

HKVA Review

HAYES (KENT) VILLAGE ASSOCIATION



Summer 2024 Issue 258

ALLJUNK

SOLUTIONS



JUNK

REMOVAL SERVICE

BIG OR SMALL
WE REMOVE IT ALL!

in south east London



- * Alternative to a skip 🚚
- * Domestic/general or diy waste 🏠
- * We carry out all the hard work 🧤
- * Furniture/white goods removal 🛋️
- * Full or part house clearances 🏠
- * Garden,garage loft clearance 🏠
- * Single items to full loads 📦
- * Builders waste 🧑‍🔧
- * One off or regular collections 📅
- * garage/shed demolition removal 🏠
- * Fully licenced ✅



07931 935833

SEND IMAGES VIA WHATSAPP FOR AN INSTANT QUOTE

www.alljunksolutions.co.uk

Contents

Hayes (Kent) Village Association	Page 3
Community Matters	Page 7
Youth in the Community	Page 9
Local Groups and Societies	Page 11
Historical Article	Page 17
What's On	Page 25



Hayes Village Association

Editorial

Every organisation consisting purely of volunteers, of which the Hayes (Kent) Village Association is a fine example, needs to have dedicated and hard working committee members. In the past we were very fortunate to have two such committee members who worked very hard, supported the Association and served on the committee for many years. Although they had both long since retired from the committee we are very sad to report the passing of Alan Williams on 6 April and Anne Manning on 2 May.

Both had the interests of the residents of Hayes in their minds at all times and gave freely of their time working to preserve Hayes as the village we all love.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of Alan and Anne at this difficult time.

Full obituaries follow later in this Review.

On a happier note, another of the committees in Hayes has worked throughout the past twelve months to put on the Hayes Fair. This was a highly successful event, with around three thousand people of all ages attending the day's festivities at The Warren on Sunday 9 June. A full review follows later but the three chosen charities, Bromley Y, Hayes Community Foodbank and the Hayes (Kent) Trust, will benefit to the tune of over £2000 each.

Thank you to all the members of the H(K)VA and Hayes Fair Committees.

Alan George Williams
2 August 1939 – 6 April 2024

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of a very dear friend of Hayes, Alan George Williams. Hayes residents will be fully aware of how great this loss is to our community. Alan and his wife Anne were both born and lived their early lives in West London. They moved to Hayes and lived here for many years. Working in the building trade as a highly qualified Quantity Surveyor, his very wide knowledge and expertise were always available to friends and neighbours for help and guidance for their home repairs and improvements.



Many local groups will mourn his passing, namely Hayes (Kent) Village Association. For many years Alan undertook very important roles, Chairman, Vice President and latterly Honorary Life Member. As Chairman of the Hayes Village Hall he raised monies for many improvements to and the upkeep of this valuable and very well used asset to the village. The Hayes Fair Committee are also very aware of the many years he worked unbelievable hours to ensure the success of this much loved and ever popular family function providing enjoyment of thousands of folk. Hayes Players were also proud to count Alan amongst their number – he was an enthusiastic actor and also worked diligently behind the scenes. He was an impressive ‘Front of House Manager’ where he always had a welcoming and smiling face together with a merry quip. Hayes Lights were also amongst his many interests and many hours were devoted in the earlier years encouraging the Christmas Elves. Soon after the H(K)VA took over the Hayes Fair from the Hayes Conservatives he became Chairman of that committee for many years.

In 2016 Alan was presented with a Civic Award for services to the Bromley Borough Community. This acknowledgement from the Borough was justly deserved and gratefully received and appreciated by Alan. Always a gentleman with a wonderful sense of humour and sage mind he will be greatly missed by his family Anne, Steven, Sarah and the grandchildren for his encouragement and great sense of fun. H(K)VA are indebted to Alan for his help over so many years. He is an impossible act to follow and we send our sincere condolences and love to his family.

Peter Harrold and Beryl Grimani-Harrold

Hon. Alderman Anne Manning
6 December 1943 – 2 May 2024

The Hayes (Kent) Village Association is saddened to hear of the passing of Hon. Alderman Anne Manning, a lady who over many years has been well known and very active in caring for our village environs and its facilities.

Anne was born and educated in Bramhall, Cheshire, and came south to work in Whitehall in 1966 and this was where she met husband Roger. When first married they lived in a 'new build' home in Maidstone before moving to this area. Anne, husband Roger together with their young family came to Hayes in 1977.



Anne had many interests covering a wide field. She was an accomplished needlewoman and had interests in things historical, political and local planning with its many intricate aspects. Her support to many local groups is very well known. Anne joined H(K)VA and served enthusiastically as Secretary and Chairman and latterly was made an Honorary Life Member. Anne was elected as a local Councillor for the Hayes and Coney Hall ward of the London Borough of Bromley, a post she was fully committed to. She was fully immersed in the wellbeing of both Hayes and Coney Hall looking out for the many facilities. In 2004 she became Mayor of Bromley, a post she diligently carried out with great aplomb and gusto.

Amongst her many interests were local and family history in which she was fully immersed. RNLI was an important charity in her life to which she gave her support. During her Mayoralty her charity was supporting the Duke of Edinburgh Award encouraging young folk to develop their personalities and abilities. Hayes branch Conservatives were proud to have served with Anne who was a stalwart member for many years. Anne supported many other Hayes groups and will be remembered with great affection in the various roles in which she served.

Sadly, Anne became poorly a couple of years ago and we, together with her devoted family and friends were aware that this would have an untimely end. We send our sincere condolences and love to Roger, Jane, Paul, Richard and the grandchildren on her sad passing. She will be greatly missed.

Peter Harrold and Beryl Grimani-Harrold

Local Shops

Here in Hayes we are so lucky that Station Approach and Hayes Street continue to appeal to a wide variety of traders. We now have Nonno Trattoria adding an Italian dimension to our range of restaurants and take-aways and there are more to come. Meanwhile other facilities cater for our many and various needs. Long may they all continue to flourish. Provided we support our traders they will be able to support us. Happy shopping in Hayes.



Shirley Savage, H(K)VA

Quiz

The Village Association will be holding another quiz in the Village Hall on Saturday 5 October starting at 7.30 pm. Further details are available from Peter Harrold on 020 8462 1736 or by email to harroldgrimani@btinternet.com. A fun evening will be had by all.

Copy Deadline

The deadline for copy to reach the editor for the autumn issue is 12 noon on Friday 20 September 2024. Please send your copy to charles@wimble.uk.

Community Matters

Hayes Fair 2024

Sunday 9 June dawned bright and sunny though a little on the chilly side. The committee and other helpers made their way to the Warren at 7.30 am to continue the setting up which had been started the evening before. Gradually, soon after 8.00 am the stall holders began to arrive and to set up their own stalls, There was a real mixture of stalls this year and we had a record number of over 70 of them.

With the fun fair rides, bouncy castle, vintage motor bikes and Jaguar cars there was plenty to interest people of all ages. The five street food vans (Greek food, burgers and hot dogs, fresh pizza, Indian food and an ice cream van set up and were soon very busy selling their tasty offerings.

With the sun still shining the punters started to arrive, many before the opening time of 12.00 noon. There was a constant stream of people young and old making their way into the fair and the car park soon filled to overflowing.

The residents of Hayes were also entertained by various events in the arena. The most enjoyed was the ever popular dog display.



It is estimated that around 3000 people attended the event and the committee secured a record profit of around £7000 meaning we are able to donate £2,250 to each of our three nominated charities Bromley Y, Hayes Community Foodbank and the Hayes (Kent) Trust.

The committee is extremely grateful for the help they received in running this fair. From the programme deliverers to stewards on the day, from those who helped set up to those who assisted with the clearing away, from those who made cakes to those who donated raffle prizes, from those who supported us through sponsorship to those who advertised in the programme and to all the Hayes School pupils a very big thank you. We could not run this fair without you.



Having said that we are always looking for more helpers. We do need two or three new committee members, particularly young fit ones! If you can spare the time – we meet six times a year so that it not a great commitment but you can rest assured you will be given a warm welcome and probably a job to do(!) but you gain great satisfaction in the knowledge that you have helped organise a day that has given enjoyment to a large number of local residents and raised a significant sum for local charities. For further details please contact enquiries.hayesfair@gmail.com.

Charles Wimble, Hayes Fair Committee

Youth in the Community

News from Hayes School

Over the half term, I arranged for some of our Sixth Form students to have a tour around the main headquarters of Foster and Partners (Architects) on the Thames with aspiring architects Will and Isabelle. Here we were given an all access tour of their studios to see some of the key processes for how they design buildings. We learnt that they design accessories, furniture and even luxury yachts as well as buildings, for which they are most recognised. Foster employ over 1500 people from around the world with a diverse range of talent from different backgrounds. They employ two drone pilots, motion graphic designers, games designers, virtual reality specialists, astro physicists, furniture designers, model makers, 3D printing experts, lawyers as well as architects and people in planning. We were given the tour by Head of Learning and Development, Laggi Diamondi as well as Foster's architect, Nadia Saki, both of whom were extremely passionate and proud of the work they do. Our students were given a chance to explore their vast material library and saw a sample of the 'Vantablack' coating which is the blackest material ever created with 99.965% absorption of visible light. So black you cannot make out any faces on a 3D form as all the features merge into one black shade. Will and Isabelle were given the chance to ask about routes into Fosters and which universities they recommend for studying architecture. A great opportunity to see one of the most innovative companies in the world and a great future link for our design students at Hayes.



Mr Fortt, Head of Design and Technology

It was interesting getting to see the inside of successful architecture firm, Foster and Partners. We got to see where all the architects work, some of the projects that they've been working on in model form, the huge library of architectural books (one of the biggest of its kind including some exclusive ones that would only otherwise be found in the archives) and their innovative printing and rendering technology that they use for model making and making realistic presentations of future projects. As someone that wants to study architecture, it was good getting to see what this work environment is like.



Isabelle Year 12 D&T student

On Thursday 16 May, HayesCommunicates ran our very first Question Time event, giving the young people of Hayes School an opportunity to put their questions to a panel of experts. Our motivations for this event were to give students a stronger voice, making it possible for them to put their concerns to a panel that had been specially selected to answer their questions. We were very lucky to have an incredibly engaged and enthusiastic live audience who asked some very thoughtful and clever questions. The



panel consisted of Mr Whittle, Teodora (Student Leadership), Sarah Lewis (CEO of IMPACT Trust), Mrs Arney (Designated Safeguarding Lead), Mark Sheldon (Bromley Y), Cllr. Coldspring White (Hayes and Coney Hall Ward) and Danie Gibbs (Bromley Youth Council). The event took an awful lot of preparation and the HayesCommunicates team spent many hours in meetings, planning and testing all the equipment needed. We started out by preparing people for all the different roles that they would need to fulfil, before running all the tests that would need to be done before the event so that it would run smoothly. Tasks included finding extra equipment, learning how to use the software and preparing the questions that had been presubmitted to us by the students. There was a lot of anticipation for the event, and when Question Time finally came around our whole team gathered in the library to set up. People began to arrive at the event at 3pm, with us set to begin at 3:30! Unfortunately, things backstage did not run completely smoothly, with a whole host of unanticipated technical issues cropping up – this ultimately meant that we were unable to stream the event live. However, the event was recorded and will be published very soon! Furthermore, we still had a live audience from whom we received a lot of positive feedback. We learnt a lot from this event, which we will use to make future, similar events even better and we feel it was a valuable opportunity for people to learn.

Jacob and Emma

Local Groups and Societies

Friends of Hayes Common

Having largely achieved our targeted woodland clearances during the Winter, in April we turned our attention to the heathland areas of the Common to continue with our reclamations and ongoing management efforts. A large area to the west of the Baston Road car park was cleared of last year's bracken and other scrub vegetation and the area raked to remove excessive mulch and hopefully stimulate heather seedlings.

The wet Winter and Spring seem to have been the sign that local heather was waiting for and those plants which have survived the recent dry summers (and dry winters) have shown vigorous growth in the last couple of months. Our current efforts are geared to removing plants such as gorse and bracken which are liable to out-compete heather in acid soil areas.



Before clearing the bracken



After clearing the bracken

It has been satisfyingly noticeable that in some areas where we have been controlling bracken in recent years it has now been replaced by wavy hair-grass and the rusty-coloured sheep's sorrel which are good indicators that with continued management heather may germinate and re-appear. Patches of cow-wheat are very noticeable on footpath edges in the woodland / heathland mix either side of Baston Road.

Unfortunately the wet weather over the last several months has resulted in a huge increase in tick activity this Spring although their instinctive determination to find a host will reduce by July. Still, walkers should check themselves and their dogs if they have

been brushing through undergrowth and bracken. Butterflies have only been seen on the sunnier days but if the summer weather improves they should be more numerous.

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 10am on alternate Tuesday mornings with a tea / coffee / biscuits refreshments break for the volunteers.

Ian Thomas, Secretary, FoHC

Friends of Hayes Parks

The FoHP has again had much valuable help from the Friends of Hayes Common (FoHC) and with this help have cleared the main path through the Knoll of grass encroaching on and reducing path width thus, at the lower end, exposing the attractive brickwork edges. Overhanging branches, brambles, bamboo, nettles have been cut back. A programme of work to clear the paths through the wooded areas behind the ponds has been undertaken and continues. This has involved clearing fallen trees and cutting down cow parsley which has spread everywhere this spring.

In Husseywell time has been spent removing timber and tree sections left by contractors (cheapest job is to leave the wood on site) in an effort to reduce bridge building which occurs when idle youngster have little to do during holiday periods. Brambles, hedges, bamboo have been cut back and of course litter picking continues, where there are



people there is litter.

Work has been done and continues to tidy the flower beds in the Library Gardens, dead heading roses and getting the enormous weeds out of the rose beds (prickly work).

Grass cutting in all the parks is minimal with areas that used to look so well kept now going wild with rapidly growing bamboo. Back many years ago the Council had to pay big sums to have large areas of bamboo removed and now, because they do not mow these areas, they will again need to spend big sums. Cutting bamboo down by hand to ground level is a hard job without a mower, but still the Friends do their best. Anyone with a few pet pandas is welcome to join us.

Picture on previous page shows how it used to be just a few years ago.

Visit your the parks and get out in the sun.

Debbie Palmer, FoHC

Friends of Pickhurst Park



On the Friday before the May Bank holiday, the large oak tree at the top end of Cupola Wood crashed to the ground. Not caused by the wind, just the weight of this year's new leaf growth and a rotten trunk at ground level. It was half of a tree forked at ground level. It crashed with force onto the fence and main gate to the playground, damaging the fence and the ornate top of the arch and some of its branches were tens of feet into the playground. The FoPP first on the scene, spent in excess of 14 hours across the weekend cutting back the branches from the path, playground and gate making the playground safe again.

During the week following the Bank Holiday, contractors were brought in to sever the main trunk and take down the other half of the tree. The force of the falling tree had pushed several broken branches deep into the soil and tarmac of the path. Another dead oak not far behind was also felled and the three trunks (120 degrees apart) are now used as seats and playthings by children.

The wet weather continued and has caused every bramble, nettle and weed to grow to its very best and provided much work for the FoHP along with cutting hedges back from growing over paths. The grass also grew with a vengeance and was left so long before cutting, that children and dogs could not be seen, just the parents or owners

wading through. Removing dog poo and litter proved difficult for all. This included in the playground itself. Only after complaints from the public, the FoHP and the local councillor did some half-hearted grass cutting take place. Like all other parks in the area, this important function has been sorely neglected for many years now. Regular mowing would be easier and would stop each park continually looking like hay making was needed.

Get out there and enjoy the parks whilst you can and you are always welcome to come and help in keeping your park looking at its best. No job being too large for the FoHP.



Rotary West Wickham

We exist to serve the community, be that local, regional, national or international.

Rotary
West Wickham



Recently we heard that

Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance had launched a £1 million appeal to buy their helicopter and increase their operating hours by six hours a day. If they did not achieve the target all operations might have needed to cease altogether. We did not think that this should be allowed to happen, so we held a sponsored walk and a High Street collection raising nearly £500 to be sent to the appeal. We understand that the target has been reached.

Mental health and wellbeing are very much in the news and we are proud to say that Samaritans has been one of the causes in this area that we support. Recently we joined with our friends from Rotary Addiscombe and Shirley to hold a Rock Choir concert where we raised over £1,000 for Samaritans in both Bromley and Croydon.

In April we held our annual Allocations meeting to decide on other charities and good causes that we wanted to support. We were able to give £13,000 to 25 of these organisations of which 13 were local including two foodbanks.

In Hayes itself we were once again able to sponsor the cost of the eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt and recently helped with car parking and ran a charity fundraising stall at Hayes Fair.

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

Historical Article

Hayes, One Hundred Years Ago



July 1924 was a busy month for Hayes. Auctions took place at Hayes Street Farm of 80 Middle White Plgs, their huts and feeders and 55 Guernsey Cattle owned by Donald Haldeman who had taken over the lease of the farm in 1921.

The annual Flower Show took place on the field close to Baston Farm and garden parties were held in the Grove and the Rectory gardens. It is a reminder that a hundred years ago Hayes was very different from today with most of its 1250 acres consisting of farmland, landscaped gardens and some 200 acres of Common.

The community of Hayes was beginning to recover from the traumatic effects of the First World War

Mrs Kate Burman



and the flu epidemic which had decimated families, created financial hardship, employment and housing problems. The village school headmaster William Plant had retired and been replaced by young Kate Burman.

The new Rector was Canon Henry Percy Thompson.

He was determined to ensure that the local community had plenty of opportunities to socialise. The year started with popular fancy dress parties for adults and children, called Carnivals and held in the schoolroom. The crowning of the London May Queen took place on the Common in May and there were Empire day celebrations.



Empire Day



Canon H P Thompson

The football and cricket clubs both played on fields near Baston, although there were some difficulties in getting enough players for matches. The WI members took part in a Kentish Pageant dressed as Druids and four scouts visited Denmark. The Hayes Social Club met monthly and an initial meeting was called to propose the building of a Village Hall for the community's use. Hayes Parish Council looked after local matters, including making comments on the proposal to build eight Council houses in George Lane. The Common Conservators administered the Common and supervised the work of the Common Ranger.

What was the village like a hundred years ago? The Church was at the centre of the village and most of the villagers' houses were either to the south near the village school and along Baston Road or north around the George Inn.



*Looking north from Baston Road towards Hayes Street.
Part of the Old Church Schools can be seen on the back left.*

Facing the Church was a large mansion with 40 rooms, Hayes Place, owned since 1880 by the banker Sir Everard Hambro. The Railway Station existed, the New Inn and a few cottages near a market garden but there were no shops or other facilities in Station Approach.

Scattered around the parish were larger houses, some Georgian and some Victorian. Seven had over 20 rooms, a further 16 had over ten rooms. Several had changed hands after the war. Hayes Court had become an exclusive girls' boarding school and some, like Gadsden, were awaiting a new owner. These large houses were a major source of employment for the villagers. Over 70 boys and men worked in the gardens or on the farms and over 100 women were domestic servants employed as resident cooks, housemaids etc.



Brewery Cottages near the station

The total population, excluding the residents in Hayes Road and about 50 boarders at Hayes Court, was around 750. The number of households was 183, the majority of whom lived in houses with four to six rooms. 28 families occupied three rooms or less. There were 120 children under 10 but unlike previous decades there were no very large young families and most lived in one- or two-children households.

The war had disturbed the normal balance of women to men. Before the war females accounted for about 53% of the population but in 1924 that number had risen to about 65%. About 4% of the population were over 65 and two women had reached the age of 92. Several widows had taken positions in the large houses and often their young son or daughter lived with them; possibly a reflection of the difficulty of getting servants after the war. Some occupations were unexpected such as a Swedish masseur, trainee tea planter, professional singer and commercial artist. About 10% of the men were in professional occupations such as bankers, accountants solicitors or manufacturers or merchants.

Further houses changed hands during the years following the deaths in 1924 of Huson Morris of Five Elms and widows Mrs Letitia Knowles at Hast Hill and Mrs Ann Torrens at the Grove. It was, however, the death of Sir Everard Hambro in January 1925 that would alter radically the nature of the village when his house and lands were sold. The village would change dramatically in the years following 1924 but for a while would retain its rural character.

Jean Wilson, contact@hayeskenthistory.co.uk

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
Hayes Library Opening Hours	Tuesdays and Thursdays 9.30 am – 1.00 pm and 2.00 pm – 6.00 pm Saturdays 9.30 am – 1.00 pm and 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm

Other Events For more details of H(K)VA events go to www.hkva.org.uk

Date	Group	Title	Time
Sat 13 July	Hayes Horticultural Society	Summer Show	2.30 pm
Sat 7 Sept	Hayes Horticultural Society	Autumn Show	2.30 pm
Sat 5 Oct	Hayes (Kent) Village Assoc.	Quiz Night	7.30 pm
Sat 8 Nov	Hayes Horticultural Society	Winter Show	2.00 pm
Sat 23 Nov	Christmas Lights Committee	Christmas Lights Switch On New Inn Car Park	3.00 pm –5.00 pm

Local drainage specialist & gutter cleaning...

Emergency Call Out

Repairs & Lining

CCTV Surveys

Fixed Pricing

High Pressure Water Jetting

FREE Call Out & Estimates



Did you know we carry out CCTV house purchase surveys and always offer a free site visit to give advice!



OFFICE: 020 8289 0190 • MOBILE: 07798 634 089

www.qualitydrainage.com

THE
MARY
JONES
·
Dental
Practice



Smile with Confidence!

020 8462 0200

maryjonesdental.co.uk

1 Street House, George Lane, Hayes BR2 7LQ