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## Newsletter of Horsham Trafalgar Neighbourhood Council (HTNC) Spring 2022

**Your Neighbourhood Council** meets monthly, on the first Wednesday of the month, and residents are always welcome – either to ask questions, make contributions or simply observe and learn more about our work. We have in-person meetings in the comfortable room at Trafalgar Road Baptist Church so if you would like to attend please contact our clerk. Our next three meetings are: **Wednesdays 11th May (AGM), 1st June and 5th July. No meeting in August.** There are currently two vacant seats on the Trafalgar Neighbourhood Council so come along to a meeting and see if you would like to join us. We are non-political and we're here to welcome you. Contact: [clerk@horshamtrafalgarnc.com](mailto:clerk@horshamtrafalgarnc.com)

### What do we do?

At HTNC our wish is to work with the people who live behind the 2,800 doors in Trafalgar! We aim to create a vibrant, efficient and prosperous community that feels good about itself, by being:

- open in the way we work with you and local organisations
- open about what's going on via the website, our meetings, FB and this newsletter
- open about how we spend your money
- open to criticism and suggestions
- open to encouraging the growth of employment and education

As councillors with individual views, we work together in the common cause of empowering Horsham Trafalgar residents, protecting and enhancing their environment. Let us know what is important to you and your life here. What are your suggestions and concerns and what is your vision?

### Who are we?

Christine Costin continues her longstanding role as **Trafalgar's representative on HDC**, as does Nigel Dennis for WSCC. The Conservative party lead HDC, and we welcome Christian Mitchell as our **HDC Cabinet Member for Horsham Town**.

### Diary Dates

Wednesday meetings at 19:00-21.00

Trafalgar Rd Baptist Church

**11 May- AGM**

**1st June, 6th July**

We'd love to see you.

For your invitation, simply email Rhoda at:

[clerk@horshamtrafalgarnc.com](mailto:clerk@horshamtrafalgarnc.com)

We also welcome a new neighbourhood warden, **Charlie**, who is ably assisting **Maria**. Together, they look after the three neighbourhood councils of Horsham town.  
(Trafalgar, Denne and Forest)



We are sorry to have lost two of our highly respected councillors, Isabel and then Maralyn this year. Happily **Martin** remains for now as our **vice chair** as well as being a **Horsham District Council (HDC) member for Trafalgar Ward** and also **Shadow Cabinet Member for Leisure and Culture**, and is also the newly elected **leader of the Liberal Democrats for HDC**. **Olive** and **Ben** remain as councillors, each taking on different roles, and our wonderful clerk, **Rhoda** has also remained in post. **We are now delighted to welcome Paula Dinnage as a new member.**

However, this leaves us with **two empty spaces on our seven-person council**, so we really welcome your support as residents now, no matter how small, and we are particularly in need of a **Treasurer-who does not have to be a Trafalgar resident!**

# What's Happening in Trafalgar?

## Crime and Safety

Thankfully crime remains low, but do report anything you are concerned about to our wardens:

Maria : 07795051561 Charlie: 07795051555. It all helps to build up a picture. Many areas have

**Neighbourhood Watch** schemes, so you may want to consider joining, or simply help elderly or lonely residents to stay in touch.

**Tip: - If you receive any dodgy texts, simply forward them to 7726 to report.**

**4TheYouth** – The snack wagon is in town! Meet 13-18 year old friends, eat free snacks, and chat about school and friendships...what's not to like? Great for teens who are addicted to video games! (Also see Gaming 4 Good online).

**Youth Eco Forum** – Sussex Green Living have a weekly online meeting place for young people 11+ and YEF is an easy way to meet ...even if you're shy!

A Zoom meeting takes place every other Sunday at 8pm. Free tickets can be booked here:

[YEF@sussexgreenliving.co.uk](mailto:YEF@sussexgreenliving.co.uk)

[sussexgreenliving.co.uk/cafes-forums/youth-eco-forum/](http://sussexgreenliving.co.uk/cafes-forums/youth-eco-forum/)

**Queen's Green Canopy and the Woodland Trust** are both offering free trees, provided a suitable place can be found where there is a guarantee that the new trees will be watered and cared for during the first two years of being planted in their new home.

**Friends of the Rec** were delighted to be given two new crab apple trees which have now been planted by HDC. These will provide nectar in the spring for pollinators, and fruits in the autumn for birds and insects, as well as looking pretty and providing shade on our warmer days. Wins all round! Our volunteer tree warden, Ben Brace, also kindly donated a native wild cherry tree which is similarly beneficial for wildlife and humans. Thanks to those who have helped. Contact Ann: 07709070981.

## Social Opportunities & Activities

**Volunteer** – We know that action alleviates anxiety and there are plenty of volunteer community groups in Trafalgar such as cricket, football, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts at Swindon Rd. Here are a few:

**Trafalgar Community Choir** is a choir for anyone who loves to sing and have fun. Monday nights at Trafalgar Road Baptist Church. Contact Steve: 07887590052 [steveldavies37@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:steveldavies37@tiscali.co.uk)

**Trinity Church 'Crafty Thursdays'** are popular -Join in for activity and chat! Contact Jane: 01403 265649

## The Pleasure Singers

A ladies community choir meeting on Wednesdays 2-4pm at the Holy Trinity Church Hall, Rushams Road. We are led by baritone Jon Oppenshaw with accompanist Jenny Jeffrey. We sing a wide variety of music and have a concert coming up on the 14th May.

If you enjoy singing please come and join us. You will be made most welcome - Deborah 07922750636.

Email [thepleasuresingers@gmail.com](mailto:thepleasuresingers@gmail.com)

**Renew Wellbeing** at Trafalgar Road Baptist Church – From 10-12am on Wednesdays - a café-style space where everyone is welcome to connect over a cuppa and engage in gentle activity and a chat. Bring something you enjoy doing or join in with others. Includes a quiet space for reflection and prayer. Further information available from 01403 240729

## Recycling

Don't forget that textiles and small electricals can be collected from your door, (It's very easy book a free collection on the HDC website) and batteries can be tied onto your blue or green bin in a clear plastic bag. The Horsham Repair Café is also available every last Saturday in the United Reformed Church in town. Book your repair via the Sussex Green Living website and hopefully there will be no need for recycling!

**Jumble Trail or Give Your Stuff Away Day**- This is an idea that is working in some villages eg Steyning. Would you enjoy one in Trafalgar? Residents simply put out unwanted goods on a certain day and bring them in if not taken by others. We suggest 11 or 12 June.

## Trafalgar Recycling points run by volunteers

See the *Keep.On.Recycling.Horsham* group on Facebook **Greenway School; Trafalgar School; Rushams Rd Church**, Clothes & textiles & shoes outside Chinese takeaway in **Spencers Rd**, in the **Coot** pub car park, and also at the **Co-op** opposite the Dog & Bacon (also books and all soft plastics at the Co-op).

**Litter:** Increasingly, residents take a plastic bag as they walk, and informally litter-pick which is hugely helpful. THANK YOU! If you prefer a companion, then join in Adopt-a-Street litter picking.

**Speedwatch** is another community street activity, and bad driving can be reported to Operation Crackdown at: [reports.operationcrackdown.org](http://reports.operationcrackdown.org) We are considering whether to introduce a **20's Plenty** limit throughout Trafalgar. [Horshamcommunityspeedwatch@gmail.com](mailto:Horshamcommunityspeedwatch@gmail.com) Let us know what you think.

## Rookwood Update

Councillor Roger Noel, new Cabinet Member for Leisure and Culture is expected to be in contact with the Keep Rookwood Green Alliance to discuss the future of the 18 hole golf course which functions as Trafalgar's most valuable green space for enjoyment of nature.

## **CEE Bill**

We asked in our last newsletter for our residents' views on whether or not to lend our support to the **Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill** (CEE Bill.) I'm pleased to report that we have now as a council voted to express support for this bill which was presented to parliament by Sussex MP Caroline Lucas. Its aim can be broadly described as "The UK restores and regenerates the UK's soils, wildlife habitats and species populations to healthy and robust states, maximising their capacity to absorb CO2 and their resistance to climate heating."

## **Horsham Blueprint Neighbourhood Plan and Water!**

The Plan (initiated by the three Neighbourhood Councils) to ensure the character of the town is maintained, to improve prosperity and protect green spaces, making Horsham a better place for all ages and abilities, has been agreed by an independent government inspector. However, despite many years of hard work, it still has to be approved by the people and businesses of the Horsham. It is hoped that the referendum dates will be announced soon and it is important that you are registered to vote. For more information visit: [www.horshamblueprint.org](http://www.horshamblueprint.org)

## **JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

**Trinity Church Group** are hosting their open day Jubilee Celebration on **Friday June 3<sup>rd</sup>** 12-4pm: Music , singing, children's making activities, stalls. Free refreshments! Fundraising for local charity Action Medical Research. **Trinity Cricket Club** will be holding a Jubilee Celebration at the Victory Road Rec, on **Friday June 3<sup>rd</sup>** in the afternoon for members, local residents and their families. **Cootes Farm Community** offers a Family Fun Day at Cootes Green, Merryfield Drive on **Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup>** from 2pm. Info@cootesfarm.org.uk

## **Scouts**

### **Riverside Walk**

HTNC sponsors this lovely annual walk to the tune of £180. This year for the first time, it is organised by the Scouts and passes through Trafalgar on **Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>**. Start and finish at the Rugby Club. Free to join in, but register with [www.horshamscouts.com](http://www.horshamscouts.com)

### **Fundraising Table Top Sale**

Sunday 8th May, 10am-4pm Swindon Road Scout Hut, RH12 2HF Bag a Bargain! Book a Table! [Scouts.mosse@2ndhorsham.org.uk](mailto:Scouts.mosse@2ndhorsham.org.uk)

**Boldings Brook Conservation Group** volunteers work with HDC, helping to conserve and maintain the Riverside Walk between Warnham Nature Reserve and the Red River. Contact Daphne Mitchell 01403 263640.

## **The Horsham District Older Peoples Forum** invites you to meet **Horsham MP Jeremy Quin** who lives here in Trafalgar.

HDOPF will be hosting their annual '**MP Question Time**' event on Friday the 25th of November 10.00am- 12pm. The meeting is for residents aged 60+ and is open to everyone who is involved in any way with the challenges and issues faced by older people.

If you would like to attend, email [hdopforum@gmail.com](mailto:hdopforum@gmail.com)

Our first **Chatty Café** sponsored by Age UK and our local Caterways Londis will take place at Trafalgar Road Baptist Church 10-12 am on lucky Friday 13 May. Come in for a cuppa!

**Struggling?** [support@horsham-matters.org.uk](mailto:support@horsham-matters.org.uk)  
0300 124 0204

## **Free essential bike maintenance classes from Horsham's Community Climate Fund**

This June, Trafalgar Neighbourhood Council is working with Horsham's 'Velo Square' Training to deliver free essential bike maintenance classes for local residents. We'll teach simple, easy to learn bike maintenance techniques that give you the confidence to get around Horsham and District by bike. Research shows that the more confident people feel about their bikes the more often they ride. And bike journeys mean fewer car journeys, cleaner air and happier, healthier and safer communities! Find out more and book your place at [www.horsham.bike](http://www.horsham.bike)

## **Children's Sunflower Summer Fun**

Plant some seeds and send your photos in to us by 24th August. Ideally include the children, the sunflowers and the height of the plants, with contact details. Sunflowers are great for the birds and the bees and always put a smile on our faces too. We can eat the seeds and even create a smiley if we pick out the seeds carefully!



**Trinity Cricket Club:** Come along and have a chat while supporting the cricket club. Social membership is £30 p.a. [horshamtrinitycc.co.uk](http://horshamtrinitycc.co.uk)

## What's Your View? We Value Your Opinions

### From the Chair

#### Leonard Crosbie Community Awards

As responsible parents and citizens, we need to guide our children and our leaders in what we value, rather than simply hoping they know what we want! We need to be clear and kind and build our community with practical actions.

Trafalgar is a wonderful place to live and we need more and more people to be stepping up to the responsibility of caring for this, our home. Whether by sharing a friendly word in passing, offering to help someone, fundraising, or being on a committee, all this activity makes Trafalgar a great home for us all. So as always, a big THANK YOU for all you do. And with gratitude in mind, we are delighted to have launched the Community Awards in memory of HDC Councillor Leonard Crosbie who served the Trafalgar area so diligently and compassionately for 25 years. His widow, Mary, is delighted to support this.

Martin was delighted to present the Individual Award for outstanding Trafalgar citizenship to Jane O'Sullivan. Jane has been active in the Trafalgar community for over 30 years and has even written a book about the history of Trafalgar area. She hosts an annual produce stall for charities each summer (raising £500 for Motor Neurone Disease last summer alone); she volunteers with the Speedwatch team and with the Litterpicking team; she has helped with garden improvements at the Victory Road Recreation Ground and Holy Trinity Church on Rushams Road. Also at the church, she has been running a Monday choir, organising an annual charity fundraising pantomime as well as orchestrating annual community carol singing for charity around the Trafalgar area for many years. She is currently co-ordinating the Trafalgar celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Friday 3rd June at Trinity Church.



Mrs Crosbie was very pleased to make the Community Group Award to the **Keep Rookwood Green Alliance** for their huge efforts to protect the Rookwood Golf Course from the decision to build homes on this special area. Their efforts on behalf of residents of Trafalgar and beyond had a huge impact, with activities such as roadside banners, online presentations, leaflet drops and a Bio Blitz to flag up the ecological importance of the area not only for people but also for nature. This was something very close to Cllr Crosbie's heart and their efforts help to cause a turnaround were greatly appreciated by him in his final months.



A posthumous award was made to **Wendy Jackson** who with her daughters during lockdown knitted over 10,000 ear savers which were donated to Sussex medical staff, and collected others from friends and neighbours, sending many 1,000s to help various hospitals. Her garden won a Horsham in Bloom award of which she was immensely proud and it gave her opportunity to chat and laugh with passers by as she worked.

## Contact [horshamtrafalgarnc.com](http://horshamtrafalgarnc.com)

We have two community **notice boards** in the Rec or **email the clerk** for any community events you'd like to promote.

There is a further **notice board at Cootes Green**. Contact [info@cootesfarm.org.uk](mailto:info@cootesfarm.org.uk)

**Clerk** - Rhoda Hatton for initial/general enquiries - [clerk@horshamtrafalgarnc.com](mailto:clerk@horshamtrafalgarnc.com)

**Chair** - Morag Warrack - [chair@horshamtrafalgarnc.com](mailto:chair@horshamtrafalgarnc.com)

**Councillors** (aka Members) - contactable **via the clerk** - Martin Boffey (Vice Chair), Olive Hobbs, Ben Peterson, Paula Dinnage and Nigel Dennis (WSCC) - [Nigel.Dennis@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:Nigel.Dennis@westsussex.gov.uk)

**Wardens** - [Horsham.NeighbourhoodWardens@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:Horsham.NeighbourhoodWardens@horsham.gov.uk)

Maria Colenso – 07795051561 Charlie Nell - 07795051555