recently – and are inviting people to come and visit them at Brent Lodge Animal Centre. Fancy getting up close to the cuddly critters? Especially for Christmas, the centre (also known as the Bunny Park) is offering Meet the Meerkat experiences. To find out how to book, and for lots more photos click here...

Knocked out

The owners of an illegal outhouse have been forced to demolish it by Ealing Council and the owners of another outhouse have had to remove a kitchen from it, as a result of the ongoing clampdown on ‘beds in sheds’.

Council officers made repeated visits to the first property, in Masefield Avenue, Southall, after the owners constructed an outbuilding without planning permission. A tip-off led officers to believe the self-contained building was being illegally rented out as accommodation, for at least £750 a month. The council sent a warning to the owners that they faced legal action and a fine of up to £20,000 if they failed to knock it down.

The council’s outhouse enforcement team also oversaw the voluntary demolition of a kitchen in another outhouse in Priory Gardens, near Hanger Lane, after neighbours complained. The owners were forced to remove it or face legal action for illegally constructing a building intended as a dwelling.

Report it: Help the council and police to stamp out these illegal outhouses. You can report a suspected occupied outbuilding by calling 020 8825 8786 or emailing the details to outhouses@ealing.gov.uk – or, alternatively, you can also report it on the council website at www.ealing.gov.uk/reportit
Give us fair HS2 deal

Ealing Council has joined forces with Camden and Hillingdon councils to call on the government to grant fair HS2 compensation.

The alliance wants: Adequate replacement housing for people unable to live in their homes during the construction period (about 200 homes in our borough alone could become uninhabitable); mitigation and compensation for residents whose homes will be surrounded by building works; and up-front compensation for businesses to offset loss of trade and a hit to property values. Affected areas in Ealing could face disruption for more than a decade. As part of the campaign the alliance has sent a letter to Secretary of State for Transport Patrick McLoughlin, and is asking people to sign a government e-petition in an attempt to gain enough signatures to obtain a debate on the subject in parliament – at http://petitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/71100

Look inside ‘house’

The council has set up an innovative new website that takes you on a virtual tour of an imaginary home and shows you what objects can be recycled, and how – some are obvious, some surprising.

At www.recullemystuff.org.uk you can explore each room and see the recyclable objects typically used there, including some more unusual items such as batteries, light bulbs, cooking oil and furnishings.

Throw-away style

Ealing Council has installed its new ‘on the go’ recycling bins covered in artwork by local young people and children.

As reported in the last edition of Around Ealing, a competition was held in our schools and 20 winning entries were selected to feature on the new bins. Each design has an environmental message and can be seen in Ealing Common, Northala Fields, Acton Park, Elthorne Park and Norwood Green.

Paper, plastic and cans (and foil) can all be placed in the one bin making it even easier to recycle while you are out and about. For more information visit www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling

Cut price parking

The council is offering cut-price parking rates at Southall Market car park to support local traders while the works to improve the Broadway are finished off.

Drivers can park for just 80p an hour instead of the usual £1.50, Monday to Friday. At weekends it costs £1.50 an hour, instead of the usual £2. The promotion will carry on into the new year.

The car park is opposite North Road and Southall police station. Visit www.ealing.gov.uk/parking

Homeless action

Ealing Youth Mayor Tejas Dattani, and members of Ealing Youth Action, slept rough outside Ealing Town Hall to raise awareness of youth homelessness and to fundraise for the YMCA. The young people, all 15 and 16, raised more than £600 for the charity. Visit www.youngealing.co.uk
Volunteer supreme

A long-standing Ealing Council volunteer has been recognised for 25 years’ service to the community at this year’s Team London Awards. Julia Milsome, of Greenford, was presented with the Mayor of London’s Long Service Award. She has spent hundreds of hours of her time each year volunteering through the council. She is currently the community champion for Dormers Wells ward, where she works with a team of volunteers to improve the local environment on behalf of residents. She has also helped to highlight local issues as well as doing hands-on tasks such as canal clean-ups, community action days and tree planting events. She also helped to raise funds for the local community hall.

Julia said: “It’s an honour to receive this award. When I look back on how some areas of the borough were, with graffiti and dumped rubbish, I feel a real sense of achievement that we now have a much cleaner, better place to live.”

Visit the volunteering pages at www.ealing.gov.uk

Road to repair

An extra £402,000 is being spent by the council on resurfacing main roads in the borough.

The council made a successful bid to the Department for Transport for this funding as well as an extra £251,000 for filling potholes. This is on top of the investment of £4,665,000 already announced for 2014/15 to repair identified roads and pavements across the borough and an additional £870,000 from Transport for London. This means a total repair budget of £6,188,000.

Some of the extra, new money has already been spent on resurfacing Acton High Street; while two sections of Greenford Road will also be done.

A survey of all the roads and pavements in the borough is carried out every year by an independent, accredited survey company. But, to report a problem, visit www.ealing.gov.uk/reportit

Speedread

1 Up to 6,000 runners and charity fundraisers took part in the third Ealing Half Marathon. For one runner’s tale of preparation, pain, and the big day itself, click here for Running Commentary.

2 Burglars are usually opportunists, and the longer nights of winter provide them with three attractions: The cover of darkness, people out visiting friends, and the lure of Christmas presents. So, do not make it easy for them: Make sure your presents and valuables cannot be seen through the windows, look like you are in by setting timer switches for lights and radios, and make sure you tear up packaging for presents before putting it out for recycling. For more tips, visit www.ealing.gov.uk/staysafe

3 A trial of new technology for lorry drivers has shown marked improvements in safety for cyclists with 15 potential serious collisions avoided in six months. The Cycle Safety Shield detection system was trialled by Ealing Council and was so successful in independent testing that it is now being considered by Transport for London. It was developed with Safety Shields Systems and eliminates blind spots 360 degrees around the vehicle.

4 Could you be a cultural ambassador? Action Acton, a west London charity which works closely with the council, is looking for residents to pair-up with newly arrived migrants from outside the EU to help them learn about the local community. If you have some time to spare and a good local knowledge, call 020 8993 5901 or email liz.asadi@actionacton.com
The Freedom Pass is provided by local borough councils in London to give older and disabled residents free travel on most public transport in the capital.

To qualify for an older person’s Freedom Pass your main home must be in a London borough, and you have to meet the age requirement. The minimum age starts at 60 but can be as high as 66, depending on when you were born. You can check this at www.freedompass.org

RENEWALS
The way older people can renew their pass is changing.

If your older person’s Freedom Pass expires on 31 March 2015, you will be due to receive a letter from London Councils, which is co-ordinating the renewal of these passes on behalf of all 33 boroughs.

This letter, which you should get through your letterbox by 12 December, explains how, from now on, you have to renew your Freedom Pass on the internet.

You can no longer renew it at the Post Office or over the telephone.

WHAT TO DO
The letter will provide you with a special renewal number, which is unique to you. You will need this number to renew your pass.

You need to then visit the Freedom Pass website www.freedompass.org and follow the simple instructions there on how to renew your pass, entering your number in the appropriate place. It is easy to do.

If you do not have access to a computer, ask a family member or friend who does – or visit your local library and ask for help using one of their computers and advice on what to do.

To make sure you get your Freedom Pass by 31 March, renew as soon as you receive your letter.

Nearly one million Londoners hold an older person’s Freedom Pass and three-quarters of those have a pass that expires on 31 March 2015. Does yours? If so, you need to be aware of important changes.

DISABLED PASSES
Holders of the disabled person’s Freedom Pass whose passes expire on 31 March 2015 do not need to renew online. Their eligibility will be checked and their new passes sent automatically.

MORE INFO
Visit www.freedompass.org
Call 0300 330 1433 (Mon-Sun 8am-8pm)
Although it may be tempting to sit at home and order all your Christmas gifts online, you can get some wonderful and unique items from your local town centre and enjoy all the fun of the fairs and markets.

**On these pages you will find more information about what is going on, along with some top shopping tips and ideas.**

**Why you should ‘shop local’**

Council leader Julian Bell said: “For every £1 you spend with a local independent business, between 50p-70p circulates back into your local economy. Shopping locally supports local traders, their suppliers and their employees – who are usually local themselves.

“Shopping online or out-of-town may save you a little time but for every £1 you spend, only 5p trickles back into your local economy. When you shop with your local independents you are doing your bit to keep our town centres thriving – including local jobs – and keeping our borough a better place to live.”

**Acton**

Acton Christmas Fair will be here again on Saturday, 13 December, 11am-4pm, in Acton town centre. Santa will be visiting and there will be lots of entertainment and activities taking place for all the family to enjoy.

🌟 **Top tip:** there are some lovely boutique shops in Churchfield Road, festive gifts available at Acton Market and at shops in the High Street

**Ealing**

Ealing Broadway Shopping Centre will be hosting a Christmas market again this year with gift stalls nestled among your favourite high street shops. As well as this, there will also be a pop-up shop in Springbridge Road Car Park during December where local traders, entrepreneurs and charities will have week-long leases on the ground floor. The shop will open 1-28 December
between 8am-6pm, seven days a week.

**Top tip:** Do not forget the wonderful gift shops in Oak Road and The Green

### Greenford

A new and exciting Greenford Community Market will be launching in time for Christmas, on Saturday, 6 December, between 11am-4pm. There will be a variety of gift stalls and festive entertainment and activities for all the family to enjoy.

**Top tip:** Why not combine your trip to Greenford with a visit to its well-known fresh food stalls

### Hanwell

By the time this article is published the Hanwell Winter Fair would have already taken place. However, you have not missed out completely, there are some wonderful shops for Christmas gifts available in the town centre.

**Top tip:** Pick up your Christmas wreaths and festive arts and craft supplies from Boston Road

### Southall

This festive season, Southall has something slightly different to offer. The new Southall Monthly Market is now held on the first Sunday of every month, with December’s market embracing the Christmas spirit.

After a successful launch in September, the market keeps growing and in December it will host a mixture of food and craft stalls along with live entertainment for children and adults to enjoy, all with a festive touch incorporated.

Held on the 7 December, it is an ideal time to buy stocking fillers. Set-up by Ealing Council, in partnership with the University of West London, the market will be held in the newly created Southall Square (next to Lidl), UB1 3HF, between 12noon-4pm.

**Top tip:** Ealing’s famous ‘recycling’ Christmas tree will be in Southall Square this year from 7 December, with a Southall twist

### West Ealing

The West Ealing Christmas Fair will be taking place on Saturday, 6 December, 12noon-4pm in Dean Gardens. There will also be the popular carol singing event around the tree at The Avenue (near the Drayton Court Hotel) on Thursday, 4 December, starting at 6pm.

Also, check out the new Vintage and Antiques Market in The Avenue between 9am-5pm on the last Saturday of each month. There will be a special Christmas edition market on Saturday, 13 December, 9am-3pm, with additional stalls and Christmas treats.

The weekly Ealing Farmers’ Market held in Leeland Road on Saturdays will be in full festive mood during December. Farmers will be taking orders for their free range poultry, while local dry cure bacon and Lincolnshire sausages will make for the perfect ‘pigs in blankets’. Freshly picked Brussel sprouts will be available all month along with a huge range of seasonal vegetables. On the last Saturday before Christmas there will be free mince pies and carols.

**Top tip:** You could also order cheese and Christmas turkey from the lovely shops in Northfields Avenue

### Dates for the diary

- **The Avenue Christmas Party**
  Thursday 4 December, from 6pm
  The Avenue, West Ealing
- **Greenford Christmas Market**
  Saturday 6 December, 11am-4pm
  Greenford town centre
- **West Ealing Christmas Fair**
  Saturday 6 December, 12noon-4pm. Dean Gardens
- **Southall Christmas Market**
  Sunday 7 December, 12noon-4pm
  Southall Square (next to Lidl), UB1 3HF
- **Acton Christmas Fair**
  Saturday 13 December, 11am-4pm
  Acton town centre
- **Christmas Avenue Vintage Market**
  Saturday 13 December, 9am-3pm
  The Avenue, West Ealing
- **Ealing Christmas Market**
  Until 24 December
  Ealing Broadway Shopping Centre, The Broadway

For more information about events taking place in Ealing visit www.ealing.gov.uk/events
Free childcare for two-year-olds

If you are on an income of less than £16,190 either from work or from benefits – your two-year-old may be entitled to a free childcare/nursery place for 15 hours a week.*

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

Ask about this offer at your children’s centre or call the Family Information Service who can carry out a quick eligibility check using your National Insurance number.

020 8825 5588
(Mon-Fri, 9am to 5pm)

* Up to 570 hours per year (maximum 15 hours per week).
The NHS defines binge drinking for men as having eight or more units of alcohol in one session. For women it is six. The trouble is it can be tricky to understand how many alcohol units are in a drink, especially because most drinks contain more than one unit. Drinking at home is even trickier because of our more ‘generous’ measures.

However, there is another simpler way to gauge your drinking. If you are drinking to get drunk, you are almost certainly binge drinking.

Getting very drunk can affect your physical and mental health. Anti-social behaviour, accidents and risky sexual behaviour are commonly linked to heavier and high risk drinking levels, and in the longer term it can lead to serious health problems.

Councillor Hitesh Tailor, the council’s cabinet member for health and adults’ services, said: “Many of us enjoy a night out celebrating with friends, but it’s a shame to let a great night out go bad because you’ve overdone it on the booze. The advice is fairly simple: It’s not a race, so remember to pace.”

Most people with alcohol-related health problems are not physically dependent. They simply drink more than the recommended levels and have done for some time. Even if you do not go to pubs or bars, but drink at home it is still worth looking at how much you are having. Drinking every day, even if you are not getting drunk can lead to long term health conditions. It is always best to have some alcohol-free days each week.

No-one can say that drinking alcohol is absolutely safe. By all means enjoy a drink; just be aware of how much you are having. By keeping within the recommended guidelines there is only a low risk of causing harm in most circumstances. If you are worried about your drinking, contact your GP or the local alcohol service, RISE. It will be able to suggest ways to help you cut down your drinking.

The good news is we can still enjoy drink in moderation if we want to. But, this party season, why not keep track of what you are drinking and maybe cut back a little? It could mean the difference between a night out you will never forget – and a night out you cannot remember.

With the party season nearly upon us, it is easy to get swept up in rounds and drink more than we normally would. Do you know your limit? Andy Mahady reports.

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**SOBERING THOUGHTS**

With the party season nearly upon us, it is easy to get swept up in rounds and drink more than we normally would. Do you know your limit? Andy Mahady reports.

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**WORRIED ABOUT ALCOHOL?**

Recovery Intervention Service Ealing (RISE)

www.ealingrise.org.uk

Tel: 0800 195 8100

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**HEALTH**

**SOBERING THOUGHTS**

With the party season nearly upon us, it is easy to get swept up in rounds and drink more than we normally would. Do you know your limit? Andy Mahady reports.

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**WORRIED ABOUT ALCOHOL?**

Recovery Intervention Service Ealing (RISE)

www.ealingrise.org.uk

Tel: 0800 195 8100
LOOKING FOR SOMETHING POSITIVE TO DO IN 2015?

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.

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.

We will be holding our next information sessions on the following dates: 1 December, 7.30-9.30pm, 5 January, 11am-1pm, 2 February, 7.30-9.30pm. Contact us to book your place or for more information.

Venue: Ealing Town Hall, New Broadway, Uxbridge Road, London W5 2BY.

BE THERE. BE AN EALING FOSTER CARER.

Call Ealing Fostering and Adoption Connections on Freephone 0800 731 6550
Email fosteradopt@ealing.gov.uk

www.ealing.gov.uk
You can cheat the chill through improvements such as draught proofing and insulation. It helps keep your home warm throughout, making your boiler work (and cost) less than it has to.

And, if your boiler is more than 15 years old, now may be a good time to replace it with a newer, more cost-effective one. Upgrading it will heat your home more efficiently and reduce your bills at the same time.

When Lindy Lee bought her home, the boiler was more than 15 years old and she was shocked by the bills when she first moved in. She decided to take action.

She said: “I replaced the old boiler and water tank with a new boiler and radiators, and saw a change in my energy bills straight away.

“Because it’s a combi-boiler, I always have hot water as I need it and I also had valves fitted to the radiators so I can turn them down, or off, in rooms I’m not using.

“I’d definitely recommend getting work like this done, my house feels much cosier and I’m saving money too.”

GREEN DEAL CAN HELP
The cost savings from upgrading your appliances and insulation can help pay for the installation. Thanks to the Green Deal scheme, you can now reduce the up-front cost of installation by paying for it through your energy bill. The ‘golden rule’ is that payments should be no greater than the savings.

As part of a consortium of councils and the National Energy Foundation, Ealing Council is a member of Green Homes Together, a community interest company. Green Homes Together is your local Green Deal provider, offering householder energy saving advice and support.

GET COSIE
For the fourth winter running, Ealing Council is again funding its COSIE programme to help prevent cold-related deaths. An advice line (0800 083 2265) offers energy efficiency pointers for residents struggling with rising energy bills. Give them a call.
A carefully researched £4.9 million facelift has restored the park to the glorious days when its famous creator, the celebrated architect Sir John Soane, roamed the grounds.

It has completely remodelled the landscape, giving visitors the same kind of view that Soane and his generation would have enjoyed when they gazed across Walpole’s rolling green spaces in the early 1800s.

Soane’s original stone bridge has been lovingly restored and the two water features have been recreated. Dozens of varieties of Regency period trees, flowers and shrubs have also been planted and the ancient cedar trees have been carefully pruned.

A keen horticulturalist, Soane would have been especially pleased with the restoration of the walled kitchen garden which now boasts heritage varieties of fruit and vegetables, set within new, raised beds surrounded by meandering pathways.

Still very much a contemporary open space, however, Walpole’s not just about Regency grandeur and painstakingly recreated period details. The park’s transformation owes as much to the inclusion of modern new attractions. These include a triple-zone children’s playground – complete with see-saw operated timber ‘forest fountains’ – and the Rickyard education centre that houses a café kiosk, public toilets and a classroom.

The perfect mix of old and new means Walpole Park will be a favourite destination for all ages,
for generations to come. But its remodelling is just one half of the area’s transformation; now it is the turn of Pitzhanger Manor itself to get a facelift.

TO THE MANOR REBORN
In January, Pitzhanger Manor will close to allow conservationists and craftspeople to begin a comprehensive £10.5million restoration – the biggest the building has undergone since it was handed over to the public in 1901.

Among the huge array of improvements will be the demolition of what appears on first glance to be the middle section of the building – but which is actually a Victorian-era ‘infill’ built after Soane’s death – which currently connects his former home to the gallery. The newly restored Pitzhanger Manor will instead have a covered pergola walkway, in place of the extension, which will create a beautiful outdoor route between the buildings, as it would have done originally.

A magnificent glass conservatory, replicating Soane’s greenhouse will be built at the rear of the manor house. This will give visitors a wonderful viewing point from which to admire Walpole Park.

The house will also be fitted with a large skylight, known as a roof lantern, which will flood the landing, central staircase and entrance lobby with light and illuminate the beautifully ornate ceilings, columns and cornicing.

Though not an original feature, Pitzhanger’s gallery space will be fully renovated, along with the manor. It is set to get a new roof and new heating and lighting, among other improvements. An upgraded security system also means the gallery will be able to borrow some of the world’s finest art works from various national galleries and museums, putting it firmly on the British arts and culture map.

Council leader Julian Bell is a Pitzhanger Manor Trust board member, and has been heavily involved in the restoration of park and house – right from the initial submissions for funding to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and the Arts Council.

He said: “When we first made an audit of the extent of wear and tear, we realised that serious action needed to be taken before it went into decline. Thankfully, both HLF and the Arts Council recognised what a treasure this site was. Walpole Park looks wonderful and I’m so excited that Pitzhanger Manor and Gallery is now getting the same treatment.”

TEMPORARY CLOSURE
Pitzhanger Manor House and Gallery closes to the public in January 2015. There will still be exhibitions, talks and events happening in Walpole Park and around the borough during the closure. Sign up to receive regular news on all events and the restoration itself at www.pitzhanger.org.uk
There is no need for all of this to go to waste. You can recycle a lot of these leftovers. You can recycle your real Christmas tree, for a start. The council will collect your Christmas tree for recycling from your doorstep with your recycling in January.

Of course, you can recycle any cardboard packaging in your green recycling box, or your white sack if it the packaging is plastic; while food waste can go in the food waste recycling bin.

For more information about recycling visit www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling

Christmas trees

Once again this year the council is providing a doorstep collection of Christmas trees.

On the same day as your usual refuse and recycling, the council will collect old Christmas trees for composting. Make sure you check on the back page of this magazine for any changes to your usual collection day over Christmas and the new year. Alternatively, old Christmas trees can be taken to one of the council’s parks and open spaces.

Between Monday, 29 December and Friday, 16 January, real Christmas trees can be put out with your weekly refuse and recycling collections at your property boundary. Tree trunks must not exceed 20cm in diameter or 6ft in height (taller trees can be cut in two). And remember to remove all decorations.

Alternatively, you can take your tree to any of the venues listed below in January:

- Elthorne Park (Boston Road)
- Islip Manor Park (Eastcote Lane car park)
- North Acton playing fields
- Perivale Park (Cowgate Road)
- Pitshanger Park
- Ravenor Park (Oldfield Lane South and Ruislip Road)
- Rectory Park (Parkfield Drive)
- Southall Park (Green Drive)
- Southfields Park
- Spikes Bridge Park (West Avenue)
- Springfield Gardens (Rosemont Road)
- Walpole Park (Lammas Park Gardens)

Re-use and recycling centres

- Acton (Stirling Road, W3 8DJ)
- Greenford (Greenford Road, UB6 9AP)
A pledge a day

Register for the council’s residents’ rewards scheme with Greenredeem and you could qualify for extra points every day through Christmas. In the traditional style of an advent calendar, each day a little treat can be unveiled by registering, pledging to be green and committing to recycling. The more you recycle, the more points can be accumulated.

You could get something small like a free coffee, or something larger like a discount off a holiday. There are lots of discounts already available by taking part in the scheme.

If you have already registered, make sure you visit the Christmas discounts page on the Greenredeem website.

Visit www.greenredeem.co.uk/adventcalendar for more.
Boys and Girls ages 3 – 13 years

YEAR 7 ENTRY
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- Subject specialist teachers (from Year 4)
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8 Mattock Lane, Ealing, London W5 5BG
Tel: 020 8579 3662  Email: admissions@cliftonlodgeschool.co.uk
www.cliftonlodgeschool.co.uk
People with dementia can have a number of symptoms, including memory loss, confusion, mood changes and difficulty in communicating. Most are elderly, but younger people can also be affected.

A new form of therapy is now being offered locally through the use of a pop-up ‘reminiscence pod’. It is set up in the Michael Flanders Centre, Acton, and is decorated to look like a 1960s living room. It is designed to take people back to a time they remember well. The familiar surroundings encourage them to relax and talk.

At the 1960s pod, authentic furniture and decorations are aided by objects from the period including a 1965 Odeon cinema ticket and a ‘60s TV set playing DVDs of news broadcasts from the time. And it really works, with up to 15 clients attending reminiscence therapy groups every weekday, who have various types of dementia – such as Alzheimer’s, vascular dementia and Korsakoff’s.

Not only do these sessions, with quizzes and discussions, help dementia sufferers, they also give their carers (often their children or spouses) a much-needed break.

Majorie Neaves has been going to the Michael Flanders Centre since 2012. Her daughter Lesley Webster said: “The centre was a real lifeline. We found that going there really perked mum up. She gets a lot of confidence from being able to remember things from years ago.”

Patricia Hayward, manager at Michael Flanders Centre, said: “Someone might be having a bad day and be struggling to remember things in the ‘here and now’, which can make them anxious and unsettled. But the pods are a safe and familiar environment. Stories and objects from the period help spark memories and discussions. It aids their memory, engages them and encourages interaction. They share experiences, in particular their life experiences, which all help to emphasise how they are still unique individuals.”

Councillor Hitesh Tailor, cabinet member for health and adults’ services, said: “Our dedicated staff provide real support to families, including through three dementia cafes and by adapting homes for easier living. As a community we need to get better at understanding dementia, and we are working with others to help make this happen.”

For help and advice, visit www.ealing.gov.uk/socialcare or call 020 8825 8000.

Around 800,000 people have dementia in the UK. Deborah Dickey found out about some of the help available locally.

DEMENTIA CAFES
People with dementia, and their friends and families, can attend one of three regular dementia cafes for support and socialising:

- Michael Flanders Centre, Acton, 10am–4pm. Next dates: 7 December, 25 January and 22 February
- Ealing Town Hall 7–9pm (every two months): Call 020 8568 1294; and Greenford Community Centre 2–5pm (monthly): Call 020 8580 1057.
From pubs and clubs to off-licences and supermarkets, there are 858 premises in the borough licensed to sell alcohol, and there are 109 food businesses offering late-night takeaways.

All businesses selling alcohol or trading outside of normal hours have a set of conditions outlining Ealing Council’s expectations of how they should be operating – under the terms of their licences.

Of course, most of them stick to these rules and are very responsible in the way they run things. For example, a number of bars and pubs in the area also belong to police schemes like Pubwatch.

Anne Hoddell is the manager of the King’s Arms pub in Ealing. She said: “Almost everybody who walks through our doors is lovely and we work hard to create a friendly and professional atmosphere. We have, though, joined Pubwatch because it helps to keep in touch with other local people in the same trade, and with the police, to make sure we all know of any potential problems and to pass on advice. Licensing is crucial, too, because it’s so important to make sure everyone when you are enjoying a drink with friends in the local pub or thinking whether your late-night snack should be a cheeseburger or a kebab, it might not occur to you that our night-time economy has strict rules to abide by.
plays by the same rules and that we avoid any similar businesses building a bad reputation and attracting the wrong attention.”

KEEPING AN EYE ON IT
Occasionally, however, things go wrong outside some takeaways or bars and residents complain about the impact a business is having on their community.

The council and Ealing Police have a team of officers located in the same offices, to improve their ability to help businesses with advice and, where necessary, carry out enforcement of rules. The team is led by a police sergeant and four constables, who work alongside three council licensing officers. They are supported by the council’s trading standards officers, noise team and legal advisors.

Councillor Ranjit Dheer, cabinet member for Safer Communities, said: “The team supports managers to maintain good standards, and monitors those who are struggling. It works with traders to help them make improvements where necessary – and can set out plans to help resolve any issues relating to anti-social behaviour.”

With so many premises to oversee, the licensing team uses a ‘traffic-light’ system to keep an eye on those businesses that become linked in some way to problems such as crime and anti-social behaviour.

Premises are categorised red, amber or green depending on the number, and seriousness, of incidents that have taken place there. Officers provide businesses that first encounter problems with advice on how to improve, and how to resolve issues.

If traders fail to follow this advice, the police may call for a review of the licence. These are then heard by the borough’s licensing sub-committee which has the power to vary licence conditions, for example by changing the opening hours or insisting on improving security. The sub-committee can even decide to revoke or suspend a licence.

UNHEALTHY APPETITE
Food businesses are monitored for hygiene by dedicated council officers, using a national rating system. But they are also monitored by the licensing team to make sure they operate within specified hours and, for example, do not serve later than they are meant to.

Takeaways and other fast food eateries may satisfy late night appetites but some can also attract trouble as people spill out from pubs and clubs. That is why the team cracks down on food being served after-hours.

Councillor Dheer said: “Individual businesses cannot make up their own opening and closing times. We know that problems such as noise, litter and rowdy behaviour can arise, but it is also unfair to other businesses if some take it upon themselves to stay open later than they are allowed to.”

IN NUMBERS
858 premises licensed to sell alcohol
3,199 food businesses
90 gambling premises
4 licenses revoked in 2013/14
7 further licenses reviewed – with extra conditions added or hours reduced
Big or small, you can do something good and make a difference to where you live, with the support of a new project helping to bring people together. Neelum Bains found out more.

Your ‘Bubble’ is the space you inhabit. It is what you care about; it is where you live or what you do. There is always something you can do to help your own little bubble thrive or, maybe, someone else’s. But, how?

Bubble is a new project supported by the council which is helping people to share ideas and resources – finding ways to connect likeminded neighbours. Tapping into, and building up, the community spirit.

It could be something small like helping an elderly neighbour put their bins out each week; or something large like a big community event.

Bubble is all about connecting people. It will help anyone looking to get involved with something already happening, anyone hoping to start something new, anyone with some spare time to help someone in need, or anyone looking for some help themselves.

Most of all it is about communication – letting each other know what is going on in the area and what opportunities exist to join in.

There is a Bubble website at www.dosomethinggood.org.uk which gives you a free and easy way to get involved. And you can connect via social media, too, on Facebook and Twitter.

WHAT IS HAPPENING NEAR YOU?
The website gives you information on local activities and events – anything from sports and culture to gardening and horticultural projects.

GOT A GOOD IDEA?
The site is also the place to go when you have a good idea. Whether you want people to help rally around to tidy-up an area, or perhaps to have a street party to get to know the neighbours better, the website has a handy set of toolkits and guides to help get you started. Projects can be big or small, depending on what you want to do and how much time and support you have.

NEED SOME HELP?
Bubble is also making it easier for residents to ask for help. A ‘Get Connected’ section of the website is designed to put people in touch with people who have common interests. It is also where residents can ask for help with small jobs they need doing themselves. This can be for tasks like walking a dog while their owner is unwell – the task might be small, and not take a lot of time, but it can make a huge difference to someone’s life.

Find out more
- www.dosomethinggood.org.uk
- www.facebook.com/ealingbubble
- www.twitter.com/ealingbubble
Something good #1: Key to community
Southall resident Huneljot Gill decided to make a difference to where he lived by making the area cleaner and safer.

“I have lived in my house all my life, but it wasn’t until I became the father of two very energetic boys that I began to notice things that could be dangerous right on my doorstep,” explained Huneljot.

“The alleyway running down the length of our house also backs on to other properties. I noticed an increase in the amount of rubbish collecting in the alley and strangers hanging around there.

“I let my boys kick a ball around one afternoon and noticed a dirty syringe and burnt foil thrown on top of littered beer cans. It made me so angry. Not long after, someone started to dump their unwanted mattresses and rubbish in the alleyway.

“So I did something about it.

“I knocked on everyone’s doors that had access to the alleyway and found some neighbours felt the same as me. Together we called in a professional to clear out the alleyway.

“Once it was clean, it looked so much better now, only the people who need access have keys to unlock the gates. Simple.”

Something good #2: SoundBite
We all want something fun to do. And when neighbours come together and pool their professional skills, anything is possible.

West Ealing SoundBite Festival is a free, one-day music and food festival, established and organised by a small band of local volunteers – and sponsored by West Ealing BID, Pathways charity, Affinity Sutton, and the council’s Elthorne and Walpole ward forums.

This year’s festival in Dean Gardens had food stalls, local produce, cookery lessons for all the family and the farmers’ market in Leeland Road added to the atmosphere, with children’s entertainment alongside the usual fine array of food. There was also some great live music from local musicians – including Ealing-born singer-songwriter Azadeh.

Azadeh has recently toured with Jools Holland, Robert Cray and others. She said: “Bubble seems like a really fantastic project because it can make it easier for people to pull together to make good things happen, big or small, and for the community to share experiences. For me, the most important thing about making music and performing it is to share it and thereby connect with as many people as possible. That is what community events like the SoundBite Festival are all about, bringing people together. The ability for us all to connect, and share in a moment, unites us in a way that nothing else in the world can. I really enjoyed performing at the festival and I hope it is the kind of thing that will inspire others to do something inspiring for their neighbourhood.”
As the name implies, the aim of the campaign is to sign-up companies to pledge 100 apprenticeships in 100 days, between September and December. Last year, this target was smashed and the final total of placements pledged reached an astonishing 167, split across 75 different companies.

It meant there were a huge number of apprenticeship positions waiting for the right person to fill each of them.

Now the council is doing it again and we need more enthusiastic young people, aged 16-24, to come forward. As Around Ealing went to press, the target of 100 placements had already been exceeded and the number was growing by the day. The closing date for employers to contact the council’s Ealing Apprenticeship Network is 9 December.

‘A GENUINE OPPORTUNITY’

Councillor Jasbir Anand, the council’s cabinet member for housing, employment and skills, said: “Modern apprenticeships are an excellent and proven route to building a career. The council is determined to support such opportunities. Our 100-in-100 campaigns have proved a tremendous success and we have now made a commitment to help create 500 apprenticeships by 2018. The high standard of placements is providing a genuine opportunity for dedicated young people to make their way in life – and providing enthusiastic new members of staff for local business. I would urge anyone interested in getting involved to contact our Ealing Apprenticeship Network.”

CASE STUDY: THE APPRENTICE

Hannah Regan, 18, was taken on as an apprentice through the network in November 2013 by chartered financial planners FPS London, based in Ealing.
She said: “I chose to do an apprenticeship after I completed the first year of sixth form because I realised that continuing at school wasn’t for me. I decided to look into apprenticeships. I found the business administration apprenticeship at FPS London and thought it would be a good path to go down. My experience here has been very interesting and I have learned a lot whilst being here. I have met some really nice people along the way and I would definitely recommend it to others. It’s such a good opportunity.”

CASE STUDY: THE BUSINESS
Paul Pearson’s company Door to Door Transport Solutions Ltd, of Greenford, took on an apprentice during the first 100-in-100 campaign, last September. He had not previously been sold on the idea of taking on an apprentice but when a colleague found out about Ealing Apprenticeship Network and made some enquiries, he changed his mind – and 18-year-old Bayleigh Fraser was hired.

He said: “With the right candidate, it works, and I would recommend it to others. We wanted someone completely open who we could show the ropes to and mould into what we wanted. We gradually adapted Bayleigh to the working environment and built up her responsibilities and duties. She took on more and more aspects of the job – some of which she can now do even better than me. She’s become a useful member of the team.”

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

WANT TO BE AN APPRENTICE?
If you think you could be one of the apprentices to fill the 100-in-100 positions, go online at www.ealing.gov.uk/apprenticeships to find out more.

Successful applicants will be invited to attend one of a number of workshops being held for potential candidates at Ealing Town Hall.

Apprenticeships are a good way for 16 and 17 year-olds to fulfil the requirements of ‘Raising of the Participation Age’ because of the strong element of working with training.

WANT TO SIGN-UP YOUR BUSINESS?
If you are an employer, all you have to do is get in touch with the council’s Ealing Apprenticeship Network, and its team will help with the rest. You will get help with writing the job description for the role and they will support you through the recruitment process free of charge. It could not be easier. The apprentices are paid by the employer but, in many cases, the government will help cover the cost of the required formal training, carried out by an approved training company.
Our roads make up more than half of the open space in our towns but they have almost exclusively become the domain of cars, for understandable reasons. But it does not have to be that way all of the time.

PlayStreets is a resident-led scheme backed by Ealing Council which aims to draw people out from behind locked doors and away from their TV screens, so they can share the common space in front of their homes with their neighbours.

Councillor Bassam Mahfouz, cabinet member for transport and environment, said: “The borough currently has three active PlayStreets and another three have applied as word has spread. A PlayStreet is a stewarded road closure for two or three hours each month to let you capture some of the excitement of street parties on a regular basis, and build a sense of community. It lets neighbours have a cup of tea and a chat, and allows children to run, scooter and play safely together, and with freedom.”

All of the existing PlayStreets run between 3-5pm, except in the winter when they switch to the earlier time of 1-3pm.

Councillor Mahfouz said: “The council is accepting applications to set up more PlayStreets in the spring. It can take a couple of months to organise, so it is best to start thinking about it now.” Applications for PlayStreets are free to make and there will be no fee for closing roads if a scheme is approved.

WANT TO BRING YOUR STREET ALIVE?

If you want to set up a PlayStreet in your road, there are four easy steps to follow:
1. Talk to your neighbours and see if enough of you are keen to organise it.

2. Do a house-to-house survey with neighbours and get them to complete a survey. Contact the council and ask it to help you. The council can run a confidential online survey and collate the results for you. You can also collect signatures on paper. You will need to show support for the scheme comes from the majority of residents in your street.

3. If the response is in favour of a PlayStreet, you will need to advise residents of the outcome of the survey and then the council will apply for a temporary traffic order on your behalf to enable the road closures. It takes six-eight weeks to organise, but then lasts for years.

4. Let everyone know when your first PlayStreet will be. A ‘Playing Out’ kit is provided for you by the council, which contains everything you need to get started.

WHAT IS A PLAYSTREET LIKE?

Neighbours of Goldsmith Avenue in Acton worked with the council to pilot the first ever PlayStreet in the borough in September 2013. They have held sessions once a month on a Saturday ever since.

Resident Sara Nathan said she first came up with the idea after their street got together for the first time when throwing a big lunch to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee. She said:

“All of a sudden there were all these children that nobody had ever seen before. It made you realise they weren’t playing together outside and we were missing the liveliness of street life that you get when children are out playing.”

Another resident, Sonya Matthews, said her two children, aged five and three, really look forward to playing out. However, the events are not exclusively for the little ones in their street. “Neighbouring streets are also invited,” said Sonya. “It’s lovely to be able to step outside and have a cup of tea and a biscuit with other parents and people whose kids have long since left home. One neighbour who grew up on the street and has lived there for about 30 years said the sound of the first PlayStreet took her back to her childhood in Goldsmith Avenue. It was really nice for us to know that was something we were recreating.”

MORE INFO

- Contact Renée McCaw at the council, email mccawr@ealing.gov.uk or call 020 8825 8415
- www.dosomethinggood.org.uk or www.ealing.gov.uk/playstreets
You don’t need to be a Superhero this Christmas to reduce food waste - ANYONE CAN DO IT!

In the last edition of Around Ealing we introduced you to the Superhero in disguise in your kitchen, the fridge-freezer. The run up to Christmas and over the festive period is often busy and expensive, with so much going on it feels more difficult to plan. Yet planning will save you time, money and food waste.

In early December try and plan to eat at least 2 meals a week from your freezer, adding any extra ingredients you need from your store cupboards to make a delicious meal. This will create space in your freezer to store the extra food you’ll buy for the party season and you can save your money for the big shop later in the month.

Even if you’ve got a combination of ingredients you wouldn’t normally try, have a look online to find meal ideas that tickle your taste buds. The lovefoodhatewaste.com website has a recipe search by ingredient, try recipe books or asking friends too.

When you’ve made some room in your fridge-freezer you can start buying food for Christmas. Many items can be bought beforehand and frozen – meats (including your turkey), fish, party snacks and vegetables are just some of the things you can freeze in advance.

Don’t guess who’s coming to dinner. Work out where you’re going to be eating and how many people you need to feed, this will help you buy the correct amounts or at least avoid buying double what you need.

Make a couple of alternative meals in advance and freeze them just in case. Lasagne, chilli, casseroles and stews can all be frozen and are quick to heat up if you have unexpected guests.

Leftovers are a perfect opportunity to save time and money. Even just one portion can be used as a meal another day – saving you the 38 minutes it takes on average to make dinner.

Check out the party food portion calculator on lovefoodhatewaste.com to find out how many sausages on sticks, mini pizzas, sandwiches or cakes you need to serve at your party. There’s also an everyday portion planner to give an idea of how many roast potatoes and parsnips to prepare.

Here are a few other things you can do too:

- The top 5 foods being binned:
  - Bread
  - Potatoes
  - Milk
  - Meals
  - Fizzy drinks

- Did you know?
  - Food can be frozen at any time before and on the ‘use by’ date

- Want to know more?
  - West London Waste will come out to groups or events to give interactive talks, run information sessions and train up food champions. We use games and other resources to give relevant and useful hints, tips and ideas.

If you’d like us to visit you get in touch on 020 8825 9468 or email info@westlondonwaste.gov.uk.

Get more tips, ideas and information on our website.

West London Waste
Let’s be resourceful
www.westlondonwaste.gov.uk
As the temperatures fall, the council’s roads team is on 24-hour standby to keep main routes clear and traffic moving.

The council’s eight gritting lorries do not wait for snow before they start work. Using data from the council’s appointed weather forecaster, they get out on to the streets as soon as the road surface temperature drops low enough.

This can even occur in autumn, if the temperature has already dropped low enough at night.

Unlike many other local authorities, the council has its own purpose-built storage barn for grit. This means supplies can be stockpiled throughout the year – as much as 4,500 tonnes can be stored at any one time. That is the equivalent of 714 double decker buses.

The borough has 355 miles of roads and pavements and, during winter, more than 1,000 tonnes of grit is often spread.

Early forecasts are predicting a drier and colder winter than last year’s wet and windy one, but the roads team is prepared.

Councillor Bassam Mahfouz, cabinet member for transport and environment, said: “I am always impressed with what I see at the grit barn. We are well prepared for the cold weather once again and we have plenty of grit to keep our main roads clear over the winter.

“When the temperatures drop, our priority is to keep clear roads leading to emergency sites such as hospitals, and ambulance and fire stations; and also to keep bus routes open. In addition, we concentrate on gritting the main commuter routes and shopping areas.

“If snow settles, we’ll spread grit on pavements in town centres, around schools and hospitals. We’ll do the same at Tube and bus stations and other areas that are important to the economy and well-being of the borough.

“Unfortunately, our team can’t get around the whole of the borough, so residential streets and pavements aren’t normally gritted. And, even in the main areas where gritting often does take place, we ask people to take extra care driving and walking during the winter months. Please do not assume that all roads and pavements have been gritted.”

Should you want to keep the pavement outside your own house clear, it is useful to consult the Department for Transport’s snow code first, at www.gov.uk/clear-snow-road-path-cycleway.
EALING WEDDING FAIR 2015
SATURDAY 7 FEBRUARY - 11AM - 5PM

PLACE
EALING TOWN HALL
NEW BROADWAY
LONDON W5 2BY

CONTACT
HOSPITALITY@EALING.GOV.UK
020 8825 6060
EALINGVENUEHIRE

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IF YOU PRE-REGISTER AT
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E advantages
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ENROL NOW

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Ealing Adult Learning
Email: adultlearning@ealing.gov.uk
Tel: 020 8825 5577
Our borough is getting healthier. It has one of the highest uptakes of free NHS Health Checks in the country. That means residents are reducing their risk of developing heart disease, stroke, diabetes, kidney disease and even dementia. Andy Mahady reports.

If you are aged between 40 to 74 years old, have not had an NHS Health Check in the last five years and have not already been diagnosed with certain conditions or risk factors, you will be invited for a free NHS Health Check.

It is well worth having it even if you feel perfectly well and lead a healthy lifestyle. Hopefully, it will simply give you peace of mind and some good advice on staying well.

However, it is worth remembering some conditions have no early symptoms. For example, it is estimated that nationally 850,000 people are unaware they have type-2 diabetes (see page 33 of this magazine). Furthermore, GPs increasingly find that people are blissfully unaware of what is a healthy weight, a safe level of alcohol or enough exercise.

Of course, busy families may find it hard to find the time for their health check. So it is worth viewing it like you would a child’s vaccinations – not something you would miss through a lack of time. Besides, the checks only take about 20 minutes and you need to keep fit and well so you can look after your family.

Councillor Hitesh Tailor, the council’s cabinet member for health and adults’ services, said: “I encourage anyone who gets the invitation to take up a free and confidential NHS Health Check to do so, once every five years.

If you are diagnosed as at risk of developing heart disease, stroke, diabetes, kidney disease or dementia, the good news is these conditions are often preventable through simple changes to your lifestyle, such as increasing your levels of activity, watching what you eat and stopping smoking.

“Your healthcare professional will discuss your results and offer support to help lower your risk.

“You don’t have to wait until your health check to start making healthy changes. The NHS Health Check website has good information and advice, along with free apps and trackers to help get you started.”

So, take charge of your long-term health and visit your GP for a free NHS Health Check. It is just what the doctor ordered.

Visit www.nhs.uk/nhshealthcheck
Applications are being received – and will be accepted until the cut-off point of 15 January 2015. Under the London-wide primary school admissions scheme, parents living in the borough will submit a single application to Ealing Council, listing their preferences, even if they are applying for a place at a school outside the borough.

The system helps prevent delays because it means parents will get only one offer of a place and everyone will receive them on the same day.

WHAT TO DO
All parents and carers living in the borough need to list up to six different schools that they want to apply for, including any that are located outside the borough (but not private schools).

Your choices have to be ranked in order of preference, from one to six. This is important because only one offer can be made to you and this would be from the highest ranked school at which your child qualifies for a place. People living in other boroughs need to apply to their own local authority.

The closing date for applications is 15 January 2015. After that date applications will be considered as being late and parents may not be able to be offered any of their preferred schools.

If your child was born between 1 September 2010 and 31 August 2011 he or she will be due to start primary school in September 2015.
HOW TO DO IT
You can either:
■ Visit www.eadmissions.org.uk to apply online
■ Get a paper application form.
You can do this by calling the council’s schools admissions service on 020 8825 5511 between 9am-12noon, Monday to Friday, or email mainroundadmissions@ealing.gov.uk

APPLICATION FORMS

Faith schools
If you want to apply for a place at a faith school you will also need to fill in the school’s own ‘supplementary information form’.

The supplementary information forms are available from the schools concerned or on the council’s website at www.ealing.gov.uk/admissions and will be used to assess denominational commitment. The supplementary form must be returned to the school before the closing date. Please note: If you do not complete both Ealing’s common application form and the school’s supplementary information form then your application will not be regarded as valid. If you require further information please contact the school(s) concerned.

Applying to schools outside the borough
If you live in Ealing but are applying for a place at a school in another borough, it is important that you read the primary prospectus for that borough to ensure that you understand the admission criteria for the schools that you are interested in applying to.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT
After the deadline on 15 January 2015, the applications will be processed. Then, on the pan-London offer day on 16 April 2015, an offer will be made to all applicants, as far as practically possible.

If a school is over-subscribed, its published admission criteria will be used to decide the order in which applicants are offered places.

To make sure nobody is offered more than one school place, the pan-London admissions system will co-ordinate all of the offers made to parents who have applied for places at schools in other areas.

MORE INFO
■ Individual advice sessions will be held at Perceval House, Room M023, on 3, 4 and 5 December. Book a slot by emailing mainroundadmissions@ealing.gov.uk or calling 020 8825 5511
■ Read the prospectus online at www.ealing.gov.uk/2015primaryprospectus
Have your say on schools
Consultation on Ealing’s admission arrangements for 2016/2017

The proposed changed admission arrangements for Ealing’s schools for 2016 will be available to view from 3 November 2014 until 9 January 2015 on the Ealing Council website: www.ealing.gov.uk/consultation

Different types of schools in Ealing
Community schools – the council is responsible for deciding on the admission arrangements for community schools. All community primary schools have the same admission arrangements and all community high schools have the same admission arrangements.

Voluntary aided (church schools), foundation schools and academies are their own admission authority, this means that they all have their own individual admission arrangements and are responsible for deciding on their own admission arrangements.

How to respond to the consultation
The council would value your views on the proposed admission arrangements. Your views are important to us so please tell us what you think.

If you have any comments regarding the proposed admission arrangements you can either:
• Complete the online response form or
• Send your comments to Eileen Lustig, Head of Admissions, Ealing Council, Perceval House, 14 –16 Uxbridge Road, Ealing W5 2HL; email elustig@ealing.gov.uk or
• Send your comments regarding admission authority schools (voluntary aided (church) schools, foundation schools and academies) directly to the school’s governing body at the school concerned.
Britain’s military is changing and there is an increasing role for reservists – people who combine their civilian career with a paid role in the forces during their spare time. The borough’s army reserve unit is looking for men and women from all walks of life. Could you be one?

5

62 Transport Squadron, which is part of 151 Regiment The Royal Logistic Corps, is based in Southall. Wherever you find the army, you will find the corps – whether it is in a snowy field or a red-hot desert – providing vital support and supplies.

A range of reservist roles is now available for local people, including in: Catering (chefs); communications (radio operators); and transport (drivers) – handling a wide variety of vehicles.

No prior skills are needed to join – you will learn the roles during training sessions.

Reservists are paid for their time while learning new skills – skills that they can then transfer to their civilian career. Reservists can be mobilised to take part in operations alongside the regular army, and also have the opportunity to get involved in adventure training and sports.

You will get paid for training and will also get a tax-free ‘bounty’ if you complete the minimum number of days’ training required in a year (up to 40 days). Training takes place in the evening, at weekends and there is a two-week annual deployment exercise.

Basic training also includes learning about military tactics, weapon handling and map reading.

Council leader Julian Bell, who signed an armed forces covenant pledging support from Ealing Council for the military, said: “Army reservists are a critical and valued part of the defence of our nation. Those men and women who join-up find they are rewarded in return through personal development, and finding fresh opportunities. I would encourage any local person who is curious to find out more.”

ELIGIBILITY

You need to be a British citizen aged between 18-43 and will need to meet some basic fitness requirements to pass army selection. Certain Commonwealth citizens can also be accepted – enquire to find out more.

WILL IT AFFECT MY DAY JOB?

Although there is no legal requirement for your employer to give you extra time off for training, many are happy to do so. If you are mobilised, legislation exists to offer you, and your employer, financial assistance.

MORE INFO

Call 0845 600 8080

www.army.mod.uk/rolefinder
The council has been using a range of initiatives to help boost housing supply and find accommodation for people in need. This includes construction schemes, new hostel spaces, the use of vacated flats on housing estates awaiting regeneration, conversion of empty shops to homes, erection of pre-fabricated ('modular') homes on vacant council land, purchase of property on the open market and rehousing people outside of London.

Councillor Jasbir Anand, the council's cabinet member for housing, said: “With the increasingly overheated London housing market a constant challenge, and the ongoing effects of the financial crisis meaning more households looking to the council for help, we are working very hard to provide as many housing and accommodation options as possible.”

**Building more council homes**

After years of no new council housing stock being built, nationally, it was decided in Ealing to take advantage of a change in rules — and begin a programme of identifying sites and then building new homes.

In the last three years, 80 new council homes have opened in the borough and another 309 are steadily opening over the course of the next two years under the council’s New Build programme. This is seeing £22.7million being spent on the construction of new properties across the borough by the end of 2016.

For example, more than £4million has been allocated across three New Build projects currently under way in Northolt, Greenford and Southall, with the Greater London Authority contributing over £450,000 in grant funding. They should be finished in spring. The homes in Greenford are one- and two- bedroom flats on the site of former council bedsits in Allenby Road. The homes in Northolt are three-bedroom family houses in Wincanton Crescent; and the Southall homes are three-, four- and five- bedroom houses on the site of the old Disraeli Nursery.

Other new-build homes, in Hoylake Road, East Acton; Epsom Close, Northolt; and Carlyle Road, South Ealing; opened earlier this year.

Councillor Anand said: “The council’s New Build programme is working to provide much needed additional affordable homes for rent.
and shared ownership throughout the borough. They are council-built, council-owned dwellings and show our commitment to help more local people move into good quality homes they can afford.”

Innovation on estates
In February, the council won a London Planning Award for its ambitious plans to transform Copley Close Estate in Hanwell.

In an innovative and unusual move, Ealing Council is acting as both developer and landlord rather than getting a housing association or private developer to take over the estate. The council is overseeing and financing the whole development process by setting up its own company that will develop the new homes for sale and private rent.

Over the next five years the transformation of Copley Close will see 205 new homes being built and a further 550 existing homes refurbished. It will have new housing for council tenants, flats and houses for private sale, shared ownership, market rent and affordable rent. New community facilities, shops and public spaces will also be created.

The council is working to regenerate other estates in the borough in a similar way.

Empty properties back into use
Up to 83 private properties are being bought for use as emergency accommodation. To date there have been 23 open market purchases plus 28 agreed offers. Many were vacant or unused homes. By owning and managing the properties, the council has more control over where families can be housed — and the properties can be sold in the future if they are ever no longer required.

Temporary, modular homes
The council has invited tenders for a company to put up a 20-unit modular homes scheme.

These pre-fabricated homes will then temporarily house homeless families currently living in bed and breakfast. Units can be erected on a vacant council site and then moved to an alternative site when the original one is developed. It is anticipated that the scheme will be under way in early 2015.

Calming rental pricing
Councils across London, including Ealing, have worked together to agree a maximum level of rent they are prepared to pay private landlords to temporarily house families.

The over stretched rental market and the increased demand for emergency accommodation for the rising number of homeless families in London had allowed landlords to increase their prices by playing off councils against one another.

By capping the top rate across the capital, the councils are starting to calm, and control, prices and limit the threat of gazumping.

Using empty blocks of flats
Properties emptied for regeneration projects are likely to remain empty for a period of between 10 months and two years. The council’s housing demand team has set up an arrangement to have 71 such units repaired and managed to allow homeless families to move in on a temporary basis while they wait to be rehomed.

It has the added bonus to communities on the estates of having families living in the properties rather than being empty, boarded homes. This scheme is ongoing and more than 150 households have benefited from the scheme so far.

Converting shops to flats
The council identified six long-term vacant shops in Northolt, which were on council housing estates, which would be suitable for conversion to temporary accommodation.

Refurbished in just six weeks, the former shops have since been housing families previously in bed and breakfast. Not only does this save the council money, but it also helps to regenerate vacant premises.

It is a model that the council is looking to replicate across the borough.

More hostel places
Hostel rents are lower than bed and breakfast prices, and 50 additional hostel places are being created in the borough by the council taking on more space in existing council buildings and maximising the number of people that can be housed in existing hostels. This will save somewhere in the region of £750,000 per year as well as increasing the options available to homeless households.

Moves out of London
Where feasible, some households can be moved into affordable accommodation outside Ealing. Recently, 76 families have moved out to available housing in Birmingham, Milton Keynes, Hemel Hempstead and Slough.

Key amnesty
The council ran a key amnesty in spring which led to the recovery of seven properties. Tenants illegally sub-letting their council homes were given the chance to hand back their keys and avoid criminal prosecution.

It costs the council an average of £18,000 a year to house a family in temporary accommodation, so the recovery of these seven properties represents a saving of £126,000 for the council because they can be reallocated to provide stable homes for local families in genuine need.

The council is also investigating reports of other suspected illegal sub-letting. You can report suspicions to the council in strict confidence, by calling 0800 328 6453 or sending an email to fraudreferrals@ealing.gov.uk.

For more information on housing, visit www.ealing.gov.uk/housing
Resident Rewards

Join the Residents’ Rewards Scheme and get rewarded for recycling. There are over 100 ways to reward yourself, including donating to community projects or winning prizes in our monthly prize draw.

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

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.

Christmas Special
Earn up to 300 points by registering before 24/12

Recycling is rewarding

Rewarding Yourself
Choose from over 100 exclusive rewards. Just for you!

Rewarding Others
Donate your points to community projects. Help others locally.

Rewarding Prizes
Win prizes from iPads to High Street vouchers in our monthly prize draw.

Residents’ Rewards by greenredeem rewarding action

www.ealing.gov.uk
Bigger bellies mean a bigger risk of type-2 diabetes. And, if you think diabetes is just a minor inconvenience it may be time to get the tape measure out and think again.

Men whose waist size is above 102cm (40.2 inches) are five times more likely to develop type-2 diabetes than those with a smaller waist size. Women with a waist above 88cm (34.7 inches) are three times more likely to develop the condition.

People often get their waist measurement wrong by measuring under their bellies at the hips. A waist measurement should be taken across the belly button while breathing normally.

Diabetes is a condition in which the body does not produce enough insulin to regulate blood glucose (sugar) levels, or where the insulin produced is unable to work effectively. There are two main types of diabetes:

- Type-1 diabetes has no association with obesity or other lifestyle factors. People are born with it, though symptoms do not usually develop until adolescence.
- Type-2 diabetes is associated with being overweight or obese. There is no cure and the condition is managed through diet and exercise. Over time most people with type-2 diabetes will require oral drugs or insulin.

FALSE IMPRESSIONS
There is a common misconception that type-2 diabetes is little more than an inconvenience, but this is far from true. Diabetics are at a greater risk of heart disease, amputation, kidney disease and even blindness. In England, diabetes contributed to around 23,300 additional deaths in 2010-11.

Councillor Hitesh Tailor, the council’s cabinet member for health and adults’ services, said: “The key to reducing your risk of diabetes is losing weight through a healthy diet and being more active. “The council’s Active Ealing team promotes healthy, active lifestyles. Our many parks and open spaces provide excellent places to enjoy a brisk walk, as well as outdoor gyms and distance marker routes. The borough has a number of indoor sports centres, too, with facilities and affordable classes for people of all ages and abilities.”

If you are overweight, losing weight will bring you a range of important health benefits. The NHS Choices website has good advice if you would like to start making changes to your diet and levels of physical activity. www.nhs.uk/loseweight

DIABETES SYMPTOMS
- Peeing more often than usual, particularly at night
- Increased thirst
- Extreme tiredness
- Unexplained weight loss
- Genital itching or frequent episodes of thrush
- Slow healing cuts or wounds
- Blurred vision.
EALING MUSIC & FILM VALENTINE FESTIVAL
10 - 15 February 2015

Celebrating Ealing’s Polish Heritage

DETAILS & TICKETS ealingmusicandfilmfestival.org

English Chamber Orchestra, Tasmin Little, Julie Price, Roxanna Panufnik, Ealing Studios, Ealing Symphony Orchestra, Julia Samojło, Tenebrae, Kristine Balanas
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.

**TYPES OF FRAUD**

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.
What will you get for Christmas this year? Perhaps it will be a new electrical item like a hairdryer – or maybe you will treat yourself to a new sofa in the new year sales?

It is great getting new stuff. But what do you do with old, unwanted things? The answer is simple. Whether your new acquisition is something large like a piece of furniture, or something small like a digital radio, there is no need to throw away what they replace – because there is now somewhere for everything to go.

It is not too big...
Unwanted furniture and white goods can be given a new lease of life, thanks to the council’s re-use collection scheme. If suitable, furniture and appliances are collected from residents’ homes. They can, if necessary, be repaired and re-furbished, and then they are sold-on cheaply or donated to low-income families in west London. The council is working in partnership with registered charity, Furnish, and also London Re-use Network, to make it possible.

Items that could be collected, for a fee, include sofas, chairs, tables, TVs, wardrobes, fridges and much more. The re-use scheme prevents these items from being sent to landfill.

Since collections started in September 2013, more than 43 tonnes have been picked up.

To find out more, visit www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling – or call 020 8825 6000.
Hard plastic is easy, too
Got leftover plastic objects from the summer, you have not got round to disposing of?
Hard plastic patio furniture or large, plastic garden toys for children can all now be recycled as well – not to mention old guttering and pipes, if you are giving your house or garage a bit of winter maintenance.
Simply take them down to the new recycle bin for hard plastic items at the council's Greenford recycling and re-use centre, in Greenford Road.

A place for almost everything
Councillor Bassam Mahfouz, the council’s cabinet member for transport and environment, said:
“It used to be difficult to recycle certain products. But the council is keen to make it possible for people to recycle as much as possible, or to send items for re-use if they are in decent condition. That is why we are now able to provide services to collect bulky goods from your home, along with easy-to-find bins to put old, broken or unwanted electrical items in, and somewhere you can now dispose of hard plastic goods. Almost everything has somewhere to go. So you needn’t ever wake up to a Christmas clutter hangover again.”
For more information visit www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling
More details on the cabinet are available at [www.ealing.gov.uk/councillors](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/councillors)

**The Cabinet**

Councillor Julian Bell  
Leader, and regeneration

Councillor Ranjit Dheer  
Deputy leader, and community services and safety

Councillor Yoel Gordon  
Chief whip

Councillor Hitesh Tailor  
Health and adults’ services

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 Patricia Walker  
Leisure, culture and customer services

Councillor Jasbir Anand  
Housing, employment and skills

**The Mayoralty**

Mayor of Ealing  
Councillor Tej Bagha

Deputy mayor  
Councillor Harbhajan Kaur Dheer

**The Map**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Councillor Name</th>
<th>Party</th>
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<th>Email Address</th>
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There are lots of examples of how ward forums have helped improve safety. After hearing a policing report in their forum, councillors and residents in the Lady Margaret area of Southall recommended spending some of their ward budget on crime deterrents. The police report had explained how a dispersal order was to be placed on an area around the shops in Allenby Road that had been suffering from burglary and motor vehicle crime. The order gave officers extended powers to move people on.

To support this action, the forum decided to spend money on additional measures, including installing alley-gating and relocating its public safety CCTV camera to the problem area. The camera is one of 24 portable units bought by wards to support the work of council and police teams.

Elsewhere, in other wards, burglary prevention packs, perimeter fencing, street lighting improvements and two-way radio systems for businesses to raise alarms with each other, are some of the safety measures undertaken as a result of information provided by community members attending their ward forums.

Officers and organisations regularly attend the meetings to raise awareness on crime trends and advise local people on matters of personal safety, home security and how to deal with anti-social behaviour.

HAVE YOUR SAY
To influence how your neighbourhood’s safety concerns are dealt with or to have your say on matters that affect you where you live, come along to the next meeting in your ward by putting the meeting date, shown on this page, in your diary or by following the @ealingcouncil Twitter feed.

For full details, visit www.ealing.gov.uk/wardforums
The Martin brothers

Southall’s most celebrated craftsmen were the four Martin Brothers and their work is still collected almost a century after their deaths. Some of their work is now on display in the refurbished and reopened Dominion Centre.

They were potters whose output peaked in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Perhaps their most famous works are the tobacco jars with removeable lids in the shape of large beaked birds – these were known as the Wally Birds after their creator Robert Wallace Martin, the senior member of this family firm and the master potter.

The four brothers were part of a family who had its roots in Suffolk. In the early 19th Century their parents, Robert Thomas Martin and Margaret Fraser moved to London, where their large family took shape. Of their nine children, one died as a child, one emigrated to Australia, but four of the sons joined forces as potters.

Initially their pottery was in Fulham, but they needed an economical and convenient supply of clay with which to make their pots. Fortunatley a friend of theirs was involved in the Southall Brick Company; there were several such firms operating in rural Southall at this time. They found a disused soap works in Havelock Road, next to the canal. This was an ideal location because it was close to rail and canal, to their raw material and to their London markets. Charles Martin sold much of the Martinware, the name given to his brothers’ output, in their shop in Brownlow Road, London. They also took their work to various exhibitions.

However, despite their output, they never became rich. Robert once said, ‘my Brothers and myself never got more than Labourers’ wages’. Their later years were beset by crises – falling demand, a fire in their shop, poor health and quarrels between the brothers. One died of cancer and another in an asylum. A rare moment of happiness came when their brother from Australia paid a surprise visit in 1906. The last years were of decline; less and less was produced as the brothers died. Robert, though the oldest, was the last to die; in 1923. As with his fellow potters, he was buried in Havelock Road Cemetery, all in unmarked graves.

Robert’s son, Clement, carried on with the business for a few years following his father’s death, but it was not a great success. There is nothing on the site now to show what was there and the locality has changed out of all recognition. However, the Martins and their work are not wholly forgotten. In 2006 their final resting places were at...
We reported in the last edition of Around Ealing about the restoration project for Gunnersbury Park and its listed buildings. They have had an illustrious past.

In 1663, Serjeant Maynard, a well-known lawyer, bought the estate. He led the prosecution in the 1640s against some of Charles I’s major supporters and his career prospered, not just under Cromwell, but also during the reigns of Charles I’s two sons, Charles II and James II. He was knighted for his services.

The mansion’s next famous resident was Princess Amelia. She was the unmarried daughter of the late George II. She used the house as her summer retreat from London. Courtiers and politicians, including novelist and man of letters Horace Walpole, could often be found here.

Nathan Rothschild, head of one of the richest banking families in the country, bought the estate in the 1830s, and though he never lived there, his son, Lionel, did. Once again, Gunnersbury became a centre of hospitality for the rich and famous. Among these included Benjamin Disraeli, Queen Victoria’s favourite prime minister. In the early 20th Century, Edward VII and later, his son, George V, visited. In 1917, Winston Churchill was also a guest.

However, following deaths in the family, the Rothschilds decided to sell the estate and the surrounding land in the 1920s. Happily, the two mansions and estate were bought by the local councils and preserved for local people to enjoy – with the park opening in 1926.

The new Southall Library at the Dominion Centre boasts a room (named after local historian George Twyman) in which to view parts of the council’s collection, as well as newly researched illustrated panels. The archives of Sidney Greenslade, friend to the Martins and collector of their work, can be viewed at Ealing Library.

Gunnersbury’s past glories

The large mansion was turned into a museum and its first honorary curator was Susan Smee, Acton’s first female councillor, first female mayor and first female magistrate. Dr Jonathan Oates will be giving a talk on Mrs Smee in 2015. Keep an eye on the What’s On pages. 

THE WAR YEARS

Click here for blog posts detailing local events during each year of the war, starting with 1914.
£5 OFF IF YOU TAKE ME WITH YOU

Present this voucher for £5 off per driver.
Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer valid at TeamSport West London track only. Valid until end of February 2015.

ANOTHER WINNING TRACK

500M TRACK • 7 CORNERS • 40MPH • MULTI-LEVEL TRACK • HAIR-RAISING BENDS • BANKED CORNER

LET’S RACE

TeamSport’s newest circuit is now open in Allied Way, Acton and promises a karting experience like no other. This really is the ideal venue for single drivers or corporate events.

Fast straights, split-levels and insanely banked corners are waiting for you to try them out and our Fuel Bar is poised to re-fuel you post-race, so grab colleagues or friends and get down to Acton today.

We have even included a voucher below for £5 off per driver, to get you started.

BOOK YOUR RACE NOW: 0844 998 4110

TeamSport West London, Unit 20, Allied Way, Acton, London, W3 0RQ

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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

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

Pizthanger Gallery events

The Collectionists: Design Consultancy – 4 December, 5–7pm
After 8 weeks of trials and tests, visits to major institutions and mini studios, working with professional designers and developing your own particular style, the penultimate Collectionists sessions asks you to choose your favourite design so far – and pitch it to our panel of experts. For more information contact Claire Cooke – cookec@ealing.gov.uk or call 020 8825 9458

The Collectionists: Pitzhanger Pop Up Shop – 6 December, 12–4pm
As the finale of all our autumn efforts, The Collectionists Pitzhanger Pop Up Shop will run in the lodge on Saturday afternoon. A showcase of all the ideas produced and work created as part of The Collectionists: Design, this will be part installation, part shop front and part workshop – open to the public just before Christmas. Warm drinks and maybe even Christmas carols will be provided.

For more information contact Claire Cooke – cookec@ealing.gov.uk or call 020 8825 9458

Georgian Talks Series: Annie Gray on A Georgian Christmas – 18 Dec, 630pm for 7pm start
Join food historian Annie Gray as she demonstrates the dos and don’ts of a Georgian Christmas in this lively lecture and tasting. Annie is a regular on BBC Radio 4’s The Kitchen Cabinet, The Great British Bake Off and has worked as a consultant for the Royal Historic Palaces and the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies. Tickets: £10. To book call 020 8567 1227 or email pitzhanger@ealing.gov.uk

For more information contact Claire Cooke – cookec@ealing.gov.uk or call 020 8825 9458

Little Builders – Thursdays until 18 December, 10.30–11.30am
Learn about Pitzhanger Manor and its famous architect Sir John Soane at our parent and toddler group. Sessions include arts and crafts activities, singing, storytelling and dancing aimed at little ones aged 18 months – 5 years. Younger babies accompanying older siblings are very welcome – we do have a baby corner but activities are more aimed towards toddlers and above. All sessions are £3 per family group, including snacks and tea/coffee.

For more information call 020 8825 9808 or email ccoffey@ealing.gov.uk
www.pitzhanger.org.uk/whats-on/little-builders

Christmas Children’s Workshops – 20 December and 3 January, 10am–12 noon & 2–4pm
Our artist-led workshops encourage children to create artworks in response to the exhibitions and heritage of Pitzhanger Manor. Tickets are £6 and are for unaccompanied children. All materials are supplied – dress for mess! 10am–12pm for ages 5 to 7 and 2–4pm for ages 7–11.

Temporary closures

Gunnersbury Museum will close for restoration work from 2 January 2015 until spring 2017. Pitzhanger Manor House and Gallery will close for restoration work from 11 January 2015 until spring 2018. Both Walpole Park and Gunnersbury Park will remain open during this time. A host of events, activities and volunteering opportunities will take place during the closures. For more details visit www.pitzhanger.org.uk and www.ealing.gov.uk/gunnersbury

Crossing the Field: War, football and the Christmas truce – 8 November to 10 January

The 1914 Christmas truce - one of the most enduringly fascinating, inspirational and unusual events of the First World War – is at the heart of this exhibition marking the centenary of the war. Crossing the Field aims to recount this unique event and the ceasefire football match that took place on Christmas day, using contemporary art to depict and reflect upon the events of the war. Through painting, photography, installation, ceramics, drawing and film, by artists from Belgium, Germany, France and the UK, the exhibition crosses boundaries, nationalities and opinions. The show gives an unconventional perception of the First World War by examining football’s power to transcend the bleakest scenes and the most difficult circumstances to bring people together.

Exhibition tour – 6 December, 2pm

(Photo: Jurgen Vantomme, Chatelineau, 2014)

Cycle training sessions 2015

Bike Maintenance Course (introductory level) – 31 January, 9.30am start at Acton Vale Community Centre
One-day course to learn how to look after your bike. Slightly more advanced than the basic course. No need to have done the basic course to attend.
£5. For more info contact Andy@cycletraining.co.uk or visit www.cycletraining.co.uk

Gunnersbury Women’s Cycle Rides – 14 Feb–14 March, 10am–1pm at Gunnersbury Park
Social ride for women. For more information visit www.cycletraining.co.uk

Bike Maintenance Course (basic level) – 28 February, 9.30am start at Acton Vale Community Centre
For true beginners at bike maintenance. A one-day course to learn the basics. £5. For more info contact Andy@cycletraining.co.uk or visit www.cycletraining.co.uk

Monday Cycling Club Southall – 16 Feb–16 March, 9am–4pm (hourly slots) at Southall Park
Hourly slots from 9am–2pm and a social ride between 2–4pm. For more information contact jean@cycletraining.co.uk or visit www.cycletraining.co.uk
WHAT'S ON

Libraries events

Book Busters challenge at your local library – ongoing until 16 February
There is a new, fun way to read books this winter at Ealing libraries. The ‘Book Buster challenge’ is simple: Read six new titles from a list at the library, and then vote for your favourite, for a chance to win a £20 book store voucher. Click here for more details.

Aspects of Ealing History by Dr Jonathan Oates – 19 February, 6.15pm at Ealing Central Library, Green Room
Based on stories from the author’s new book, Ealing: A Concise History, this talk will take you through key elements and interesting snippets of Ealing’s past. Tickets: £4. Contact the library for information.

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) 11-week course – starts January
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes will be held at Acton and Wood End libraries in January. The free 11 week course is for adults looking to improve their English and who wish to learn how to speak English, progress to other courses, or to get a job. For further information, please contact either library directly; Acton Library on 0203 700 1052; Wood End Library on 0203 700 1084.

Chinese New Year celebration at Ealing Central Library – February
This popular annual event for all ages is organised in partnership with Ealing Chinese School. You can enjoy an afternoon of dance performance, music and interactive storytelling. For more information contact Ealing Central Library on 0203 700 1052.

Other events

Fostering, adopting information sessions – 5 January, 11am–1pm & 2 February, 7.30–9.30pm 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 fosteradopt@ealing.gov.uk

Comedy nights – Fridays 8–11pm at The Viaduct Pub, 221 Uxbridge Road, Hanwell W7 3TD (at the junction with Boston Manor Road)
Acts to have performed, or who will appear soon, include Milton Jones, Shappi Khorsandi, Lee Nelson, Ricky Grover, The Raymond & Mr Timpkins Revue, Mitch Benn, and Bobby Davro. This new event has been brought to Hanwell by Hanwell Association of Traders (council partners) and James Bearcat, who has been running a club in Twickenham for 30 years. £13 on the door (or less if booked in advance). Email james@bearcatcomedy, or visit Facebook (Bearcat Comedy at the Viaduct) or Twitter (@bearcatquiz)

For more events visit: www.ealing.gov.uk/whatson

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

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.

Uxbridge: 01895 256655
Hayes: 020 8797 9505
info@trinityhp.org.uk
www.trinityhomelessprojects.org.uk
Reg. Charity No. 1118222 Company No. 03683014

Council meetings

December
Tue 9 Full council
Wed 10 Health and adult social services standing scrutiny panel
Thur 11 Scrutiny review panel 3: Ealing’s customers
Tue 16 Cabinet
Wed 17 Planning committee
Thur 18 Overview and scrutiny committee

January 2015
Wed 14 Planning committee. Audit committee
Thur 15 Overview and scrutiny committee
Tue 20 Cabinet
Wed 21 Standards committee
Thu 22 Scrutiny review panel 4: Ealing 2024
Tue 27 Full council
Wed 28 Health and adult social services standing scrutiny panel

February 2015
Wed 4 Planning committee
Tue 10 Scrutiny review panel 1: Ealing’s contracts, demands and partnerships
Thur 12 Overview and scrutiny committee
Tue 17 Cabinet
Tue 24 Full council
Wed 25 Planning committee
Thur 26 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 information visit www.ealing.gov.uk/libraries
Our students say we’re the best college in London... Join them.

OPEN DAYS 2015

SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY
Acton Campus, 11.30am-2.30pm

SATURDAY 7 MARCH
Southall Campus, 11.30am-2.30pm

SATURDAY 14 MARCH
Ealing Campus, 11.30am-2.30pm

SATURDAY 21 MARCH
Hammersmith Campus, 11.30am-2.30pm

• Meet College tutors and advisers
• Find out about course and career options
• Tour the campuses

A Levels • Vocational • Technical
Higher Education • Apprenticeships

Acton, Ealing, Hammersmith, Southall

wlc.ac.uk
020 8741 1688
lis@wlc.ac.uk
Refuse and recycling
Christmas holiday collections.

Your refuse and collection day will change over the Christmas and new year holiday period. Certain collections will take place later than usual. **Please check the chart below.**

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Collections will return to normal on Monday 12 January.

For more information on refuse and recycling services please visit [www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling)