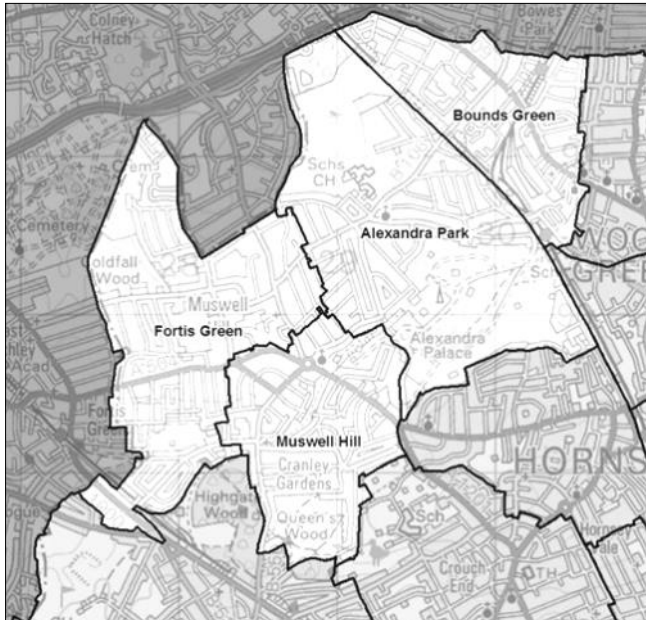


Muswell Hill & Fortis Green Association

www.mhfga.org

Your Residents' Association working for the local community since 1948

Haringey Ward Boundary Review



The Local Government Boundary Commission has been carrying out a review of the ward boundaries within the borough of Haringey. These reviews are carried out from time to time and this particular review was necessary to ensure that in future there would be equality of representation across the borough given that, whilst the population is forecast to rise overall, the rate of increase will be greater in the east of the borough than in the west. A decision had previously been taken not to change the size of the Council (57 Councillors).

The outcome of the review for our part of the borough is that the present set up of three wards with three Councillors (Fortis Green, Muswell Hill and Alexandra) will be replaced by two wards with two Councillors (Muswell Hill and Alexandra Park) and one with three

March/April 2020

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(Fortis Green). The opportunity was taken to tidy up the rather haphazard position in the town centre so that in future it will all be in a single ward – Muswell Hill. This is a positive outcome – it will, for example, make things much easier for the ward policing arrangements. The other major change is that the roads at the foot of Muswell Hill off Priory Road and Park Road, which are currently in the Muswell Hill ward, are to be moved into the Hornsey ward. There is a lot of detailed information on the Boundary Commission <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/greater-london/greater-london/haringey>

The next stage of the process is that the changes have to be approved by Parliament and they are then due to take effect in time for the next borough Council elections in May 2022.

John Crompton

Congratulations to John!

Our Chairman, John Hajdu, was surprised and delighted to be awarded an MBE in this year's New Year Honours List for his contribution towards Holocaust awareness and education. He regularly delivers talks to schoolchildren through the agency of the Holocaust Educational Trust.

John was born in Budapest, Hungary, in 1937 and suffered persecution under both Nazi and Soviet regimes in the 1940s and 1950s. John is particularly keen to spread the word because not many people have gone through not one but two periods of persecution, firstly under the German regime and secondly under the Soviet occupation, and also because one hears mostly about what happened to the Jews in Poland and Germany but very rarely, if at all, about what happened in Hungary.

Whilst giving his talks John tells the children that it is possible with all the hardship and all the fighting in your life, to survive and create a happy life in this country.

John said that the award simply spurs him on to try to talk to as many people as possible and be an ambassador on behalf of survivors who might not be able to talk or might not want to talk about their experiences. In an interview with Sky News he admitted that recounting his story is difficult and traumatic but that it is vitally important that stories such as his should be told to future generations.



Photo courtesy of Newham Council

Dates for your diary

Our meetings and events are open to the public and are free of charge.

19th March, 6-10pm

Muswell Hillbilly Brewers Open Brewery Tour and Tasting. Be the first to sample our range of ales and craft beers at our new brewery at 14 Avenue Mews, N10 3NP. Guests will be treated to a 30-minute brewery tour and tasting. You will also receive a voucher to be redeemed at our nearby Taproom. Meet 6- 6.30pm in the Taproom for tours every 30 minutes.

To book, email events@mhfga.org. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Alternatively come to our Official Brewery Opening Party on Saturday 28th March, 12noon-11pm. Craft Beer and Pizza available!

16th April, 7.30pm at North Bank, Pages Lane, N10 1PP. A talk by Ben Wilson, our local 'chewing gum man' on his craft and experiences in the UK and around the world.

14th May, 7.45pm

AGM. Details to follow in our next issue.

14th June, 11.00am

Kenwood Estate conducted walk led by Peter Barber.

Finsbury Park Station Stays Closed

The Wells Terrace entrance/exit at Finsbury Park Station was closed with one week's notice in July 2016 ahead of the £220m development at the site. Many residents of Muswell Hill used this entrance.



The closure has caused a lot of inconvenience for those living on the other side of the station to the main entrance, the shutting down of businesses, and a great deal of congestion and delays. TfL says that it is outside its control and the responsibility of Telford Homes, the developer behind the City North Project. The entrance was due to re-open in April 2019 and then put back to December 2019. It is now scheduled to reopen in Spring 2020.

Tony Wells



www.facebook.com/MHFGA
(over 1,300 followers)



@theMHFGA
(over 800 followers)



@muswellhill.london
(over 1,500 followers)

Thank you to Grafton House

On two separate occasions last autumn BBC Grafton House Productions filmed some scenes for an upcoming crime drama in the home of one of our members in Cranbourne Road.

To compensate residents of the road for the inconvenience, Grafton House made a donation to local organisations suggested by the home-owners. Both The Harington Scheme and our own MHFGA have benefited from a generous donation.

MHFGA Committee

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John Hajdu MBE
hajdu.clarion@talk21.com
020 8883 8114

Planning/Vice Chairman

Nick Barr
nbarr@btinternet.com

Secretary/CAAC/Alexandra Palace Statutory Advisory Committee

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johnn10@btinternet.com
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Social Media/Notice Board

Zoe Norfolk

Membership Secretary

Richard Marmalade
membership@mhfga.org

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Graffiti

Jack Whitehead, Bill Jago
jack.whitehead@btinternet.com
If you wish to report graffiti or
flyposting, **do not** contact Jack or Bill.
Please go to the "Report It" section at
www.haringey.gov.uk and enter the
details there.

Tree Monitor

Our thanks to Ann Elliott who has been
our Tree Monitor for many years.

We are now looking for a new Tree
Monitor to take on the job of being our
contact and looking at and commenting
on communications received from the
Council relating to tree work in our area.

If you are interested, please contact
our Chair to discuss taking on this
valuable work.

Visit our website www.mhfga.org for lots of information about the local area including old photos and John Hajdu's history of the Association. If you have a photo or news item why not share it with our members on Twitter @theMHFGA or visit www.twitter.com/theMHFGA. We tweet regularly on Association and local news, so please follow and spread the word. And don't forget our Facebook page www.facebook.com/MHFGA!

Member Profile

Richard Marmalade, our new Membership Secretary

When renting as a dog owner, housing options are greatly limited and one has to be flexible. So it was with some excitement that I viewed an advert for a beautiful place in Muswell Hill, just moments from Highgate Wood, that was marked as willing to consider pets. I booked a viewing, gave Topsy a bath and plied him with treats as we walked through Muswell Hill on the way to view what was to become our home for the next 3 years.

As a freelance web developer I am lucky enough to work from home and this allows me to indulge in daily walks around the numerous local woods which still bring me a huge sense of joy. To be lucky enough to live in London yet still get to hear woodpeckers and owls on a regular basis is really something to be appreciated.

Working from home can be isolating and, keen to integrate with my new community, I soon volunteered at the local Oxfam shop. Through that I have met many of the local characters that make up the social fabric of the area.

Living in an area without a tube station does have drawbacks socially, but my friends have all come to love Muswell Hill in the same way that I have - two of them making the move here themselves!

When my partner Blake and I decided to move in together we were adamant that we'd do our very best to stay in the area, allowing ourselves a generous amount of time to find the right place. After many viewings and bumps in the road we found the perfect home in Fortis Green and have been very happy here since.

We can often be found walking Topsy, having breakfast in Aleion or an afternoon beer in the Muswell Hillbilly Taproom. On a good day we'll do all 3!

I believe strongly in the power of grassroots community organisation and have long been impressed with the work that the Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association carries out locally. So when the opportunity came to join the Committee as Membership Secretary I didn't hesitate to take it.

It's been fascinating working alongside the other members of the Committee and to see how much work they put in behind the scenes to help keep our little corner of London so special.

We're currently working on implementing a new membership system on our website which will allow members to manage their information and reduce the admin overhead for the Committee. We're hoping to go live with it in May and there will be more information on that in the next Newsletter.

In the meantime, feel free to drop me a line (membership@mhfga.org) if you want to talk further!



The Harington Scheme



George Danker and John Hajdu are joined by staff and students for the presentation of the cheque

Harington students were delighted to accept a cheque from members of MHFGA, the result of the Name the Teddy Bear competition at the Wonderful Muswell Christmas Fair stall.

Harington is celebrating 40 years this year and embarking on a major fundraising and refurbishment programme, including building a second training centre on Hornsey High Street.

From an initial student intake in 1980 of 15 young people with learning difficulties and disabilities and four staff, the organisation has grown to teach employability skills in horticulture and retail, with English, Maths, IT and life skills, to around 45 full-time students per year. Dedicated job coaches help students into employment wherever possible and provide associated support, sometimes for several years.

Harington is always looking for volunteers in all areas, so if you can commit a regular slot once a week for an hour or two, or help out for a morning or afternoon in one of their two shops, please call Shireen Nasser for more details on 020 3457 7993.

They have already raised in excess of £200,000 for the new training hub and need an additional £35,000. To donate please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/HaringtonHub>

Letter to the MHFGA Chair

Dear John

I am writing on behalf of all of us involved with Friends of Highgate Roman Kiln (FOHRK) to thank you and MHFGA for the most generous donation of £100 to our charity.

We would like to put up a noticeboard near the cafe in the Wood to tell people of our progress, events and so on. I hope the association will feel that this project would be a worthy destination for your funds. You can, of course, be assured that prominent wording on the noticeboard will make clear where the money to pay for it came from!

Every good wish and thanks again.

Nick Peacey
Secretary, FOHRK

Car Charging Unit, corner of Princes Avenue and Fortis Green Road (opposite the John Baird Pub)

Due to the damage caused to the unit, it cannot be repaired and it has therefore been removed from the site. The Council is planning to replace it with a new EV charging unit, which will be operated by BP Chargemaster. They are in the process of programming the site work and if all goes well it is expected that the new point will be operational by the end of March 2020. The Council does not have any evidence which shows Sainsbury's vehicle involvement and therefore cannot pursue them to pay for a replacement.

If anyone spots a vehicle damaging the points, please provide evidence and the Council will pursue the perpetrator.

Tony Wells

Membership Matters

Our Association covers Muswell Hill, Fortis Green & Alexandra wards, and works closely with our corporate members.

Welcome to our new household members including Marc Hull, Marion Shelley, Rosemary Boughton, David Page, John Bell. Welcome also to our new corporate members: Bund Restaurant, Gibfit 30.

MHFGA annual membership runs from 1st May to 30th April of the following year. **New members joining in the period January to April will get up to 4 months free as their membership will run to the end of April 2021.**

To renew your membership, please go to www.mhfga.org/membership and scroll down either to pay via PayPal or to set up a Direct Debit (which is preferred because it saves a lot of administrative time).

Annual household membership is £10 and corporate membership is £25.

Corporate Members

Seventy-nine local businesses and organisations support the Association. You can find the links to their websites on our Corporate page at www.mhfga.org and click **Useful Links**.

11.04 Architects	Friends of St. James's Square	Muswell Hill Pharmacy	St James's Muswell Hill
Aleion	Gibfit 30	Muswell Hill United Reformed Church	Studio Moe Ltd
Ambitious About Autism	Green's of Highgate	Muswell Hillbilly Brewers	Tatlers Estate Agents
Angela Rose	H Firkins & Sons	North London Chorus	The Hampstead Butcher & Providore
Baby Sensory	Harington Scheme	North London Symphony Orchestra	The John Baird
Barnet Furniture Centre	Hollickwood Primary School	Panoptica - MH Optical Ltd	The Mossy Well
Barron Salon	Hopper & Bean	Perform Media Ltd	The Real Greek
Bob's Café	House of Books	Picture Framing Muswell Hill	The Robin Kiashek
Broadway Pet Stores	House of Nails	Planet Organic	Osteopathic Clinics
Broadway Pharmacy	Internet Express/ PhoneRepairs4u	Point 5 Kitchens	Toffs
Bund Restaurant	Jeroboams	Rhodes Avenue Primary School	Victory Auto Services
Capital Gardens	JHK Estate Agents	Robert Linsky Optometrist	W Martyn
Children's Bookshop	Lambert Welch Kitchens	RocketshipWP	Walter Purkis & Sons
Clissold Arms	Le Pot de Terre	Roni's Bagel Bakery	WAVE Café
Connubio da Fabio	Men at 107	Rowan Antiques	Woodland Tree Surgery
Cosi Homewares	Misk Boutique	S&D Express	Yogamatters
East Finchley Open Artists	Muswell Flyer	Sable d'Or Patisserie	Zebra Ceramics
Evelina's Patisserie	Muswell Hill Bowling Club	Saints N10	
Everyman Muswell Hill	Muswell Hill Creatives	Sally Bourne Interiors	
Fagins Toys Ltd	Muswell Hill Methodist Church	Snappy Snaps	
Fierce Grace Hot Yoga	Muswell Hill Methodist Lawn Tennis Club		
Freehold Community Association			

Corporate Profile

House of Books

House of Books on the Broadway was opened in August 2018. I had (and still have) a branch in Crouch End which has been there in a few different sites for almost 10 years. Crouch End has always been a very successful branch although the impact of Waterstones has taken some gloss off it. When it opened 10 years ago it was a group of friends who started the business and as we looked to open more branches I always wanted to open in Muswell Hill but, because we couldn't find the right shop and the rents and rates were incredibly high, we could never all agree.

When the partnership between us ended I re-opened a shop in Crouch End and waited for the right opportunity to find a location. I have lived in the area for 25 years now. Whether it be dog-walking in Highgate Woods or shopping locally I have always loved the place. The combination of great high street, amazing green spaces and the diversity of the people makes this a truly special part of London.

I really wanted to put my shop on the High Street as I genuinely believed it would add something of value to the area. The community has always been lucky in being served by bookshops, from the legendary Children's Bookshop to Muswell Hill Books and also WH Smiths. All three serve their purpose and have different titles although obviously there is some cross-over. Our slant is heavily discounted books we find from our various suppliers around the country. Most of these are sold below half their original published price and are all in mint condition. The subject areas vary but our most successful subjects are children's books and fiction although we do well with history, politics and current affairs.

We stock most of the current bestsellers at full price (with a small discount), Lonely Planet travel guides and a selection of modern classics. We stock a range of greeting cards, wrapping paper and a small selection of toys. We also order books in and if it is in stock with our wholesaler it arrives within a couple of days. We are a dog-friendly shop. If you are in the high street we would love for you to visit us and have a browse !

Adam Bloom



House of Books
123 Muswell Hill Broadway, N10 3RS
Tel: 020 8815 1834
Website: www.thehouseofbooks.co.uk
Twitter: @houseofbooks1
Facebook: House of Books

Crossover at Sainsbury's

The Council have finished work on the new tabletop crossover by Sainsbury's. I have been chasing the Council on this for about five years. Previously there was broken paving, raised kerbs that trolleys, pushchairs etc could not pass, and the area flooded when it rained. This is a real improvement which will benefit many.

Brian Livingston



Ambitious about Autism your local Muswell Hill charity

Ambitious about Autism is Muswell Hill's local charity for children and young people with autism. Based at TreeHouse School on Woodside Avenue, you might have seen some of our pupils out and about in the local community. Our aim is to make the ordinary possible for children and young people with autism and help make their dreams a reality.

Every year World Autism Awareness Month takes place throughout April. This global campaign aims to increase understanding and acceptance and foster worldwide support. At Ambitious about Autism we want to spread awareness in our local area and encourage members of our community to **Be Ambitious for Ambitious about Autism!**

Any individual, local business, school or local organisation can become involved. Partnering with us would be a fantastic way to help give young people with autism the future they deserve - this could be as simple as adding our logo to your shop window, wearing our ambitious colours to school, holding a pub quiz or a raffle. The possibilities are endless, and we would work with you to come up with plans and materials to make the partnership a great success.

If you would like to be involved please contact Karina Bird at kbird@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk or on 020 8815 5444.



News from Alexandra Palace and Park

We hope that Association members and readers of this Newsletter have already visited the “new” theatre on our doorstep, the Victorian delight housed within Alexandra Palace. It’s now been over a year since it was brought back to life as part of the East Wing restoration project. The restoration has won a significant number of awards including the AJ Architecture Award in the Heritage Building category, the London Building Excellence Awards for Best Small Commercial Project, various RIBA 2019 and the London Venue Award 2019. This regional and national recognition is commendable.

If you fancy reading the full and fascinating story of the theatre then you can find “Drama at the Palace” by Nigel Willmott and Patricia Brearey, which covers the years 1873 to 1901, and the follow-up “Drama at the Palace 2” covering 1901 to 2019, at local bookshops. Many members enjoyed Nigel and Patricia’s talk to the Association last October which gave a taster of what can be found in the books.

It is of course in the performances held that a theatre comes to life and it’s great to see our theatre running a varied and high quality programme. Details of future performances at the theatre and elsewhere in the Palace can be found at:
www.alexandrapalace.com/whats-on/

This includes events and exhibitions held in the even newer Creativity Pavilion, recently opened also in the East Wing.

One date for the diary is Saturday 25th July when the Kaleidoscope Festival returns. First held in 2018, this year’s one-day festival includes Groove Armada, Fun Lovin’ Criminals, House Gospel Choir and Norman Jay MBE, with words and comedy from Irvine Welsh, Lauren Laverne, Reginald D Hunter, Ed Gamble, Phil Wang and Sophie Duker. There will also be immersive theatre within the rarely-opened Victorian basements, family entertainment and a street food market.

In other news, we await (at the time of writing) the outcome of the public consultation for the Palace’s car park charging proposal gathered from about 2,000 online survey responses and drop-in sessions.

As always, if you have any questions or feedback about what’s happening at the Palace or Park, please get in touch with your Association representatives, Duncan Neill and John Crompton (*contact details on page 2*).



Pinkham Way Alliance

Thank you for your generosity... we've reached our latest target! Our £10,000+ fees for planning consultancy at last November's North London Waste Plan (NLWP) hearing are now covered. Again, thank you.

A recap: in December, the Councils told the Planning Inspector that they'd make the 'major modifications' necessary to save the current North London Waste Plan (NLWP) from being scrapped.

We can only assume that such large revisions will require any revamped plan to go out for further consultation. When that would be is anyone's guess, but, based on long experience, it may be later rather than sooner. So, with some breathing space, I'm going to plug Europe's *only* invertebrate conservation charity.

Pinkham Way is home to several rare and endangered species and is particularly rich in beetles. In fact, Buglife wrote us a long letter that we used in support of our spoken evidence at the recent hearing. Buglife is a tiny organisation, with an income of just £1million, but it sustains invaluable work with local authorities and conservation groups.

As an example, its network of 'B-lines' for insect pollinators, extending over large parts of the UK, is a splendid achievement. Search via 'London' at <https://www.buglife.org.uk/our-work/b-lines> and you'll see this area as part of it.

If you're interested in supporting environmental charities in these worrying times for wildlife, with the UK as the most nature-depleted of developed countries, please consider Buglife.

These are Sir David Attenborough's words from the Buglife website:

"If we and the rest of the back-boned animals were to disappear overnight, the rest of the world would get on pretty well. But if invertebrates were to disappear, the world's ecosystems would collapse."

Thanks again for your fantastic support. We'll keep you posted on the waste plan

Stephen Brice, Chair, Pinkham Way Alliance



Local Organisations and Events

ST JAMES'S CHURCH

Tuesdays, 11.00am-1.00pm. Community Cafe - free coffee, cake and conversation.

Wednesdays 2.30-3.30pm -Tea Time for seniors in the Muswell Hill area. Tea, sandwiches and entertainment.

Mondays & Saturdays 10.00am-12 noon- free legal advice walk-in. Contact: anything.legal@dial.pipex.com.

Sundays 4:45-5:45pm, Monday-Thursday 7:45-8:45pm. Muswell Hill Soup Kitchen, located at the Muswell Hill Baptist Church. Donations of any non-perishable items would be welcomed. Contact: soupkitchen@mhbc.org.uk

10am on Fridays during term time Challenge Group: for families with a pre-schooler with additional needs.

THE FREEHOLD COMMUNITY CENTRE

9 Alexandra Road, N10 2EY. Please check at www.familiesonline.co.uk/local/barnet/listing/freehold-community-centre-195857 for details of the various activities at the centre or contact freehold2003@gmail.com or ring 07935 324578.

FRIENDS OF QUEEN'S WOOD

www.fqw.org.uk.

Wednesday 1st April, 7.30 for 8pm at the Lodge, Queen's Wood off Muswell Hill Road. AGM and slideshow/talk by David Darrell Lambert about his latest bird survey in QW. All welcome.

Working parties **last Sunday of the month, 10.30 -12.00.** Meet at the Lodge. Tools are provided but bring your own gloves and a mobile phone if possible. Anyone offering to help Gemma Harris with litter picking should contact her at harrisgemma67@gmail.com or 07806 870505.

NORTH LONDON EPILEPSY ACTION

A support group which meets on the **third Monday of the month** and has lectures, information and social events. It also meets on the **first Wednesday of the month** for coffee and chat 2.30-4.00 at Costa Coffee, East Finchley High Street. Those with epilepsy or living with someone with epilepsy welcome. Contact Barbara Penney 020 8883 0010 or e-mail barbarapenney@yahoo.co.uk

FRIENDS OF COLD FALL WOOD AND MUSWELL HILL PLAYING FIELD

www.coldfallwoods.co.uk/whats-on **The first Tuesday of each month** at Coldfall Primary School.

HORNSEY PENSIONERS ACTION GROUP

We meet to discuss local and national issues with visiting speakers on the **third Wednesday of the month**. Our meetings are held in the main church hall of Hornsey Parish Church, Cranley Gardens, N10 3AH. Contact Ann Anderson (020 8340 8335) or www.hornseypensionersactiongroup.org.uk.

MUSWELL HILL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The club meets at **7.45pm every Wednesday** at Jacksons Lane Community Centre. We show and discuss our photographs, and we have guest speakers, competitions, and practical activities. More details: www.muswellhillphoto.org.uk or email contact@muswellhillphoto.org.uk.

MUSWELL HILL & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Future shows to be held at North Bank, Pages Lane:
Spring Show, **Saturday 4th April**,
Summer Show, **Saturday, 4th July**
Autumn Show, **Saturday, 12th September**
Contact: Jenny Kruss on 020 8442 0031 or jenny_starick@hotmail.co.uk.

IMPORTANT! Please check all times and dates with the organisers.

FRIENDS OF MUSWELL HILL LIBRARY

We are celebrating International Women's History Month with the following events:

Saturday 7th March, 2pm, Muswell Hill Library
Exploring Ada Lovelace today: a talk by Louise Breckon-Richards, actress and playwright.

Saturday 21st March, 2pm, Muswell Hill Library
Poetry at the Library. Bring along a short published poem written by a woman and say why you have chosen it.

MUSWELL HILL BOWLING CLUB

King's Avenue N10 1PB (next to No. 36). Everyone is welcome to see the club's picturesque grounds, enjoy refreshments, and perhaps try playing a game of bowls. For further information see our website: www.muswellhillbowlingclub.co.uk – or call Richard Johnstone on 07986 873312 or e-mail richardjohnstone@gmail.com.

POPCHOIR MUSWELL HILL

Wednesday evenings 8-9.30pm at the Royal British Legion in Muswell Hill Rd. No experience, no auditions, no need to read music. Book a free taster session at www.popchoir.com or email info@popchoir.com. 020 8659 5464.

UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE NORTH LONDON

NLU3A meets in Finchley, Highgate, Muswell Hill and surrounding areas. It is for retired and semi-retired people coming together to continue their educational social and creative interests in a friendly and informal environment. For information please look at our website at www.nlu3a.org.uk

HORNSEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Wednesday 11th March, 8pm. Talk: Ernest Shackleton and the Endurance Expedition.

Wednesday 8th April, 8pm. Talk: Entertainment in the Second World War.

Lectures take place at the Union Church Hall, Weston Park, N8. A donation of £2 is requested from non-members.

Refreshments available from 7.40pm. The doors close at 8.00pm and latecomers unfortunately can't be admitted for security reasons. www.hornseyhistorical.org.uk

First Saturday of the month, 10.30-2.30. Local History Surgery in the Old Schoolhouse, 136 Tottenham Lane, N8 7EL. To book an appointment, phone 020 8348 8429 or email hornseyhistoricalsurgery@gmail.com with a brief outline of the problem.

HIGHGATE CHORAL SOCIETY

Concert on **Saturday 14th March, 7pm**. Bruckner, Faure and more All Hallows Savernake Road NW3. www.hcschoir.com.

HOLLICKWOOD SCHOOL, Sydney Road, N10 2NL

Every Tuesday (Term time only) 9:30am-10:15am. Songs and Rhymes playgroup for children under 5 run by Coppetts Wood Children's Centre. No need to book, just drop in!

For further information email childrenscentre@coppettswood.barnetmail.net or call 020 8883 2985.

NORTH LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Saturday 28th March, 7.30pm. Concert at St James's Church, Muswell Hill. Margaret Hubicki, Mozart, Mahler. For details [visit www.nlso.org.uk](http://www.nlso.org.uk).

Useful online information service

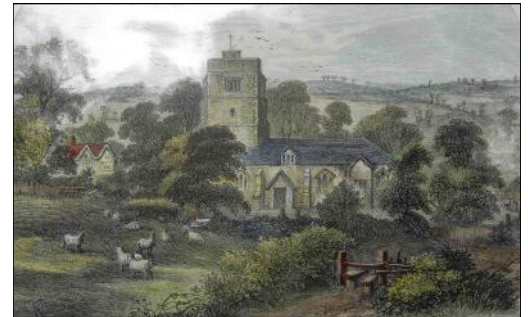
Haringey has an online directory for adults who need care and support, where you can search local organisations to find the right services. <https://haricare.haringey.gov.uk/>

From Our Archive

The following article is taken from the Autumn 1965 issue of *Fortisman*, the forerunner of this Newsletter.

Hornsey and Harringay by W B Stevenson

Four churches have stood on the site of Hornsey's Parish Church of St. Mary. The earliest building must have been there in the 13th century, for there was a Rector in 1303. The second church was built in 1500, stones of the tower having been taken from the Bishop's Lodge in Highgate. The second church was burned down, but the old tower still remains as a landmark and the second oldest building in the Borough. The present church, the fourth in the series, was built in 1889 and many of the memorials of the old churches were brought there. An ancient brass of 1520 and a memorial to Francis Musters of 1600 are the most prominent of these.



St Mary's Church around 1750

The great park or clearing in the Hornsey forest has been the scene of a number of historic incidents. Here in Richard II's time a great assembly of noblemen and their retainers met to demonstrate their opposition to the favouritism shown to Robert de Vere, Earl of Oxford. Readers of Shakespeare's *Henry VI* will be familiar with the charges of sorcery made against Eleanor Duchess of Gloucester; it was in a lodge in Hornsey Park that she was supposed to have met Canon Southwell and Roger Bolinbroke, her fellow conspirators, and to have made wax images of the King. Some forty years later, in 1483, Richard of Gloucester, coming straight FROM Stony Stratford with young Prince Henry, and attended by a strong force of men, was met in Hornsey Park by the Lord Mayor London and his Corporation. Five hundred citizens attended them, and all joined the royal procession to London.



Hornsey village developed slowly, with cottages and small houses round the church. The most prominent estate was that of the Cozens family in 1552, pulled down in 1750, and rebuilt in 1792. In 1608 Sir Hugh Myddelton commenced his great enterprise of the New River, bringing water from the springs of Hertfordshire into London. The artificial river became a great resort for anglers and sportsmen, and the old Three Compasses Inn in High Street, Hornsey, became one of their favourite places of refreshment. Hornsey Wood Tavern in Finsbury Park was another such, and there are a number of 18th- and 19th-century pictures and engravings showing the Tavern.

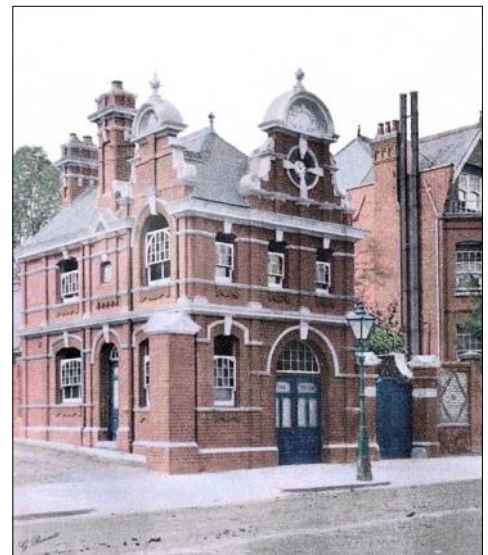
Development at the back of the Library?

The Council's cabinet has identified a number of sites within the borough for possible housing development. One such site is the vacant area in Avenue Mews behind Muswell Hill library. This has been left empty for many years since it ceased to house a Council sub-depot. During that time it has remained in Council ownership and various proposals have been suggested for its use none of which came to anything.

We feel that it would make sense for this piece of ground to be finally put to good use but cannot comment in detail about the current proposal until further details are forthcoming. However, we would expect any development to be on a modest scale so that it does not overshadow the listed library building. We also think that it would be appropriate to take the opportunity to consider a mixed development for the site which included additional library accommodation as well as housing.

It is perhaps not well known that prior to the library use the site was the location for the Muswell Hill fire station (*illustrated right*). It opened in 1899.

John Crompton



Copy date for May/June 2020 edition of this Newsletter

If you would like to submit an article, letter, picture or diary date for our next edition, please send your copy to editor@mhfga.org by 1st April 2020.