

Muswell Hill & Fortis Green Association

Incorporating Alexandra Ward

BUS CHAOS LOOMS

*134 and 43 routes heading
for the North Circular via
Bounds Green in Colney Hatch
crisis!*

London Borough of Haringey intends to close a complete section of Colney Hatch Lane in order for it to carry out essential road surface repairs.

A spokesperson for Transport for London said, 'While Haringey is yet to advise of when it plans to do this work, we will be given at least eight weeks' notice to co-ordinate the operation of the bus services affected. On this basis, we are looking at mid September, at the earliest, before the works will take place. Once Haringey has confirmed its plans we will, of course, review the affected routes to mitigate disruption as far as possible and in a manner that our resources allow.'

The Association's Transport Officer Chris Barker has been watching the unfolding drama closely. The services that will be most disrupted will be the 134 and the 43, both of which usually run directly north from Muswell Hill, all the way down Colney Hatch Lane which will be closed. It seems that both routes will be diverted along Alexandra Park Road to Bounds Green, then along the North Circular Road before rejoining their usual route near the Tesco store. He adds, 'Bus Watch West Haringey has expressed concern for passengers who will not have access to these routes during this time and suggests that extra buses on route 234 might be needed to cope with the extra traffic.'

At the time of writing it is not known when and for how long the closure will take place. The route of the 234 is not suitable for double-deckers and those roads are very narrow in many places.

Transport issues elsewhere in the area have been highlighted. Concerns have been raised about stopping places in the hail and ride section of bus route 234 around the Coppetts Road/Trott Road junction. As there is no safe place for buses to stop here,

September/October 2014 Newsletter

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passengers wishing to alight, particularly those for Gilson Place, are taken right down to the Colney Hatch Lane junction. The issue has been taken up by Cllr Martin Newton and by Bus Watch West Haringey and it is understood TfL are looking into remedies.

On a more positive note, agreement has at last been reached to allow bus route 144 to pick up passengers on the Muswell Hill roundabout. There will at first be a trial to make sure that no dangerous congestion is caused.

A group of residents, particularly parents, has been campaigning to make the crossing of Colney Hatch Lane near the junction with Alexandra Park Road safer. As a result some changes have been made in the traffic signal timings and a warning sign has been erected for vehicles turning right into Colney Hatch Lane out of Alexandra Park Road.



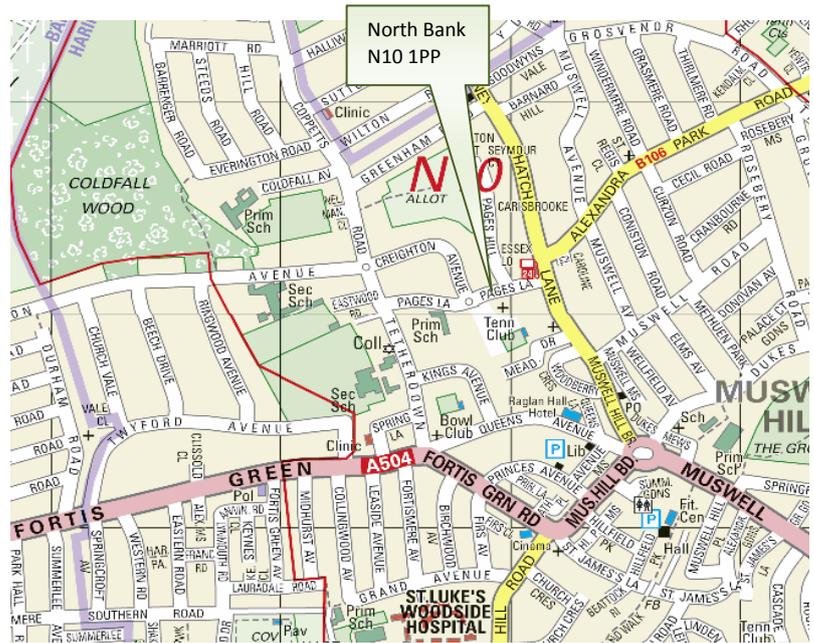
Read about GUY'S TRUST in our
Members in Profile on page 5

Dates for the Diary

On Wednesday, 15 October, the Association is pleased to welcome local author David Frith to talk about the fascinating history of Rookfield Estate. David's recent book *The Rookfield Estate: Muswell Hill's Gardens Suburb* is published in paperback by the Hornsey Historical Society. David is a town planner by profession and was the Borough Planning Officer of Haringey for its first twenty-two years from 1965. He has lived on the Rookfield Estate since 1966.

The meeting will be held in the Garden Room of North Bank on Pages Lane at 8.00 p.m..

The November Meeting will be held on Wednesday 12 November – more details to follow. Check the website www.mhfga.org for updates.



Wanted – Public Relations Officer

The Association needs help in a number of key areas: Finding speakers and taking notes and photos at our four annual meetings. Keeping in touch with local organisations and encouraging them to use our Newsletter and the Notice Board to publicize their events. Sending press releases to the local press, covering our annual competitions, meeting, etc. Helping with recruitment, and working with the local traders.

If you would like to help with some/any of these important tasks, please write to John Hajdu, Chairman, at hajdu.clarion@talk21.com.

ALEX'S CORNER

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to our new members, **Lizzie Wells**, of Alexandra Park Road; **Susan Watt**, of Priory Grange, Fortis Green; **Christopher Hill**, Woodlands Tree Surgery, Grasmere Road; and **Mark Bharadia**, Victory Auto Services, of Fortis Green.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Thanks to all members who renewed their membership for 2015, not least to those who have changed their method of payment from cheque or cash to standing order. It helps us enormously in our administration and in planning our activities.

Thanks also to all members who sent donations. Our membership fee of £8 (£20 if you are a corporate member) has stayed the same for the last ten years despite inflation and rising costs, and any additional contributions make a lot of difference.

We are looking at alternative and more convenient ways to pay, like card and direct debit. We know how inconvenient it can be to print out the form from our website or rip the last page of the newsletter, and then fill it out by hand and send by post. We hope to be able to offer options in the near future.

In the meantime, if you have not yet renewed your membership or you would like to join the Association, a cheque or a note with details of your bank payment (and a phone number!) is all we need. If necessary, we will contact you for any further information.

Please send your payments to Jacqueline Servat, Treasurer, MHFGA, 52 Queens Avenue, London N10 3NU. More details on our website, www.mhfga.org.

Thanks! *Alex*

... and a big hand for our corporate members!

Tim Moss Furniture (Tim Moss), **Toffs of Muswell Hill** (George and Costas Georgiou), **Tootoomoo** (Philip McGuinness), **Tree Trust for Haringey** (Julia Edwards), **Clissold Arms** (George Kyriakos Karageorgis), **Excel English Language School** (Judy Loren), **Feast** (Roger Ward CBE), **Fortismere School** (Helen Anthony), **Muswell Hill Bowling Club** (Paul Chapman), **Muswell Hill Toy Library** (Liz Luxmore), **Norfolk House School** (Samantha Habgood), **Odeon Cinema** (Dee Neal and Mark Mannix), **Robert Linsky Optometrist** (Robert Linsky), **Storybookers Ltd** (Norman Bailey), **The John Baird** (Keith Nicholas).

NEWSLETTER SURVEY

We had a significant number of returns to our first ever survey and everyone has put thought into their responses. A heartfelt thank you to all the members who took the time to respond to the Membership Secretary and for the valuable comments and suggestions. On the whole, the results are gratifyingly positive both for the editor and for the MHFGA, as the Newsletter appears to fulfill the expectations and desires of the members.

However, there is always scope for improvement and from your responses, this is what you feel most strongly about:

- more information and updates on local planning issues;
- more focus on current issues and concerns (eg the state of pavements, cross overs, overgrown trees, "urban comfort"), with additional material on the website. Make sure you alert the Council to any problems, and let us know the outcome.
- articles on shops, establishments and institutions, with potted histories and archive photos;
- more information on local activities, events and groups;
- a bit more "jazzy", i.e. a little less formal.

No doubt, there is much more that could be done – so please let us have your thoughts and letters, survey or no survey. Keep them coming! Please send your comments, suggestions and requests to membership@mhfga.org or write to The Membership Secretary, MHFGA, 40 Halliwick Road, London N10 1AA.

The MHFGA is always looking for support or contributions.

Can you suggest some suitable Guest Speakers for our popular talks?

Would you like to contribute news or stories to the Newsletter?

Nominate a member for our Profile feature?

Contact anyone on the Committee,
write to editor@mhfga.org,
or visit the website at www.MHFGA.org

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Mark Bharadia
East Finchley
105 Fortis Green
N2 9HR
0208 883 9707/0023

Wayne Adams
Muswell Hill
57 Coniston Road
N10 2BL
0208 883 2242

Pay a visit to our website
www.MHFGA.org

ALLY PALLY ASKS RESIDENTS OF MUSWELL HILL AND FORTIS GREEN TO HELP SHAPE ITS FUTURE

Alexandra Palace is seeking local residents' feedback on what events, activities, projects and workshops they would like to see happen at the People's Palace.

These activities will make up a major element of the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) supported restoration project which will open the Palace's most historic spaces to the public once again.

Duncan Wilson, Chief Executive for Alexandra Palace said: 'We are at an exciting stage of the HLF project. The initial designs are now emerging and we can now begin to consult with our local community to find out the range of activities people would like to see happening here.'

'The new opportunities that can be offered in the Victorian theatre and in the historic BBC studios - the birthplace of broadcast television - will be truly extraordinary.'

The survey, which can be accessed online at <http://www.alexandrapalace.com/about-us/regeneration/> lists a variety of potential activities ranging from workshops and learning activities to special interest events and opportunities for apprenticeships and volunteering.

He continued: 'This phase of consultation gives our local community the opportunity to help shape the future of the People's Palace and we hope to hear from as many residents from across the Borough as possible.'

To thank people for taking the time to fill out the survey, Alexandra Palace will enter everyone who responds in a prize draw for free event tickets*.

Alexandra Palace will also hold an exhibition in its East Court to present the architectural designs to local residents from 27 September until 7 October 2014.

Local residents are encouraged to come and talk to members of the regeneration team to find out more about the project and to offer feedback on the designs that will see the historic spaces reopened. Following this exhibition, Alexandra Palace will prepare planning and listed building consent applications to submit to Haringey Council.



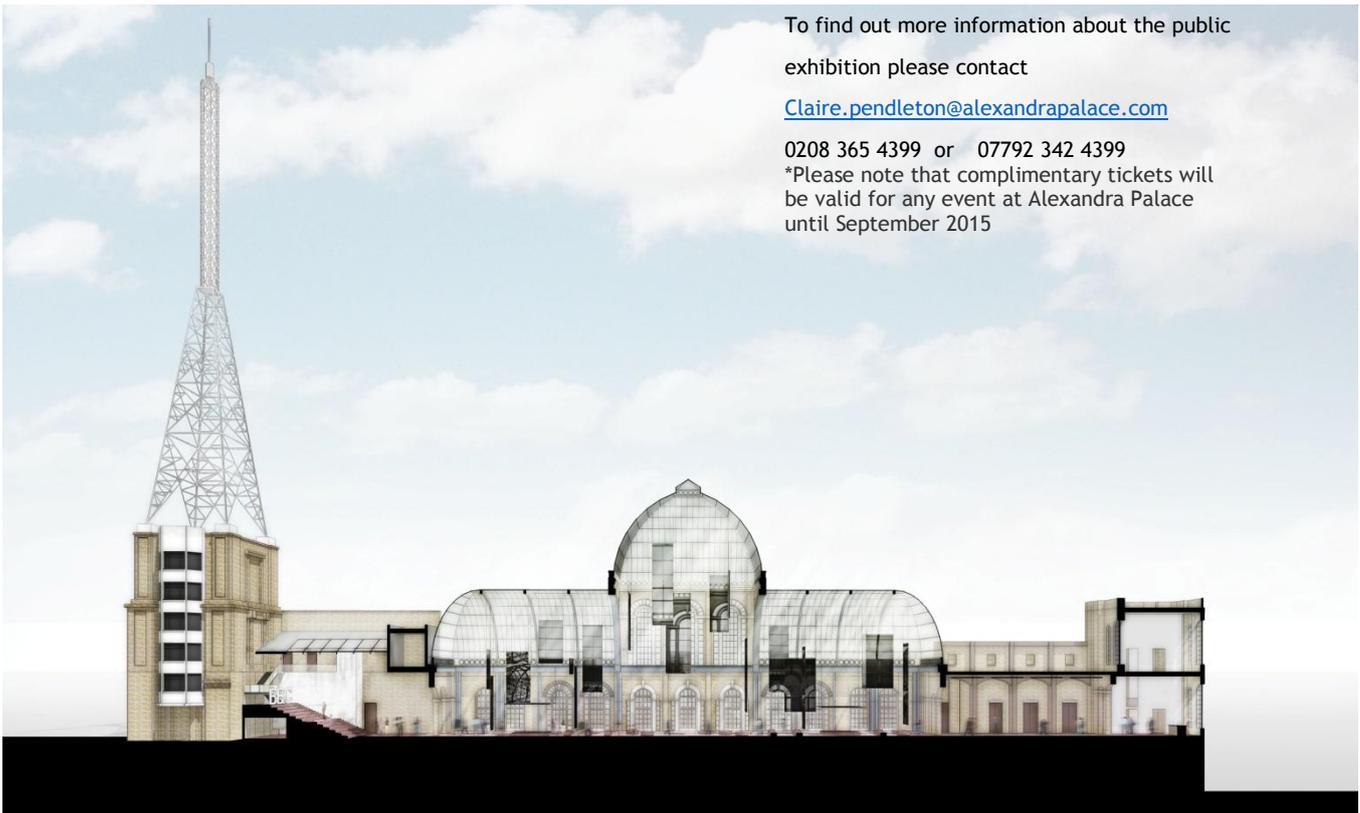
An artist's impression of the theatre's potential

To find out more information about the public exhibition please contact

Claire.pendleton@alexandrapalace.com

0208 365 4399 or 07792 342 4399

*Please note that complimentary tickets will be valid for any event at Alexandra Palace until September 2015



Anyone wandering the streets of Fortis Green over the past few months might have been surprised to see an odd looking white van gradually becoming customized, painted and converted for sleeping - ready to undertake one of the world's great adventures - the [Mongol Rally](#) – in aid of local charity [Guy's Trust](#).



Lauren (left) and Lucy with Mildred

The old banger in question belongs to Lauren, daughter of Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association members Tony and Vicky Joseph. Bought for £700 on eBay and nicknamed Mildred, the van has been home to Lauren and her friend Lucy Dalby for several weeks, as they drive a third of the way round the world from London to Ulan Bator to raise money for Guy's Trust.

Guy's Trust was set up by the Joseph family in memory of Tony and Vicky's son and Lauren's brother Guy who was tragically killed in a paragliding accident almost three years ago, just ten days after his 25th birthday.

Guy was an intrepid adventurer and traveller who loved snowboarding, scuba diving and paragliding. A marine biologist and diving instructor, he worked in Indonesia for two years before travelling to Nepal where he spent the winter of 2010/11 learning to paraglide.

Guy's Trust supports projects and causes that reflect everything that Guy was passionate about, offering educational opportunities to disadvantaged young people in developing countries, particularly those with which he had a special connection. In recognition of his love of children and his love of Nepal, their initial project has been to build two 'Guy Joseph Early Childhood Development Centres' in the impoverished Kaski district, near to where he lived. Over a million children in Nepal do not go to school and Guy's Trust's projects will help some of them get the education that they deserve.



Guy with Vicky and Tony in Indonesia, 2010



Tony and Guy's Trust volunteers building the first school in Nepal, 2013

The charity has now paid for a third school and a library which will be started shortly and has committed to a further extensive programme of support for the local children. Next year Guy's Trust will start working in Cambodia and is currently raising funds to build two primary schools in an poor rural area where only 60% of children complete primary education.

When Vicky and Tony received the devastating news of Guy's death they were determined to salvage something positive from the tragedy. They decided simply that they had to create a tangible memorial to their beloved son but Guy's Trust has grown beyond their wildest dreams and seems to have an unstoppable momentum, a fitting testament to a young man who had an enormous zest for life and inspired and was loved by so many people.



Children gather outside the first Guy Joseph Early Childhood Development Centre, June 2014

If you would like to know more about Guy's Trust please visit our website www.guystrust.org.

CROUCH END FESTIVAL CHORUS

To celebrate its 30th birthday, Crouch End Festival Chorus is staging Verdi's *Requiem*, one of the greatest works in the choral repertoire and the first piece the choir ever performed.

Saturday 13 September at 5.30 pm. Book now: www.ticketsource.co.uk/cefc. Palm Court, Alexandra Palace, N22.

HORNSEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The society's HQ, the Old Schoolhouse, is once more open to the public, following months of essential building work. The shop opens 10.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday for the sale of the society's publications and local history enquiries.

Tel: 020 8348 8429. 136 Tottenham Lane, Hornsey, N8 7EL

London Open House Weekend

20 and 21 September. The annual celebration of London architecture. Free access to some of the borough's best buildings (Bruce Castle, the Markfield Beam Engine, Hornsey Town Hall, etc). Advance booking desirable. Check it all out at www.londonopenhouse.org

EAST FINCHLEY ARTS FESTIVAL

All Saints' Church, Durham Road, N2 9DP from 13 to 21 September

Supporting The Harington Scheme and Bobath Centre, the Festival is a celebration of art, music, drama, film, opera and poetry with events every evening. During the Festival, art of every kind is for sale – original oils and watercolours, prints, digital art, photographic art, ceramics, sculpture and individually designed jewellery. Twenty five local and national artists are taking part. 40% of the selling price of each work sold is donated to the two charities being supported by the festival. For further information www.eastfinchleyartsfestival.org.uk. Tickets from www.eastfinchleyarts.ticketsource.co.uk or in person at Black Gull Books, 121 High Road, East Finchley 020 8444 4717 or at the door.

Putting on a show? Got an exhibition coming up? Music group? Book club? Promote it to a wider audience on the MHFGA noticeboard, opposite St James's Church. Contact Jack Whitehead at Jack.Whitehead@btinternet.com

NORTH LONDON EPILEPSY ACTION is a support group for those with epilepsy or with an interest in epilepsy. The group meets on the third Monday of each month and has lectures, information and social events. For more information, contact Barbara Penney 020 8883 0010 or e-mail barbarapenney@yahoo.co.uk

ALEXANDRA PALACE Antique & Collectors' Fair
Over 600 dealers offering a wide range of vintage and antique goods. Tickets £6.00 on the door.
Sunday 14 September 9.00 am to 6.30 pm

HORNSEY PENSIONERS ACTION GROUP

HPAG campaigns for the Pensioners' Charter, bringing older people's concerns to decision makers. Meetings are held at the Marian Centre, Hornsey Parish Church Hall, Cranley Gardens, N10 3AH, on the third Wednesday of each month, from 2.00 p.m. Contact Ann Anderson 020 8340 8335,

Pamela Jefferys 020 8444 0732 and Janet Shapiro 020 8883 9571 janet.rmshapiro@gmail.com.

MUSWELL HILL TOY LIBRARY

Open Mondays 2.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m., Thursdays 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon, and Fridays 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Toys, DVDs and music CDs. Children must come with an adult carer! 'Stories and Music' sessions during the Monday and Thursday sessions are FREE to all. 1st Floor - Muswell Hill Library, Queens Ave, N10 3PE.

Farmers' Market, every Sunday, 10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. usually at Alexandra Palace - Muswell Hill (bottom) Entrance, N10 3TG, alternatively at Campsbourne School nearby. Check at www.weareccfm.com.

STAMP & SCRAPBOOKING SHOW

The perfect place for the experienced paper crafter, and free demonstrations for the beginner too.
10.00 am to 5.00 pm Saturday and 10.00 am to 4.00 pm Sunday, 20 and 21 September. Alexandra Palace, N22.



Telephone number 020 8345 1858
All calls will be answered by a Neighbourhood Police Officer and voice mail messages will be checked twice a day. Don't forget: call 999 if you are reporting a crime that is in progress or if someone is in immediate danger. Call 101 to report crimes that are not an emergency.
Both Met police teams hold regular drop in surgeries where anyone can speak to an officer. Fortis Green has a surgery in Muswell Hill Library in Queens Ave N10 on 15 Sept, from 6.00 pm to 6.30 pm. Alexandra ward has the next surgery on 5 September 4.30 pm to 5.15pm at Alexandra Park Library, Alexandra Park Road, N10.

SEE MY FRIENDS



The Kinks, Konk and Kin
Until 21 December, a special exhibition in celebration of the fifty year career of Ray Davies, born in Muswell Hill, composer of one of London's greatest anthems *Waterloo Sunset*.
Bruce Castle Museum, Lordship Lane, N17.

Prudence recommends that you check all times and dates with the organisers. If you have an event or activity that might be of interest to the Association's members, for inclusion in the Newsletter, the deadline for the next issue is 13 October 2014. Write to editor@mhfga.org

BOWLING ALONG

The Association's Treasurer JACQUELINE SERVAT reports on a quiz night at the resurging bowling club in the heart of our community

How rewarding it was in June to find the Club in swinging activity again!

The results of the tremendous efforts and campaigning of local residents, a number of who also happen to be members of our Association, to revive Muswell Hill Bowling Club (MHBC) to its former glory, as I indeed knew it, when I moved to this area a quarter century ago.

A quiz night with delicious buffet and local supplier wine had been organised, with superb lay-out and display of flowers in the pavilion, which attracted more than fifty people, in fact I was told the event was sold out.

Not only that, but in recent weeks, the familiar sound of woods "knocking" I could hear (again) while pottering in my back garden was music to my ears. And as we were reminded at the end of a very successful evening, the Club's true revival mainly depends on more playing members joining.

MHBC is a gem to Muswell Hill, mostly unknown to even its nearest neighbours, as it is located in fairly "secret" grounds at the back of Queens, Kings Avenue and Tetherdown.

I recommend you satisfy your curiosity by popping into the Club in Kings Avenue, either on a Tuesday or Friday evening, when anyone is invited to have a go at throwing a few woods on this impeccable green.

And after the grape harvest of last year resulting in the first ever MHBC's own vintage, we are now planning to add some cider flavour by the Autumn, as my apples trees, flowing over the spectators' benches under the honeysuckle, are promising, once again, to produce an abundant crop this year.

Contact the team at muswellhillbowls@gmail.com, or visit their website.



PLANNING & CONSERVATION

Reports from Nick Barr our Planning Officer and John Crompton our Conservation officer.

The Odeon site

Originally it was reported that Metro Bank was due to open a branch here, but John Crompton reports, 'I have looked on the Metro bank site and confirm that Muswell Hill does not appear on the map of present and future branches. The loss of Metro Bank has probably come as a blow to the overall viability of the scheme – but we do hear rumours about another possible "anchor" tenant prepared to pay what is probably a hefty rent for the double height unit. I'd like to reassure the members that we are monitoring developments.'

The CAAC submitted a strong objection to an application to build an extension and a new house in the garden of a property in Coppetts Road. The application has been refused essentially because of the visual impact of the new house on the streetscape and the Conservation Area. It is reassuring, going forward, to note that the Council has refused an application on those grounds

112 Cranley Gardens

This Edwardian villa property has been the subject of twelve separate applications since September 2012. The latest is unclear whether this includes the retention of, and development behind, the original frontage or the demolition and rebuilding of the frontage in replication of the current style. Our planning scrutineer Nick Barr says, 'I am attempting contact to the relevant planning officer to establish what Haringey believe the application to be for and its anticipated response. This is an unwelcome way forward and I would not like a precedent to be established particularly as rebuilding the facade is unlikely to replicate the Edwardian character of the original building.'

For 92 Fortis Green, there is an application (HGY/2014/1780) for change of use. Changes to what is essentially a nondescript modern office building will not alter this - merely make it look more like a nondescript modern residential building!

FROM THE VILLAGE TO THE MOSSY WELL by Nick Barr

The Village pub at the top of Muswell Hill has been closed and abandoned for almost a year. It is looking pretty sorry for itself and the future of this well-known landmark, with a mixed history, has been the subject of speculation.

It transpires that it has been bought by J. D. Wetherspoon, a company run by Tim Martin, who opened his first pub in Colney Hatch Lane in 1979. Continuing expansion has resulted in a pub empire with more than 900 pubs.

Wetherspoon has submitted an application for a first-floor extension to the existing building, which will provide additional retail space and a beer garden at the rear. The plans show that the appearance from Muswell Hill will not radically change and will be an improvement on what is currently there.

Understandably, there is concern from the residents of Summerland Grange, whose bedrooms will face the proposed beer garden, that the noise, and smoke from a smoking area, will severely and adversely affect them. There are also concerns that there could be a return to the bad old days when the pub, with the night clubs opposite, was often a backdrop to antisocial behaviour.

Wetherspoon held a public meeting at the Raglan Hotel on 12 August to outline how it operates, who its target customers are, and to try to provide some reassurance about noise and smoke pollution. At the meeting, a spokesman emphasised that their establishments aim to be family friendly, with the emphasis on food rather than alcohol, and strive to be a 'good neighbour'. Proposed opening hours concerned many at the meeting, particularly as the parallel licensing application appears to refer to extended hours. Wetherspoon assured the meeting that, although they may open early, they will not serve alcohol until 10 a.m. and probably won't be open beyond 1 a.m. on any night, with the possibility of closing earlier depending on demand. Access to the beer garden would be denied after 11 p.m. The spokesman also emphasised that there would always be a manager on site, and that the company took seriously complaints from neighbours.

A planning decision is expected in September and, if consent is given, work will start three weeks after that, with a view to opening in early spring next year. The pub will be renamed the Mossy Well – a nod to the well that became a place of pilgrimage and after which Muswell Hill is named.

Details of the planning application and supporting documents, including all objections, letters of support and a Noise Impact Survey, can be found at [www.haringey.gov.uk/Housing and Planning / View Applications/ HGY/2014/1905](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/Housing%20and%20Planning/View%20Applications/HGY/2014/1905)