

A sunset over a park with silhouettes of trees and people walking a dog.

HVA Review

HAYES VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

Autumn 2025 Issue 261

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Hayes Village Association

View From The Chair

YOUR Hayes Review is back! On a very cold evening in January 2025, over 120 people gathered in Hayes Village Hall to voice their support for the Hayes Village Association as it heads towards its centenary anniversary. I am very proud to be Chair of your new committee, all elected by the community.

We have since worked hard to support our community, launching a new website, donating £1,000 to the Husseywell Park Playground Project Group, supporting the annual Easter Egg Hunt, Hayes Fair, Hayes Christmas Lights and Hayes Horticultural Society, which each have their own organising committees, plus the many other active groups we are fortunate to have in Hayes. We have held Business Networking Events, with the support of local businesses hosting these, and we welcome ideas and suggestions for future venues and hosts.

The Hayes Review was previously digitised and during Covid subscription fees proved difficult to collect and administer as we moved towards a more cash free world. However, we have received overwhelming feedback from residents for your preference of a paper version, to be made available to all. So here it is!

As a committee serving our community, your opinions are very valuable to us, so we have listened and made plans to ensure that local information is accessible to EVERYONE. I know I speak on behalf of the committee when I say thank you for being so welcoming. Thanks for your support so far, and please have a look at the following pages to see how you can contribute to making Hayes a great place to live and work.

Chris Wood, Chair



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How will the Hayes Review and the HVA be funded?

The HVA is not for profit. All committee members are volunteers. To be fully inclusive, all Hayes residents are considered members, and we shall not be collecting membership fees. Previously the Hayes Review was published 4 times a year, in Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter, but residents paid a subscription. Going forward our aim is to deliver the Hayes Review to around 4,000 households and businesses in Hayes. However, we are seeking the support of businesses and residents. Your generosity will help to ensure the future of the Hayes Village Association, publication of the Hayes Review, and enable us to support more community activities and projects.

Opportunities: -

Ambassador of Hayes £1,000 per annum

As Ambassador for Hayes, your generosity will be publicised in the Hayes Review, with our thanks and photos with the Chair, and commentary supporting your donation to the community.

Patron of Hayes £ 100 per annum

As a Patron of Hayes, your generosity will help to secure the future of the Hayes Review, aiding accessibility of information to the community. A roll of patrons will be listed on the association website and in editions of the Hayes Review in 2026.

Voluntary Household Contribution £ 20 per annum

There is no subscription or membership fee, but we welcome any voluntary contributions from residents who feel able to contribute.

Business Advertising – A package of opportunities is available to suit all business budgets.

Contact us at hello@hkva.org.uk

If you can support and contribute, please set up a standing order or payment via your on-line bank to:

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Our New Website

The Hayes Village Association have launched our new website at www.hkva.org.uk

Our thanks to Lee Diggins at Dynamital www.dynamital.co.uk for your support with this.

Hayes residents, community groups and local businesses are also welcome to become a member of the Hayes Village Association Facebook group at

www.facebook.com/groups/HayesKentVillageAssociation/

Here is a QR Code for Hayes (Kent) Village Association Facebook group.

Other popular Hayes groups on Facebook include Hayes Life, Hayes Community, Hayes, Kent Buy & Sell, Photographs of Hayes (Kent) and Hayes School, Past Present And Future Students and Teachers, Hayes, Kent.



Business Network Events Hosted by The New Inn and Tugra

We are keen to encourage growth in our local business community. Our aim is to work in partnership with local businesses and community groups to support a vibrant and connected neighbourhood.

Our first HVA Business Networking Event held by the new committee for local businesses took place at The New Inn on 7 July, and another meeting was hosted by Tugra Turkish Restaurant at Station Approach on 25 September. HVA Vice-Chair Sharon Field Clarke and members of the HVA Committee were joined by representatives from local businesses. At the September meeting, Adam Killick gave a short talk explaining how long time local Funeral Directors JR Killick have transitioned to Rowland Brothers, a family run firm established in Croydon in 1873, and the services they can now offer. Thanks to Adam and Rowlands Brothers for your support of the HVA.





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A big thank you to The New Inn and Tugra for hosting these events and providing refreshments. Whether you are a big business or a sole trader working from home, all are welcome. There is no cost for participation or any ongoing commitment. If you are interested in joining future business events get in touch at hello@hkva.org.uk

All The Fun Of The Fair!

The Hayes Fair has been successfully running for many years and the HVA has always supported this event by running a stall. The activity is usually a grand raffle where funds made are used to support other HVA charity events throughout the year. This year, the Committee decided to use the opportunity to talk to local people to test ideas about the reintroduction of the HVA Review and introduce us as representatives of the new HVA.

We set out our stall displaying past editions of the magazine and carried out a survey asking visitors for their opinions on both the content and format; in particular, whether there was a need in this digital age to still provide printed copies to be distributed. We also asked about methods of covering the costs of production and the distribution. To encourage as many visitors to our stall as possible we ran a free treasure hunt. Using an enlarged map of Hayes, participants indicated where they thought the treasure was hidden. The person closest to the treasure, located in the Village Hall, was Rev. Amanda Spence. She was so excited to have won the £20 cash prize that she proceeded to do a victory dance to the amusement of the assembled crowd at the end of the afternoon!

The bright, sunny June Sunday had encouraged many visitors to attend the fair, held at The Warren. This enabled us to chat to so many people who were keen to pass on their thoughts about the HVA. Many people were new to the area and had no idea of our existence, but their enthusiasm and ideas were much appreciated, alongside those of long-standing residents who told us how relieved they were that the HVA was continuing and not being dissolved as suggested at the beginning of this year. Residents overwhelmingly indicated on the questionnaire that they wanted



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printed copies of the HVA Review delivered to their homes rather than just digital availability. Questions around shopping locally showed that people were keen to shop and support local businesses.

Local facilities were enjoyed by all generations of our community, and praise was given to our library service and local parks. An appreciation for the green spaces, particularly the common, that surround us was also strongly evident in responses.

Thanks to everyone who came along and spent time with us. We look forward to meeting you all again next year!

Alison Naish

Hayes Village Association and other community groups

There are many clubs and societies in Hayes bearing the prefix Hayes, but are they only linked by location? The answer is by and large yes. Here we attempt to explain where any links may exist or previously existed between HVA and other Hayes Organisations. Let's start with the Association itself. Officially named in 1933 it was Hayes (Kent) and District Village Association. In 1965, Bromley and therefore Hayes left Kent and became part of Greater London, but the title retained the Kent in brackets as before. HVA was always the abbreviated term. More recently the bracketed K was included when referring to the Association but in 2025 with the election of an almost brand new committee the decision to revert to being called HVA was made. However just to complicate slightly, officially because of the website domain, our email and web address remains HKVA, but we will be known as Hayes Village Association or HVA. The HVA is the residents' association for Hayes and as such is concerned with maintaining the village and amenities as best as possible. We liaise with the London Borough of Bromley and will produce the quarterly Hayes Review.

Hayes Christmas Lights Committee

This committee began as Hayes Traders and the HVA combining to bring Christmas Lights back to Hayes in the year 2000. The committee is not now linked to the HVA (although some individuals do serve on both committees) and is composed of people keen to maintain this wonderful traditional event.

Hayes Fair Committee

Prior to 2002, the Ravensbourne Conservatives organised the Hayes Fete in the Library Gardens. In 2002 the HVA ran the Hayes Fair for the first time as the Conservatives had struggled to find volunteers. This grew over the years with a move to Baston School grounds and then The Warren. Around ten years ago the HVA relinquished control of the fair to a separate Hayes Fair committee above which is composed of volunteers from some associations in Hayes.

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Hayes Community Council

This council meets once a year and every adult in Hayes is entitled to vote for the Hayes Village Hall Management Committee. This committee runs the hall on behalf of the people of Hayes. The community council forms part of the Trust Deed for the hall from 1927.

It is easy to understand why many people have believed that HVA runs much of what happens in Hayes, but I hope the above clarifies the position. Further to this, many HVA committee members have sat on all the above committees, notably the late Alan Williams who chaired them all at various times and headed Hayes Millennium Committee too.

Oliver Pereira

HVA - A look back and forward

Hayes Village Association formed in 1933 by a very small group of gentlemen who had recently established homes on the new development here in Hayes. These gentlemen had casually met in the New Inn and were travelling homewards when they hesitated under a street lamp and enthusiastically made plans to form a Residents Group encouraging the wellbeing of the new neighbourhood.



Beryl's father Louis Grimani was one of those "gents" who nearly forty years later with the help of Alice and Harold Coward persuaded Beryl Grimani-Harrold, and Peter Harrold three times Chairman to join the Hayes Village Association committee. In that time and many years before, the Association has looked after the village of Hayes by keeping an eye on and making objections to planning matters and other council decisions where applicable. Our relationship with the Council and Councillors has greatly improved over this half century. During that period, we have had some very capable individuals keeping their eyes on this aspect including the late Peter Cahill, Gordon Collis and Michael Savage we later formed a planning committee.

In 1972, the associations bank balance stood at £279 slipping to £179.98 the following year. When we published a book for our 40th anniversary, the money for this had to be borrowed from Eric Black (Vice President) and Kenneth Sharp (Vice Chairman). Today it now stands at a healthy balance, many thanks to the efforts of committee members and with income from the Hayes Review adverts.

One outstanding for her dedication is Patricia Grimani who for many years grew and recruited others to grow plants for the annual CPRE Keston Countryside Day, profits from which swelled the coffers unbelievably. For her contribution she was elected a vice-president in 1985.



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Historically the association has arranged many events including Military Whist Drives, which were very competitive and serious, Children's Christmas Parties for the young of Hayes with Ken Truss as Father Christmas. Youth Club run by Gordon and Beryl Collis, Quizzes compared by Shirley Savage and Peter Harrold, Valuation Days with Catherine Southon arranged by John and Janet Thompson. Easter Egg Hunt devised by Pam Anderson, Front Garden Competition with Shirley Savage overseeing, later to be taken over by several members, a yearly Wine and Cheese Evening thanking road representatives who delivered the review, this was the responsibility of Beryl Grimani-Harrold and Peter Harrold.

The Association took over the Annual Fete from the Hayes Conservatives in the early 2000's, and for several years we arranged the Christmas Lights switch-on in Station Approach. We had another marvellous Father Christmas in Chris Muggridge, both events in later years were passed over to a new independent committee consisting of members from several local organisations including the HVA. Sadly, time and lack of active support and changing times caused some of these to close down.

Way back we hosted exhibitions celebrating Anniversaries and the local railways, Roger Manning made beautiful, detailed models of the village in "times gone by" which were greatly appreciated and admired. These exhibitions were the brain child of Anne Manning, Roger Manning, Jean Wilson and Trevor Woodman and greatly enjoyed by our community.

Over the years, we have seen many changes especially with the review going from just a four-page leaflet to a coloured thirty-two-page quarterly magazine and more recently going online. We have several members to thank for this success including Shirley Savage, Brian McEwen, Charles Wimble, Stuart Howe, Laurie Mack and Alan Williams. Hayes Village Association can also take the credit for setting up of the Friends of Hayes Common and the Friends of Hayes Parks and the Glebe Tennis Club in the Library Gardens, which all now function as independent organisations.

In January 2025, the committee took the unhappy decision to close down the Hayes Village Association as the committee consisted of less than ten residents, with several of those being elderly. This turned out to be a good move as it stirred up a keen wave of interest to save it. The resultant meeting encouraged volunteers to come forward to form a new committee is as it stands now and hopefully will have a secure future. There is a constant need to be watchful, careful and aware of the need to, and when necessary, take action, endeavouring to maintain the good ambiance of our village and ensuring the community of a happy village, this we personally have over the last 50 years tried to do. Beryl and I would like to thank all those people who have over the years given us support in our various roles. We wish our successors all the best and sincerely hope they can reach the original Hayes Village Association heights.

Beryl Grimani-Harrold (HVA President), Peter G. Harrold

Congratulations To Our 2025 Front Garden Award Winners

All front gardens in Hayes are entered into the annual competition and judging took place in the first week of July when we were in the middle of a heatwave. Volunteers walked around Hayes to scout out contenders for the short list, and the Hayes Horticultural Society kindly undertook the final judging of the gardens in accordance with Royal Horticultural Society guidelines. The judges' comments were that despite the heatwave and drought conditions, which left many gardens looking overwrought and thirsty, the shortlisted gardens were of a high standard. The prize giving was held in early September at the Hayes Horticultural Society Autumn Show in the Village Hall.



First Place Hayes Hill Road



Second Place Crest Road



Third Place Redgate Drive

The winning garden was in Hayes Hill Road, and the residents were presented with the HVA Challenge Plate and a gift certificate. The judges liked the colourful flowers and varied planting of the garden and that it was beautifully maintained. The second placed garden in Crest Road gained marks for sustainability and eco friendliness with an innovative use of the driveway for an insect friendly wild garden. The third placed garden in Redgate Drive was more formal with mature shrubs and bee-friendly lavender. The judges also highly

commended a garden in Cecil Way with some fabulous hydrangeas in full bloom complemented by a front border of geraniums. Congratulations to all the winners.

Julia Kingston, Front Garden Competition Coordinator

Community Matters

Hayes & Coney Hall Ward Councillors

Hayes is a delightful corner of suburban London in which to live, work and play. It boasts lovely parks, a good selection of shops and even better restaurants. The schools perform well, and it is easy to travel both into Bromley and Central London. Your local Councillors Josh Coldspring-White, Alexa Michael and Thomas Turrell are proud to represent Hayes. We have been busy working on your behalf for the past three-and-a-half years. From getting the two public clocks in Hayes repaired (twice) to obtaining an extra bin for Bourne Way, we have been on the case.

Like any other area, Hayes has its share of challenges. Your Councillors have been active in responding to residents' concerns about speeding on local roads. We have been successful in obtaining Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) and temporary 30mph repeater signs for Bourne Vale to remind drivers to stick to the legal speed limit. In addition, we are now petitioning the Mayor of London to install a speed camera in Bourne Vale. Please do sign our petition. Temporary 30mph signs are also planned for Bourne Way and Pickhurst Lane in the coming months. Your Councillors responded to public concerns about crime and anti-social behaviour in and around Hayes Station by petitioning for ticket barriers to deter fare dodgers. Thanks to this, Hayes is now third on the list for barriers, but Central Government still has to agree the money. We have also persuaded Southeastern to revamp Hayes Station frontage with a new coat of paint and removal of weeds. This work is expected to take place in late autumn.

After bidding successfully for a £10,000 Local Shopping Parade grant, your Councillors have been able to help rejuvenate Chilham Way. Formerly a run-down enclave, the area now benefits from a 'Chilham Way' sign to provide a sense of place, public benches and planters. The opening of the Budgens convenience store has really brought Chilham Way back to life! Even the post box has been repainted.

Last but not least, your Councillors successfully helped to obtain funding for new children's play equipment in Husseywell Park. This would not have happened without the generosity of the Hayes Village Association and Hayes (Kent) Trust, so we would like to thank both groups for their donations to the projects. In the coming months, Josh, Alexa and Thomas look forward to helping to make Hayes an even better place in which to live.

*Cllrs Josh Coldspring-White, Alexa Michael and
Thomas Turrell AM*



Hayes Christmas Lights 2025

Our fundraising has continued throughout 2025, with three very successful Bingo evenings in the Hayes Village Hall, a joint Easter Egg Hunt with Hayes Village Hall in the Library Gardens, and sales of Memory Bows for the Christmas Tree. A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who has supported these events. We have also been very fortunate in receiving a donation from the Hayes Fair Committee 2025. A BIG THANK YOU to them.



With all the hard work and time that the Committee puts into fundraising and the Hayes community's generosity and support we will be able to light-up Hayes Street and Station Approach again this year. The date for the Switch-On of the Hayes Christmas Lights is Saturday 22 November 2025, starting at 2pm, and there will be a good variety of stalls in The New Inn car parks and the rear patio/beer garden. There will be a full programme of Performers on the front veranda Stage. The Lights will be switched on by the Mayor of Bromley, Councillor Jonathan Andrews at 5pm.

The Committee thanks everyone who have supported or given up their time in making the Hayes Christmas Lights Event 2025 so successful, especially Boots Opticians, who sell Bingo tickets, and most importantly sponsor the closure of Station Approach (top end) on the day of the Event. Also, to The New Inn for allowing us to take over the car parks/rear patio etc on the day without them we wouldn't be able to hold the Event. More details regarding the Switch on of the Hayes Christmas Lights will be posted on social media and on the Notice Boards in Hayes Street, Chilham Way and Station Approach.

We look forward to seeing you all on Saturday, 22 November 2025 from 2pm. Santa is also looking forward to seeing you all in his Grotto via the rear patio. SEASONS GREETINGS TO YOU ALL!

Come and visit the Hayes Village Association stall at the Hayes Christmas Lights.

Hayes Christmas Lights Committee

Historical Articles

Hayes and Our Part In The American Revolution

As the USA commemorated the 250-year anniversary of the start of the American Revolutionary War this year, you may be surprised to discover that our village of Hayes played a part in the events leading up to the outbreak of that conflict that still shapes the world we live in today.

Benjamin Franklin, the American founding father who appears on the \$100 US Dollar bank note, visited Hayes on four separate occasions in the months leading up to the war to meet with the former Prime Minister, William Pitt the Elder, Lord Chatham, at Hayes Place, which was located opposite St. Mary's Church. Franklin made his final trip from his London house near Charing Cross to Hayes Place on 31 January 1775, and the following day Lord Chatham presented a bill to Parliament in the hope of resolving American differences as Franklin watched on. The bill failed, Franklin returned to America, the war broke out, and the rest is history. The full story of Franklin's visits to Hayes and our local links to the history of America have been published on the Hayes Kent History website here <https://hayeskenthistory.org.uk/franklin-benjamin/>

If you are interested in finding out more about the fascinating and surprising history of Hayes, take a look at the Hayes History Website, based on two volumes of 'Hayes: A History of a Kentish Village', written by Hayes historians Jean Wilson and the late Trevor Woodman. These books and the website plot the growth of Hayes from a small village to our community today through our buildings, events, people and memories. There are also plenty of books about local history to be found at Hayes Library.

Hayes Kent History website: hayeskenthistory.org.uk.

London Open House Festival

In September, St. Mary's Church celebrated the incredible milestone of 850 years of worship. St. Mary's also participated in a weekend programme of community events as part of the London Open House Festival 2025. The event was well supported and included Churchyard Tours, a History and Architecture Talk, self-guided tours, an activity for young children to find Mary the Mouse, and an opportunity to ring the Church bells. Open House is an annual London-wide festival that opens up and celebrates London's architecture, special sites and neighbourhoods.

Nick Goddard

Hayes Commemorates Victory Day Anniversaries

VE Day 80 and VJ Day were commemorated in two ways in Hayes this year. On Thursday 8 May, the Royal British Legion Hayes Branch and Club participated in the National Beacon Lighting to commemorate and celebrate Victory in Europe Day (VE Day). The event was attended by His Worship The Mayor of Bromley and Madame Mayoress, Cllr Colin Smith, Leader of the Council, and the Reverend Amanda Spence. The event began with the Ravensbourne Morris Men, followed by Biggin Hill ATC Cadet Band and Drummers.

At 9pm the official service began, including the reading of the names of the Fallen of Hayes. A wreath was laid at the flagpole and a minute of silence observed for those

who made the ultimate sacrifice. The words of Churchill set to Nimrod was then played. As the beacon was lit, the assembled crowd sang 'I vow to thee my country'; this hymn being sung at all beacon events on this VE Day 80. His Worship The Mayor Dr David Jefferys then made a short speech about VE Day in Bromley, and we concluded with the National Anthem.

The Royal British Legion exists to support the armed forces community. Its second role is as National Custodian for Remembrance. The Hayes Branch endeavours to exercise this role in Hayes to ensure the sacrifice of our former residents is never forgotten. In this vein we were able to use the information in Jean Wilson and the late Trevor Woodman's book A History of Hayes, to write to the current residents who reside in the former house of one of the Fallen of Hayes, including civilian casualties. There were about 90 addresses, and we received replies from around 33. Those residents then agreed to display a Fallen Tommy Lamppost Badge in their front garden to remember the person who left that house and never returned. The remaining badges were then displayed in Station Approach, Pickhurst Lane and Hayes Street.

Each badge had the name of the person remembered and their dates of birth and death. We had lots of positive feedback and are grateful to our volunteers who both erected and dismantled the display. We are particularly indebted to the Hayes residents who responded, with many saying they were honoured to participate.

On VJ Day (Victory in Japan Day), Friday 15 August, there was a special service at St. Mary's Church and wreaths were laid on all the Second World War graves in the churchyard. Members of the legion observed the national silence at the War Memorial. Later in the evening, there was a beacon lighting ceremony at the club in Station Hill, where Phil Willoughby gave a short history of the conflict in the far east. The Tommy Badges were displayed on the lawn for all to see and residents who displayed them for VE Day, did so once again. Outside the Old Church Schools in Hayes Street, the HVA erected a second silent soldier, to represent the female casualties of The Second World War.

Oliver Pereira



Happy Birthday To Hayes Railway Station

On Whit Monday, 29 May 1882, Hayes Station opened for rail travel. This year on the same date, South Eastern held a 143rd birthday party for the station as part of British Railways' 200th anniversary; the Stockton and Darlington Railway, formerly celebrated on our £5 bank notes with George Stephenson, being 200 years old in September 2025. The station concourse at Hayes was decorated and my colleague Chris from the EPB preservation group attended with a stall promoting our 1950s Southern Region electric unit. I attended as the historian in place of Jean Wilson who provided much of the information. The late Trevor Woodman's book, *The Railways to Hayes*, written to

commemorate the centenary was also invaluable. Included on our stall which my son George and our HVA chairman assisted with were many railway artefacts. Of particular interest to young South Eastern staff were directories of British Rail Telecoms, BR and the disabled 1979 and National Fares Manuals which contain all fares on the BR network. No such document exists today! Children got to nip original Edmundson tickets using a variety of SR nippers and saw the original finger boards in situ on both platforms indicating the destination of the train before screens! Visitors were also presented with a special Tote bag celebrating the stations on the Mid-Kent Line. The party ended at noon with a rendition of Happy Birthday Hayes Station and a cake cutting. It was a lovely effort from South Eastern to celebrate an important milestone in Britain's history and of railways across the world.



Oliver Pereira

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Local Groups and Societies

Friends of Hayes Common

The Group celebrated 25 years of operations at the AGM held in June at the Victory Social Club. Members enjoyed a BBQ and a talk by Bob Harrop, a local ecologist. Ian Wright of idverde, the Hayes Common Manager, explained why the Group performs its various activities around the Common and how they are vital to improving local biodiversity. Invited representatives of local organisations with whom the Group has always had strong links also attended.

The last major Group work session before the summer break was in early July, however the small Habitat Management team continued to meet weekly and carried out a lot of stump removals on sites previously worked on interspersed with the usual summer battle with bracken. Studies show that if bracken is pulled annually the plant weakens over time which should eventually stop it outcompeting the heather in the heathland areas for light and rain.

In July the annual Green Flag Awards were announced, and Hayes Common retained the Award for the sixth consecutive year. Winter clearance work resumed at the beginning of September in a site between West Common Road and Prestons Road. Whilst there are a few small clearings within the overall site the surrounding foliage is such that it is very difficult to access. As usual we will hollow out the interior before clearing the outer holly and laurel. It is expected that the Group will need all winter to clear the area, but the evidence of the last 25 years is that we rather enjoy a challenge. For info contact admin@fohayescommon.com or ithomas12@compuserve.com

Ian Thomas, Secretary, FoHC

Friends of Hayes Parks

The Friends of Hayes Parks (FoHP) have been soldiering on throughout 2025 with much help from the Friends of Hayes Common and others to keep our parks looking good and providing a much needed haven for humans and wildlife. No job is too large or too small to be undertaken.

The Friends regularly recover all manner of objects from the pond in Husseywell Park, gates, discarded bags, electric bikes and equipment, bicycles, wood, silt and a myriad of other things, even the odd butterfly bomb. The London Borough of Bromley decided it



Christmas Memorial Service

Rowland Brothers would like to invite you to our candlelight service to remember your loved ones that are no longer with us at this special time of year.

Please join us at St Mark's Church, West Wickham on Wednesday 10th December 2025 at 7.00 pm followed with light refreshments.

For any further information, please contact Adam Killick:
adam.killick@rowlandbrothers.com



was necessary to fence off the path around the side of the pond in Husseywell Park. As a result, rubbish is building up in the pond which can no longer be easily cleared out, including, for example, two plastic sacks of cement mix left by the fencing contractor. Fencing has also been installed at the top pond in the Knoll which also seemed





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unnecessary. The pond in Husseywell Park allows our young children and others to see our resident ducks and visiting geese, mandarin ducks, Egyptian ducks, even terrapins and fish and an occasional glimpse of the heron.

Get walking and enjoy your local parks, they are beautiful in summer and winter. If you want to get involved, The Friends of Hayes Parks meet at Hayes Library 10am-12 noon on the 1st Saturday of each month.

Debbie Palmer

Friends of Pickhurst Park

With hot summer weather this year, there was a surge in people using Pickhurst Park and many with young children head to the playground of course. A seven year old boy was heard to say that he does not want to go into the playground as there is nothing there for older children. Parents who grew up in the area and kids themselves will reminisce about the old days and a large metal helicopter and a tank that used to reside in Norman Park playground that were loved by all. We also had a fine example of a steam engine in the Pickhurst playground that was enjoyed by the children until just recently but sadly it made its final run a year ago and since stood enclosed, waiting for the scrapyard, leaving the older children to make their own entertainment.

There continues to be a dumbing down of playgrounds and under-investment in parks across the borough. With more limited resources provided, our volunteer Friends of Pickhurst Park continue to do what we can. So please visit our parks, bring back memories or make new ones of your own. Even better you can join a Friends Group and help to keep our parks alive.

Debbie Palmer





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Youth in the Community

Hayes Schools

Hayes Primary School are having Open Days on Thursday 6 November at 9.45 am, Tuesday 25 November at 9.45am and 6.30pm, and Thursday 8 January at 9.45am. This will consist of a tour of the school followed by a talk from the headteacher.

The Hayes Primary School PTA are presenting a Fireworks and Drone Show on Saturday 8 November. Doors open at 4.30pm, with the Drone Show starting at 6.00pm, followed by Low Noise Fireworks at 7.00pm. The Christmas Fair is on Sunday 30 November.

Pickhurst Infants and Juniors Fireworks Display is taking place on Friday 7 November 2025 at 6.15pm to 8.00pm. This year promises to be bigger and better, with more food vendors, a doughnut van, a fully licensed bar, a soft drinks bar, PTA sweet stall and a fantastic range of glow items.

Pickhurst Academy have remaining Open Days on Wednesday 12 November and Thursday 27 November, both at 10.30am.

Hayes School Sixth Form Open Evening is on Thursday 20 November from 6.00pm, with Speeches at 6.15pm, 6.50pm and 7.30pm – no booking is required.

HVA welcome Rob Hitch, new Headteacher at Hayes School, and, after 25 years' service at Hayes School, send our best wishes to Steve Whittle for his new role at Langley Park School for Girls.

Edward Tory & Nick Goddard



Hayes

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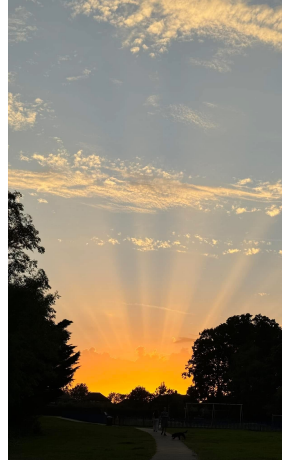
Notices

The front cover picture was taken in Pickhurst Park last year by Paul Munday and was published on the Photographs of Hayes (Kent) Facebook Group

Do you run a community group in Hayes? We may be able to feature you in a future edition of the Hayes Review. Please get in touch with us at hello@hkva.org.uk.

The Husseywell Playground Project Group is a group of local Hayes parents who have come together to make a difference.

The new committee and residents of Hayes would like to thank Beryl, Peter, and all those who have served the Hayes Village Association over very many years for their wonderful and dedicated efforts on our behalf, and their contribution to making Hayes a great place to live.



The next edition of the Hayes Review is planned for the New Year 2026. We aim to feature more about our schools, youth community groups and clubs. Also, any budding photographers out there, please submit any photos taken in Hayes to be used for our future front covers. They should be in portrait size. Contact us as hello@hkva.org.uk.

Thank you to all contributors and to the Hayes Review team, particularly our Chair Chris Wood, Sharon Field Clarke, Oliver Pereira, Alison Naish, Julia Kingston and Nick Goddard. Thanks also to our many Road Reps and especially to Charles Wimble for his invaluable help and guidance throughout.

Opportunity to advertise in or sponsor the Hayes Review

Would you like to advertise your business or community group to 4,000 households and businesses in Hayes?

Get in touch by e-mail at hello@hkva.org.uk or via our website below if your business or community organisation is interested in sponsorship or advertising in our quarterly publication. Thank you.

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What's On

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 Tuesday 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 HVA events go to www.hkva.org.uk*

Date	Group	Title	Time
Sat 8 November	Hayes Free Church	Charity Card Sale & Christmas Fayre	10.30am –2.30pm
Sat 8 November	Hayes Village Hall	Hayes Horticultural Society Winter Show	2.00pm
Sat 22 November	The New Inn	Hayes Christmas Lights	2.00pm –5.30pm
Thu 27 Nov Fri 28 Nov Sat 29 Nov	Hayes Free Church	“It’s A Wonderful Life” – Theatrical Production by Hayes Makes Waste	7.00pm 7.00pm 4.00pm
Fri 12 December	Hayes Free Church	Lights of Love Service	7.00pm
Sat 13 December	Our Lady of the Rosary Church	Carol Concert	2.00pm
Thu 18	Hayes Free Church	Hayes Friendship Group Lunch	12noon
Sat 20 December	St. Mary Parish Church	Carols by the Tower	4.00pm – 4.45pm
Sun 21 December	Hayes Free Church	Carol Service	10.30am
Sun 21 December	St Mary Parish Church	Christingle Service	10.30am
Sun 21 December	Hayes Free Church	Festival of Nine Lessons	6.00pm
Wed 24 December	St Mary Parish Church	Crib Service	4.00pm –4.45pm
Thu 25 December	Hayes Free Church	Family Service with communion	10.30am

Hayes Christmas Lights Committee

Working together to support the local community



Saturday 22nd November 2025

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