

Your Street Rep: _____

Our lampposts

Many members will have seen in the local press the various campaigns being waged in different parts of Ealing to retain our old cast iron Edwardian lampposts. The Council are committed to upgrading street lighting and bringing it up to European standards. In 2005 a Private Finance Initiative contract was entered into to replace existing posts and add extra ones where needed. Once work started however, residents began to realise they were going to lose their attractive old posts and in their place have taller modern tubular steel ones erected, which would be out of keeping

with the Edwardian housing. There is also concern that, with the higher new lamps, light will shine into bedroom windows and may be blocked by leaves in the summer.

The EFRA area still has many of the original lamps and a local resident has carried out a survey of the views of residents in the affected streets. The vast majority of those he spoke to were in favour of retaining our existing lampposts, with the proviso that they be fitted with better light fittings.

Those who have been following this issue will be aware that the Council is now working on keeping some of the old posts by concentrating them in a new 'heritage zone' centred on Pitshanger Manor. EFRA understands that the posts will still have to be removed so that they can be refurbished and upgraded. Because of the need to plug gaps there may not be enough original lamps for all those roads that would like to keep them. Your committee has been lobbying our local councillors on behalf of residents and they tell us that if there are enough lamps we may be included in this zone. We will continue to monitor the situation.



Copyright Nigel Jordan

One of the cast iron lampposts in Julien Road, refurbished last year as part of the Council's 'Showcase Streets' project



A modern lamppost in Elers Road

**Don't miss the
EFRA Annual General Meeting**

Thursday 5 June at 7.30 pm

See back for details

Hoardings victory

In our last newsletter we reported on our campaign to have the large revolving advertising hoardings at the junction of Little Ealing Lane and Northfield Avenue and Windmill Road removed. They had been erected early in 2007 with little consultation and less than a year after £45,000 had been spent by the Council on safety improvements at this busy junction. Thanks to our persistence and that of our local councillors we can now celebrate the fact that good sense has prevailed and they have at last been removed. Once again we have a clear view of the Plough in all its glory – and, more importantly, motorists have a clear view of the junction without distraction.



Now you see it...



Now you don't!

Heathrow update

The Government's consultation on expansion of Heathrow ended on 27 February. A Government announcement is expected in the summer.

There has been robust protest against the Heathrow expansion plans by individuals, pressure groups and some local councils. All four main candidates for the recent mayoral election came out against the expansion. The Conservatives and Liberals on a national level have spoken against the expansion plans. The recent consultation culminated in a packed rally at Westminster Hall attended by over 3000 protesters and preceded by a lobby of MPs. Members of the EFRA committee attempted to lobby our MP but unfortunately he was not on hand to listen to our concerns.

According to the pressure group HACAN ClearSkies over 70,000 people

responded to the consultation and the Government has been taken aback by the strength of the protests. Pressure groups are continuing to organise events that will keep the issue at the forefront. A Summer Rally is scheduled for 31 May starting with a march from Hatton Cross at 12 noon to Sipson (the village that is threatened with demolition if the 3rd runway goes ahead). Go to www.hacan.org.uk for further details or ring 020 8847 1727. The more of us turn up on the day the better!

The HACAN site also summarises the results of a study commissioned by the Netherlands-based economic consultants, CE Delft, which casts doubts on the Government's claim that Heathrow expansion will bring major economic benefits. See the HACAN site for more.



Flight path changes will affect us

Even if the expansion plans do not go ahead, aircraft noise may still get worse for EFRA residents. National Air Traffic Services (NATS) has submitted a proposal for moving the take-off path for eastbound flights over Ealing to the South. The proposed changes will mean more noise for South Ealing. The proposals and their effects on you can be seen on the website www.consultation.nats.co.uk/ Comments on the proposal can be made on that site, or by post to TCN Consultation, NATS, Freepost NAT22750, Reading RG1 4BR, by **19 June**. If you need help with assessing the impact this proposal could have on South Ealing, email canagaircraftnoise@hotmail.com.

Northfields Ward forum

In the past residents have been able to attend Area Committees, formal bodies covering several wards, to raise issues of local concern with the councillors from those wards. The Council has recently decided to abolish these because of poor attendance by members of the public and to replace them with local ward meetings, which will focus on local ward issues. The exact format of these has not yet been decided but it is likely they will be along the lines of the pilot ward forum that has been operating in Northfields for the last year or so, attended by local Councillors, Council Officers, Police Officers and representatives from residents' associations, businesses, faith groups and

neighbourhood watch groups within the ward. The forums will each have a small budget that can be spent on improvements in the local area. Issues that were discussed at the most recent meeting on 8 April included: the possible use of CCTV to help control parking outside Northfield Station, the use of street parking by the garage that works from Overdale Road and the creation of the Heritage Zone (and the associated controversy about the retention of Edwardian street lights in our area). If you would like to raise an issue that can be discussed at the ward forum, please take this up with an EFRA Committee member.

Access to Blondin and Niagara Avenues

As we reported in our last newsletter, EFRA carried out a survey of residents in Blondin Avenue and Niagara Avenue about possible solutions to access difficulties in these two unusually narrow roads. It followed concerns expressed by some residents that emergency vehicles may not be able to reach a serious incident and that, in the worst case, lives may be at risk.

The survey covered a number of proposals, ranging from putting up a sign at the entrance to each road saying 'unsuitable for wide vehicles' to allowing parking on only one side of the road. Our



Larger vehicles parked in Blondin Avenue can make access very difficult

thanks go to those of you who completed the survey giving us a response rate of 50 per cent.

The results show that both roads are in favour of removing the stop-and-shop bays on one side of the road and residents in Blondin Avenue want a sign at the entrance. Niagara Avenue is strongly in favour of parking on the kerb but in Blondin Avenue views are almost evenly split between doing nothing, widening the road, and parking on the kerb.

EFRA prepared a report of the survey results setting out three recommendations:

- removal of the stop-and-shop bays on one side at the entrance to both roads;
- a notice at the entrance to Blondin Avenue;
- in Niagara Avenue, carry out work to allow residents to park on the kerb, ideally including lowering the kerb to avoid tyre damage.

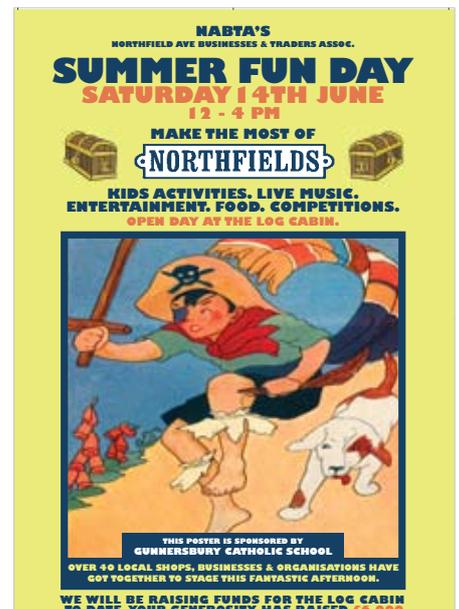
Our local councillors have passed the report on to Council officers to look into these recommendations. EFRA will continue to push for action and would welcome any further input from residents in these roads.

Northfield Avenue Fun Day

Northfield Avenue Businesses & Traders Association (NABTA) is holding another Fun Day on Saturday 14 June (12 to 4 pm). The aim is to raise the profile of local businesses by providing entertainment and refreshments and to raise funds for the Log Cabin.

Previous events have been very successful and well worth supporting. The Log Cabin will also be holding an open day as part of the event. We are really fortunate in the range of quality shops, restaurants and other businesses in our local high street so do take the family along on the day and see just what Northfield Avenue has to offer.

NABTA is currently working with the Council to improve facilities in Northfield Avenue and hopes that these will be carried out by autumn 2008. Find out more about Northfield Avenue businesses on the NABTA website: www.northfields.info



Hanwell Carnival

This year's Hanwell Carnival and Show will be on Saturday 21 June at Elthorne Park, with lots of stalls and family entertainment. The Carnival Procession will start from Hanwell Community Centre, with three prizes for the top float/group. If you are interested in taking part or attending contact Jim Wong (jim_wong@hotmail.com/020-8280-2233).

News in brief

Police website

Ealing Borough police have launched an updated website where you can find out what the police are doing in Ealing and about local crime as well as details of our Police Safer Neighbourhoods Team and who you should ring about what.

Check it out at:

<http://cms.met.police.uk/met/boroughs/ealing/index>

Children's parties

The Log Cabin adventure playground behind Northfields station is a great venue for children's (under 12s) parties. It is available for hire at weekends. If you are interested contact:

info@logcabin.org.uk

Controlled Parking Zone extension

At its meeting on 1 April, Ealing's Cabinet agreed in principle that roads to the south of Little Ealing Lane should be consulted about being included in a CPZ. This follows lobbying by EFRA after local residents voiced their concerns and conducted sample surveys in their roads to assess support. The roads to be consulted are likely to include Chandos Avenue, Radbourne Avenue, Ealing Park Gardens and others in the vicinity but no final decision has been made. As Hounslow is about to consult its residents further south about introducing a CPZ, which could result in further parking pressure in our roads, this is timely. However, no date has yet been fixed or funding allocated for the consultation.

The hostel

The student hostel opposite Northfields station, on which we reported in our autumn issue, has cleaned up its act on the rubbish front and Council Officers have been pursuing the managers to ensure that safe and proper facilities are provided for the residents. However, the broken windows and the litter of cigarette stubs on the pavement in front do not present a very good first impression to those alighting from the Tube.

Pickering House

A second application to build on the land behind Pickering House in Windmill Road has been lodged and withdrawn since we last wrote about this issue. No doubt we will hear more.

Ealing Fields Residents' Association Annual General Meeting

Thursday 5 June 2008 at 7.30 pm at the Log Cabin (behind Northfields Library)

All welcome. Renew your membership or join on the night.

Find out what is happening about all the local issues that affect you, air your views and concerns. Choose the new committee.

Drinks and light refreshments

Contacting EFRA

Website: www.efra.org.uk Email: contact@efra.org.uk
Telephone: Roger Jarman (Vice-Chair): 8567 9874 Helen Johnson (Secretary): 8840 1506

Newsletter photographs
© Nigel Jordan

Ealing Fields Residents' Association - Membership Application/Renewal

Many thanks to all those who have joined EFRA or renewed their membership in 2008/09. Your support ensures that EFRA represents the views of the local community. The more members we have the stronger our voice in campaigning to keep Little Ealing a safe and pleasant place to live.

To join EFRA or to renew your membership please complete and return this form, together with £2.00 membership fee per person, to Clive Herring, 75 Bramley Road, London W5 4ST or to your street rep. A membership card will then be issued to you. Please note that all fees paid now will last until the end of April 2009.

Name

Address.....

Telephone..... Email