



HKVA Review

HAYES GENTLE VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

Spring 2024 Issue 257

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HAYES FAIR

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12:00 noon – 4:30 pm

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Bromley Y, Hayes Community Foodbank & Hayes (Kent) Trust

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Hayes Village Association

Hayes (Kent) Village Association, the Future

At the AGM on Thursday 4 April it was with great regret that we accepted the resignations from the committee of Pam Anderson, Helen Best, Mary Frost, Zeynep Hizir and John and Janet Thompson. Each of them had served our committee with enthusiasm and loyalty and we were very sorry to see them leave.

Their resignations left us without a Secretary and several event organisers. This has led us to re-evaluate our future with a much smaller committee.

The officers of the HKVA have met and the remaining committee members are determined to continue. However, it is likely we will have to reduce our social activities for the coming year.

Recently, the ever popular Easter Egg Hunt took place on 23 March. The Association is represented on the London Borough of Bromley Residents' Federation (though this no longer has face to face meetings) and the Safer Neighbourhood Team with the Met Police. We have also reached out to both the Keston Village and Coney Hall Residents' Associations to explore how we can help each other.

We have developed a stronger link with our local councillors. Indeed, they all attended the AGM and gave the AGM visitors a summary of their activities and answered many questions.

Our quarterly magazine, the HKVA Review, continues to be available in paper format by subscription and digitally online via our website. We encourage local organizations to promote themselves with advertising on our three noticeboards in Station Approach and Hayes Street and via our website and social media presence.

As we move into the 2024/25 year, we remain short of a Secretary. We would like some enthusiastic volunteers to join us. We appreciate the recruitment of volunteers for a voluntary organization such as ours is challenging. Nowadays people have such busy lives with work and family responsibilities. Those who do volunteer are often retired and, generally, they have more time available but as they age, they become less physically able. Please speak to your family, friends, and colleagues. We would like to know whether our services are valued and whether potential volunteers are willing to join us. The committee put together a short survey for the AGM to assess how the HKVA should go forward. Time will tell.

Whatever happens we will continue to publish our quarterly magazine and maintain our website and Facebook presence and do as much as we can for the next year. Beyond that, we are unsure.

Steve White, Chair HKVA

Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of the Association took place in the Village Hall on Thursday 8 April. Reports were given by the secretary, treasurer and the chairman. The chairman outlined some of the difficulties ahead but remained confident that the Association would survive.

The following elections were made:

President	Beryl Grimani-Harrold
Chair	Steve White
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Charles Wimble
Honorary Legal Adviser	Linda Gabriel
Honorary Account Verifier	Keith Bailey
Other Committee Members	Naomi Evans, Pat Grimani, Peter Harrold, Gill Jaynes, Christine Maddy, Shirley Savage

Easter Egg Hunt

The very popular Annual Easter Egg Hunt took place on Saturday 23 March in the library gardens. In spite of the overcast conditions 195 children (with parents) turned up to search the library gardens and claim a well-deserved Easter Egg. Our thanks go to Pam Anderson, who organized the event and her happy band of helpers.

Copy Deadline

The deadline for copy to reach the editor for the summer issue is 12 noon on Friday 21 June 2023. Please send your copy to charles@wimble.uk.



Community Matters

Local Shops

Compared with other local shopping centres, Hayes is remarkably lucky in that vacant retail space is usually taken up fairly quickly. For example, the cleaners and repairers near Hayes Station has relocated further down Station Approach to gain more space. In its place we have a new barber, namely S.A.Grooming. However, Rose Tinted has closed and has yet to be replaced. Likewise the projected Italian restaurant opposite has yet to materialise. In Hayes Street we now have an ultra-sound diagnostic clinic together with Reform Pilates Studio and Origin Wills. Hayes Street Kitchen has had a major refit and is now called Ruby Cafe. Meanwhile our original establishments continue to offer a comprehensive range of services. What would make life easier for everyone would be a banking hub in Hayes and to that end we do hope that our local councillors lobby strenuously for such a facility. Accessing a bank in person becomes ever more difficult, particularly for those with mobility problems or disinclined to embrace on-line banking.

Historical Articles

Virginia Woolf's visit to Hayes

A recent enquiry from Australia from Dr Evelyn Juers, who was writing an article on 'how do we read biography?', reminded me of the many interesting artists, musicians and writers that were invited almost a hundred years ago to visit Hayes Court School, an exclusive girls' boarding school. It was established by Harvard and McGill educated Katherine Cox in 1919.

For 20 years the school provided an education for many pupils who later became famous in very different walks of life, for example, two heads of Cambridge University Colleges, an archaeologist, governor of Holloway Prison, neurologist, biologist, economist and horticulturalist.

At the time of the census in 1921 there were 55 boarders aged between 12 and 18 who came from many areas of the UK. There were also pupils who had been born overseas in America, France, Norway, Russia, Germany, India and China. In addition to a house matron and secretary there were five resident servants, three of whom were the same age as the pupils. Some teachers and the housekeeper lived in Hayes Grove Cottage.



Katherine Cox, owner of Hayes Court School



Hayes Court School

The Visit

Katherine Cox was a great admirer of the work of the writer Virginia Woolf who she invited in 1926 to speak to the school. Many of the pupils knew about Woolf's novels, especially *Jacob's Room* and the recently published *Mrs Dalloway*. It was arranged that one of the girl's mothers would bring Virginia Woolf, her sister Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant to the school on 30 January. The girls sat on the drawing-room floor, Miss Cox, the visitors and staff sat round the fire and Virginia Woolf sat at a little table near the piano. She wore a bright blue polo-necked jersey which seemed to accentuate her height; she made a striking figure and sixty years later for one pupil her appearance remained a more lasting memory than the words that were spoken.

According to *The Hayseed*, the school magazine, Virginia Woolf had chosen the title 'How should one read a book?' because it would leave her free to talk on whatever came into her head. From her own *Diary* we know that she took considerable trouble preparing the talk.

For one young listener the lecture was rather boring but she remembered clearly Mrs Woolf saying "Don't read a book because you think you ought to; only because you want to." She began her lecture by saying "I want to emphasise the note of interrogation at the end of my title. Even if I could answer the question for myself, the answer would apply only to me and not to you. The only advice, indeed, that one person can give another about reading is to take no advice, to follow your own instincts, to use your own reason, to come to your own conclusions. If this is agreed between us, then I feel at liberty to put forward a few ideas and suggestions because you will not allow them to fetter that independence which is the most important quality that a reader can possess."

She also said: "To read intelligently we must recognise to which sort a book belonged, must approach it from the right angle, get from it what it was intended to give us. Perhaps it was a book suitable for the bath, requiring the minimum effort of comprehension". One can imagine a gasp of horror from the staff at this, and a stir of envy among the girls at the happy thought of not only relaxing in a bath, but reading a book at the same time.

This passage was not included in the lecture when it was published in Virginia Woolf's second volume of 'The Common Reader'.

After the lecture the school trooped out, but a few of the senior pupils were allowed to stay to the tea in the drawing-room and converse with their visitors. Miss Cox clearly felt that her distinguished guests should sing for their supper. It was recalled that Virginia Woolf made animated comments upon one pupil's composition book whilst Duncan Grant looked at some ghastly specimens of the work of the painting class, probably searching for something nice to say.



The drawing-room, Hayes Court School

Miss Cox maintained her contact with Virginia Woolf and an incident at the school in 1929 was reported in Woolf's *Diaries*. Some of the pupils enjoyed daring to hold midnight feasts on the roof. One pupil climbed up on the roof by a trapdoor from the south dormitory and made the mistake of falling asleep there. Virginia Woolf also recorded the repercussion — the girl was kept down a form for a term as a punishment!

Pupils' memories have been extracted from *Hayseed to Harvest, Memories of Katherine Cox and Hayes Court School* edited by Roma Goyder, 1985.

Further information on Miss Cox and Hayes Court School is available at www.hayeskenthistory.org.uk.

Dr Evelyn Juers' article appeared in HEAT Series 3 Number 11, October 2023.

Jean Wilson

Local Groups and Societies

Friends of Hayes Parks

Once again spring brought beautiful displays of daffodils, hyacinths, crocuses and cyclamen in the Knoll and Husseywell, and this year they escaped being laid flat by snow. The mild winter and exceptionally warm February brought nature a boost with trees flowering, buds swelling and of course brambles, nettles and bamboo racing ahead to provide the FoHP with work across the coming seasons.



Our ability to carry out work was only due to the valued help we get from the Friends of Hayes Common and in particular for their energy in the removal of large logs used by the locals last year to try to build a bridge to the island in Husseywell. This involved getting them out of the water, FoHC in and logs out, then dragging the large logs up the

park to a site near the top gate from where after some badgering and delay the logs were removed by the contractor.

The driveway into Hayes Library Gardens was cleared of overgrowing ivy and the rainwater drains opened and cleaned which turned out to be just what was needed in view of the rain we have had. Litter picking, hedge cutting and general tidying continued. A large quantity of leaves has been removed from the Knoll top pond outflow (still more to be done) which hopefully will prevent the smell of decaying leaves during the summer period. A hard, dirty, smelly task, but someone has to do it and it is the combined FoHP and FoHC who do.



Visitors continued to flock to these parks, herons, mandarin ducks, Egyptian geese and dog walkers, so get out and join them.

Debbie Palmer, FoHP

Friends of Pickhurst Park

With the mild start to the year an abundance of spring flowers appeared in the woods for those interested enough to seek them out. Cyclamen, snowdrops, daffodils and violets appeared in clumps, often hidden from view and brought into bloom by the wet and mild conditions. Bluebells were waiting to take over with their much larger display. Far more easy to spot were the remains of the New Year celebrations in the shape of nitrous oxide cylinders. Some 72 were rounded up and put on the roadside to be collected by Veola. The long term effects of inhaling large quantities are well known except by the idiots using it and ignored by those selling it to them.



With much valued help from the Friends of Hayes Common, ditches were cleared, paths swept of leaves and kept clear of brambles. Dead and dangerous trees overhanging paths were safely brought to earth and cleared away. The rain continued to fall and the ditches flowed with water, but this never deterred the folk who use the park and its playground as the need for litter picking confirmed, so get out and enjoy your park.



Debbie Palmer, FoPP

Friends of Hayes Common

The main work group continued woodland clearances and made very good progress although a couple of sessions were lost to forecasts of heavy rain which proved to be correct. Clearances were made between Prestons Road and West Common Road in the autumn and since the New Year we have been clearing an area between Prestons Road and the Warren.

The smaller Habitat Management group was busy in both the woodland and heathland areas and amongst other tasks cropped a large area of gorse between the Baston Road and Croydon Road car parks to permit more sunlight onto the heather that was otherwise being outcompeted by the evergreen gorse and starved of light.

One disturbing aspect to 2023 was that perhaps ten or so mature silver birch trees fell to the ground without warning, in a few cases across or along well-used footpaths. Fortunately no injuries were reported. One positive aspect in recent months has been the sighting of deer on several occasions, probably the same family but this answers a question that is often posed.

Our winter 'heavy work' is now at an end and we embark on our less strenuous summer work of pulling bracken, clearing stumps and roots, widening footpaths and bridleways and generally trying to keep the common user-friendly, whether the 'user' is wildlife or human. If you are interested in joining us please contact the Group Secretary, Ian Thomas, at admin@fohayescommon.com or ithomas12@compuserve.com. Ordinarily we meet at 10.00 am on alternate Tuesday mornings with a tea / coffee / biscuits refreshments break for the volunteers.

Ian Thomas, Secretary, FoHC

St Mary the Virgin - News

Have you checked in at your parish church lately? Whereas most church numbers are reducing – ours are growing!! Rector, Reverend Amanda Spence, and everybody will give you a warm welcome at our **Sunday Services**. 8.00 am Holy Communion – 10.30 am Parish Worship and every third Sunday 'Fresh Start' 9.15am for families with young children.



Singing, Stories & Snacks

There is something for everybody and every age group – our **Twinkles Group** (for parents with babies and toddlers) meets on the third Friday of the month from 10 to 11 am and is becoming very popular – a cup of coffee and a drink for the little ones with singing and stories – but most of all a welcome and friendship abounds.

Our **Craft Group** meets on the second and fourth Thursday of every month from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm and is going from strength to strength making Angels at Christmas, Hearts for St Valentine’s Day and for Easter – Chicks – for new life! If you love sewing, craft activities and friendship this is for you!



Of course, there is lots more going on – so come and see for yourself!

Mary Whytock

Biggin Hill Concert Band



Biggin Hill Concert Band finished 2023 with a couple of concerts; the first transporting

the audience Round the World in 80 Minutes, from steamy bars in South America to refined concert halls in Vienna. Keston Village Hall made a very good venue for the evening entertainment and we were fortunate to have some of our ex BYMT players along to really raise the roof. Christmas was looming so our last outing of the year was to the Warren with our traditional Carols Sing-a-Long which is always such a fun afternoon and definitely gets everyone in the spirit.

We then had to bid our Artistic Director, Joel, farewell as he set off on his new adventure in the Midlands.

A new year and a new conductor; Jaclyn has swapped her cello for a band and has started to work her magic on us so that we will be ready for a series of concerts this year with a wide variety of music from West Side Story to The Incredibles via a Rossini Overture. We love to keep the audience guessing the next genre of music we might come out with!

We will be playing at various venues this year so do come and see us.

Monday 27 May Bank Holiday Concert at The Warren, starting 2.30 pm

Sunday 2 June Picnic in the Park Concert at Ightham Mote (National Trust)
11.30 am to 1.30 pm

Saturday 29 June Biggin Hill Carnival, afternoon performance TBC

Sunday 14 July Music on the Meadow Concert at Emmetts Garden (National Trust),
2.00 pm to 4.00 pm.

If you play an instrument, or have thought of returning to playing, come and join us. The BHCB welcomes wind musicians with a wide range of abilities and experiences. It's a supportive space for people coming back to musicianship after a long break. We rehearse every Monday at The Warren from 8.00 pm to 9.30 pm. Just drop in and try us out. It's a great way to socialise and (re-)learn your craft.

Please contact Louis Wahl at louiswahl@gmail.com for more details or check us out on social media or at our website bigginhillconcertband.co.uk.

Clare Britton

Losing Confidence at the Wheel

It starts with not wanting to drive on the motorway, then avoiding narrow country lanes, finally regressing to only driving to the supermarket. This will only get worse, but how did we end up in this situation?

Covid has a lot to answer for. We should have returned to driving straight away. Two cars became one, why did we have to keep the manual one? RingGo parking in Bromley, whose idea was that? What do we do if our mobile phone now appears in the history section? We can blame our partners for always wanting to drive or were we just being lazy?

There are so many ways to erode our confidence at the wheel. However many good excuses we have, if you want to remain a driver you are going to have to work at it.

Where to start:

Check that you are safe and legal. You need to be able to see a number plate at 20 metres. If you are having difficulty at night with the headlights consider having a drive safe coating on your glasses. This will help with the glare.

Know the rules of the road. When was the last time you read the new Highway Code? Do you know the hierarchy of road users and what it means? (Don't panic, they're on page 5, 6, & 7 of the new Highway Code).

Check that the tyre pressures and the oil levels are correct and that you have plenty of fuel for the journey.

Know where you are going. Don't rely on the sat-nav, check the route beforehand. Note the junction you need to come off at on the motorway.

For every journey, give yourself time, leave early, avoid the rush hour. If the weather is bad, then don't go.

Turn off the radio and any devices, you need all your concentration on your driving.

Take notice of the warning signs (triangles). These are there to warn you what is going to happen.

Knowing this is in place will give you confidence in your ability to get from A to B safely. Looking further ahead and slowing down earlier will give you more time to avoid having

a collision. You need to be in the correct speed and gear BEFORE you negotiate the hazard. The cause of many accidents is your approach speed into the threatening situation on the road. The way you position your vehicle on the road is a crucial element of safety in your driving. Reduce the risk of accidents by being aware of what is around you, look out for vehicles pulling out from junctions, pedestrians, cyclists (especially children), large potholes – a specialty of Bromley Council roads. Your aim is to SEE AND BE SEEN.

If this sounds all a bit complicated and before you decide to become a full time passenger (a polite way of saying, giving up completely) help is at hand. Contact Kent ROSPA. With your membership of £35 per annum you will receive 1 to 1 local tutoring sessions in your own car with our expert tutors. Working together, you will reclaim your confidence back with improved driving skills.

Not driving means giving up your independence. You can get the bus, but the thought of walking on your own at night will stop you going out. Such a shame when the car is sitting on the driveway doing nothing. Chauffeurs have an annoying ability to be busy when needed. You have to work to a timetable. Spontaneity goes. It's a bit like getting a lift from Dad, leaving the party before everyone else. The main reason you learned to drive in the first place.

Speaking as the family taxi service, one could do without the extra fare. It's time you got back in the driving seat.

Start enjoying driving again, if you need help, contact us on our website:

www.kentrospa.org.uk. Email: enquiries@kentrospa.org.uk

Hayes Tennis Club

Coaching flourishes at Hayes Tennis Club

The coaching program at Hayes LTC continues to grow year on year as adults and juniors come along to get into tennis, or back into tennis in some cases. It has grown via word-of-mouth and via social media posts to our local community. The emphasis is on a fun learning environment for the juniors and adults returning to tennis. We introduce both of these age categories to a new topic every week. We challenge them to think more deeply about tennis whilst they learn.

Both Tuesday junior groups have many players who can now comfortably compete in local junior LTA tournaments, if they so choose to. Our adult players are introduced to “Team challenge” tennis competitions every six weeks, so they are in a competitive environment, and contesting their own games under pressure.

Most coaching term times are six weeks long and Hayes LTC has the most affordable rates. You can sign up for group coaching lessons without the commitment of actually joining the tennis club. This is a great way for kids and adult alike to keep mentally and physically fit.

As well as the coaching opportunities, Hayes Tennis Club has some fantastic offers for new members in 2024. You can join as a full adult member for the first year for just £149, or as a family for just £255. This applies from 1st April 2024 for a full year. We are looking for all standards of player including beginners, players seeking social tennis, and strong team players. Membership enables you to use the courts whenever you want to, arranging your own games, as well as joining club friendly social play sessions and club tournaments, as well as playing in club matches in both the North Kent and Kent leagues. Summer matches take place on weekday mornings, weekday evenings, and over the weekends between the end of March and mid-August, and teams are picked based on ability only.

Below is the Instagram page for Hayes Tennis club which is fun videos set to music and always current:

https://instagram.com/hayestennisclub?utm_medium=copy_link

You can also see more general information on the club’s website or via Facebook:

<https://www.hayeskenttennis.org.uk/>

www.facebook.com/106636941092981/posts/559017135854957/

The club also runs a host of social events throughout the year. As regards tennis, these include American tournaments for juniors, adults and both, the annual club tournament and other doubles events. After a number of successful 'Open Friday evening sessions' in 2023, we are planning to hold six of these events this year, the dates of which are on the clubs website. We also organise off court activities including curry nights, quiz nights and 'bring and share' lunches.

With the summer season now having started, now is the best time to dust off your racket and join.

Please contact me directly on phil.jopson@sky.com if you have any questions, or simply want to arrange to come along for a hit. Or you can contact our club coach, Dennis Saunders, for more information on denandjo@sky.com.

We are a small and friendly club sharing a ground on Barnet Wood Road with Bromley Rugby Club and Hayes Cricket Club as part of The Warman Trust. The Trust has a fully manned bar which is open most evenings and weekends with Sky Sports available. There is also a hall, which is available for hire to members at an excellent rate.



HAYES TENNIS CLUB
Barnet Wood Rd BR27AA

Contact Coach Den:
WhatsApp-07951672442

ADULT TENNIS
COACHING SESSIONS
WEDNESDAY 6PM & 7PM
THURSDAY 6PM

JUNIOR COACHING
TUESDAY 5PM & 6PM
THURSDAY 5PM
SATURDAY 9AM



Rotary West Wickham

Rotary West Wickham is 90 this year!

Things have altered since it came into being on 2 May 1934.



The core values of Rotary still exist, but there have been many changes and developments since 1934 that still make Rotary West Wickham relevant to today's world.

Also, gone are the days when Rotary was thought of as a group of local businessmen in suits and ties meeting for formal dinners. Nowadays:

- We welcome both men and women from all walks of life as members
- We recognise and welcome diversity
- There are no minimum attendance requirements (plus an informal dress code) at meetings
- We are flexible – "rules" can and are changed to suit our purpose
- We exist for the community, whether that is local, national or international.

All we ask for is:

- A commitment to help others when the need arises
- A proactive "can do" attitude
- A belief in community spirit and that where we can help, we will help.

A good sense of humour is a definite asset as well!!

Find out more about us on Facebook (@RC WestWickham), our website (www.bit.ly/RotaryWW) or email fentonbarryrotary@gmail.com or call our President, Barry Fenton, on 07514358364.

News from Hayes School

I'm reviewing the situation . . .

Fagin's nervous solo towards the end of the musical 'Oliver' couldn't be a more appropriate title for my article on this year's annual blockbuster musical at Hayes School. Sadly, having dropped off the School's radar over the past few years, I've missed quite a few productions since such memorable shows as 'South Pacific' and 'Oh What a Lovely War'. What hasn't changed however is the ongoing commitment of both staff and students over the best part of two terms to achieve further excellence beyond the rigours of their daily school curriculum.

Once was a time when school productions of a traditional and largely academic nature, often reflecting the exigencies of the literature curriculum, were the staple diet of grammar schools and the private sector and, as such, involved only English departments and their talented senior students. Drama departments were unheard of and school orchestras a rare luxury. Fast forward to the present and we have schools where cooperation across departments and opportunity for the whole student population to imagine and perform beyond the conventional school day can be the norm. Step forward Hayes!



So, how to get a cast of over 50 on and off the restricted and conventional school stage. Easy, and so the multi costumed and noisy rabble of Dickens' old London town poured down the aisle and tumbled out of the side exits into the auditorium and across the stage and rostra surrounding the orchestra. Indeed, a triumph of timing and choreography.

'Food, glorious food' launched a succession of well-known chorus numbers including 'Anything' and 'Be back soon', choreographed and sung with real verve and enthusiasm and served up with some great orchestral support. For me however, perhaps the most moving and accomplished choral performances were the beautiful harmonies of the three 'sweet red roses', 'ripe strawberries' and 'any milk today' characters rounded off with the vigorous 'Who will buy' chorus and rousing orchestral accompaniment.

Irrespective of parts played, every single character in a production of this scope must each contribute to the ultimate success of the overall performance and the teamwork of the chorus throughout was excellent. At the same time, I particularly enjoyed the exchanges between 'Mr' Bumble and Mrs Corney, played respectively by Angela Weinthrop and Ophelia Rose. Similarly, Lauren Mace-Pierce and Sophie Campbell worked well as a pair, particularly in their 'Oompah' number while Lauren's 'As long as

he needs me' was particularly moving. Oliver, Darwin Castle (Wednesday's performance), gave a suitably plaintive rendition of 'Where is love' and Helena Gocci (also Wednesday) was a delightfully confident and cheeky Dodger. Finally, Connor Hill's 'I'm reviewing the situation' effectively climaxed his convincing physical and talented performance as Fagin.

'Please sir, can I have some more . . .?'

Brian McEwan

What are students learning in Science?

There are lots of interesting things being learnt in science across the different year groups, here are a few.

Year 7 are learning about the reproductive system and the signs a chemical reaction has taken place. Year 8 are learning about reflection and refraction in the waves unit. Year 9 are learning about how group 1 metals react with water in chemistry, the role of enzymes in biology, and about insulation materials in physics.



Year 10 are learning about osmosis in biology, using the change in mass of potatoes to see whether water has moved into or out of the cells. This is also being covered in greater depth in Year 12. Year 10 are dismantling plugs (safely) in physics when learning about electrical safety. They are also learning about the National Grid and how electricity is efficiently and safely distributed. Year 10 are learning about exothermic and endothermic reactions in chemistry.

Year 11 have been learning about the atmosphere and resources in chemistry. In physics they are using the air track to demonstrate conservation of momentum and in biology are learning about evolution.

Year 12 physicists are learning about quantum physics, using LEDs to determine fundamental constants.

Science Trips – We love to get students to see where science can take them and we aim to take students on trips closer to home, and further afield. Some recent and upcoming trips include: Taking A-level and GCSE students to science live events with world renowned guest speakers including Prof. Robert Winston and Dr Maggie Aderin Pocock:

Taking 30 students to Geneva to visit CERN, the United Nations, and the Swiss Plasma centre this month and Year 7 visiting Hurstmonceaux Observatory this summer. There is also a potential trip to Florida to visit the Kennedy Space Centre subject to interest in October 2024.

Bromley Youth Council

Last Friday our school library became the focus of the Bromley Youth Council Elections, with the usual quiet space turned into a hubbub of excited anticipation as election fever hit the school. Our five candidates had been busily campaigning over a number of weeks to get their messages seen and heard, in the hope of becoming one of the two BYC representatives for Hayes School. Students from all year groups were invited to cast



their votes with a steady stream arriving at our Polling Station across the morning to make their two important choices under the watchful eye of their teachers, Mrs Hussain our Librarian, our polling clerks and leaders from BYC. By lunchtime over 1200 votes had been cast and placed in our ballot boxes. The votes were carefully counted and verified under the watchful eye and scrutiny of leaders from the Bromley Youth Council with the result being kept under wraps over the weekend. I had the pleasure of sharing the results with our five candidates alongside Mr Whittle on Monday morning in a specially convened meeting and was pleased to congratulate our two new Bromley Youth Council representatives. We look forward to hearing more from our newly elected BYC representatives in future newsletters and assemblies and know they are eagerly awaiting their formal introductions and training as they step into their new roles.

Notices

The World of Volunteering

Modern day living has made the world of volunteering a whole new concept. People nowadays feel they do not have time; they are working longer or looking after grandchildren or elderly parents. But sometimes the very act of volunteering can be therapeutic and relaxing in the hustle and bustle of everyday life. There is nothing more satisfying than arriving to see someone who is unhappy and the memory of their laugh when you leave at the end of a visit. Or seeing something through to its conclusion because you were on the committee that did that. Volunteering does not have to be strenuous or time consuming; most times it can be tailored to your lifestyle.

There are three volunteer organisations that I am involved in, any of which would love to hear from you:

Kent Association for the Blind: supporting people to be independent

Hayes Village Association: the ability to influence what goes on in your area

Hayes Fair: who have successfully run a great fair for over 20 years.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Pam Anderson, kiwipamuk@gmail.com

What's On

All events take place in the Village Hall unless listed otherwise

Regular Events

Group 88 (Social Group for the over 60s)	Every Monday 8.00 pm – 10.00 pm Rosary Church Hall (with weekend events)
Barnet Wood Short Mat Bowls Club	Every Tuesday 1.30 pm – 4.30 pm Warman Sports Club
Friendship Group (All welcome)	Every Wednesday 2.00 pm – 3.30 pm Hayes Free Church (Term time only)
Hayes Men's Fellowship	1st Wednesday of the month 2.45 pm Old Church Schools
Sitting Keep Fit	Every Thursday 10.30 am – 11.45 am Old Church Schools
Hayes (Kent) Flower Club	2nd Friday of the month (not Aug & Dec) 2.00 pm

Other Events *For more details of HKVA events go to www.hkva.org.uk*

Date	Group	Title	Time
Sat 4 May	Local Councillors	Street Surgery Station Approach, Hayes	10.00 am – 12.00
Mon 6 May	Meet Up Mondays Bromley Rotary	Grounded Cafe Station Approach, Hayes	10.00 am
Sat 18 May	Hayes Horticultural Society	Plant Sale	10.00 am
Sat 1 June	Local Councillors	Street Surgery Station Approach, Hayes	10.00 am – 12.00
Mon 3 June	Meet Up Mondays Bromley Rotary	Grounded Cafe Station Approach, Hayes	10.00 am
Sun 9 June	HAYES FAIR	The Warren	12.00 – 4.30 pm
Mon 1 July	Meet Up Mondays Bromley Rotary	Grounded Cafe Station Approach, Hayes	10.00 am
Sat 6 July	Local Councillors	Street Surgery Station Approach, Hayes	10.00 am – 12.00
Sat 13 July	Hayes Horticultural Society	Summer Show	2.30 pm

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