



Buckhurst Hill Parish Council Magazine

News and views from around Buckhurst Hill

Winter 2009/2010



VISIT TO LIPPETTS HILL POLICE HELICOPTER BASE



A group of parish councillors and friends had a close up look at the Metropolitan Police Helicopter, known as ASU (Air Support Unit) and were given a most instructive and interesting talk by PC Craig Banning who answered lots of questions.

We learned that the helicopters, of which there are three at Lippetts Hill, fly an average of 275 hours a month, day and night. The helicopters have aerial observation and communication platforms and are involved in suspect searches, vehicle pursuits, missing persons, public order, stolen vehicle tracking and more!

Most of us went inside the helicopter and were amazed at the array of on-board equipment. We learned that a police office observer has to listen to six messages coming into their ear piece, as well as observing and looking at maps and cameras!

The Metropolitan unit covers the whole of London and some of the M25. Essex police helicopter is based at Boreham and it is they who mostly fly over the Buckhurst Hill area.

(Chairman Councillor Mrs Joyce Darby)

CHURCHILL ESTATES/LETTINGS



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Useful numbers

COUNCIL, SUPPORT & ADVICE SERVICES

Buckhurst Hill Parish Council	020 8498 9933
Epping Forest District Council	01992 564000
Buckhurst Hill Library	020 8504 0810
Education/Welfare	01245 436741
Registrar of Births, Deaths & Marriages	01992 572789
Social Services	0845 6037630
Essex County Council	0845 7430430
London Borough of Redbridge	020 8554 5000
London Borough of Waltham Forest	020 8496 3000
Citizens Advice Bureau	020 8502 0031
Department of Social Security	020 8532 4200
Samaritans	08457 909090
Child Line	0800 1111
NSPCC	0808 8005000
Age Concern	0800 009966
Rape Crisis Centre	0845 1232324
Epping Forest Careers Centre	01279 696300
Epping Forest Volunteers Bureau	01992 564256
Epping Information Centre	01992 564288
Epping Forest Countrycare	01992 788203
NHS Direct	0845 4647
The Willows Centre (Counselling room at St Stephen's Church, Alfred Rd)	
Support for unplanned pregnancies, free pregnancy testing, confidential care and advice, free counselling	
For advice and appointments	0800 1214898
www.willowscentre.org Affiliated to CARE Confidential – National Helpline	0800 0282228
www.careconfidential.com Red Cross	020 8508 2162
FloodLine	0845 9881188
Essex County Fire & Rescue	01277 222531
LOUGHTON STROKE CLUB Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month (except August) at 2.00pm	020 8508 1100
MOTOR NEURONE Meetings held at the Parish Information Centre VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED	
National helpline – for people with MND and their carers	08457 616262
ALZHEIMERS SOCIETY HOSPITALS	01992 717676
St Margarets	01992 561666
Princess Alexandra	01279 444455
Whipps Cross	020 8539 5522
King George	020 8983 8000
Newham General	020 7476 4000

Holly House (private)	020 8505 3311
Roding (private)	020 8551 1100
GPs Kings Medical Centre	020 8504 0122
Taylor & Partner	020 8504 1552
River Surgery	020 8504 7364
CLINICS Buckhurst Hill Clinic	020 8504 0405
Marie Stopes Fairfield Clinic	0845 300 8090
DENTISTS Gill, Patel & Anand	020 8504 9393
Queens Road Dental Practice	020 8505 8008
Valley Dental Practice	020 8504 5787
NURSING HOMES Daneley Court	020 8506 0351
Forest Place	020 8505 2063
Queens Court	020 8559 0620
COMMUNITY GROUPS Chabad Lubavitch – Jewish Community Centre	020 8926 2376
Details: Rabbi Brandman www.chabadonthehill.co.uk	
Iford Hindu Centre	020 8553 5471 or 020 8478 6049
SCHOOLS Buckhurst Hill County Primary	020 8505 7300
St John's C of E School (Primary)	020 8504 2934
Braeside School (Private)	020 8504 1133
The Daiglen School (Private)	020 85047108
Loyola Preparatory School (Private)	020 8504 7372
Chigwell School (Public)	020 8501 5700
Bancroft School (Public)	020 8505 4821
West Hatch High School	020 8504 8216
Roding Valley High School	020 8508 1173
NURSERY SCHOOLS Buckhurst Hill Baptist Pre-School	020 8505 9299
Asquith Nursery	020 8501 1085
Queens Pre-Nursery	020 8505 0005
ADULT EDUCATION Buckhurst Hill Community Association	020 8504 6668
Epping Forest College Loughton	020 8508 8311
ESSEX POLICE Neighbourhood Policing Springfield (HQ)	07968 354021 01245 491491
Non-emergency	0300 3334444
Loughton Police	020 8502 3881
Harlow Police	01279 641212
YOUTH ORGANISATIONS Air Training Corps	020 8505 6165
TRAVEL INFORMATION Stansted Airport	0870 0000 303

Gatwick Airport	0870 0002 468
Heathrow Airport	0870 0000 123
Luton Airport	01582 405100
London Regional Transport	020 7222 1234
National Railways Enquiry Line	08457 484950
City Link (bus & coach)	0141 332 9644
Kentish Bus & Coach (Arriva)	01474 321 300
Metrobus	01293 449191
National Express	08705 808 080
ANIMAL WELFARE Palmerston Veterinary Group	020 8505 1435
RSPCA (Veterinary Advice Line)	0906 500 5500
Chestnut Cat Sanctuary	01992 560510
PUBLIC UTILITIES British Gas	0845 609 1122
Emergency Line	0800 111999
Thames Water	08459200800
Leak Line	0800 714614
London Electricity	0800 0969000
Emergency Line	0800 028 0247
SPORTS FACILITIES Bancroft Rugby Football Club	020 8504 0429
Buckhurst Hill Cricket Club & Lacrosse	020 8504 5652
Buckhurst Hill Bowling & Lawn Tennis	020 8504 0780
David Lloyd Centre	020 8559 8466
Epping Sports Centre	01992 564564
Essex School of Swimming	020 8505 9436
Loughton Sports Centre	020 8508 4662
Roding Valley Cricket Club	020 8506 1001
Roding Valley Tennis Centre	020 8505 4008
MINI CAR SERVICES Mason Car Services (Woodford Green)	020 8504 1685
Mayflower	020 8502 1111
Buckhurst Hill Cars	020 8505 1111
Woodford Radio Cars (Chingford)	020 8559 1111
CHURCHES St John's/St Elisabeth's/St Stephen's	020 8506 2150
Buckhurst Hill Baptist	020 8559 0222
St James United Reform	020 8524 3727

Buckhurst Hill Parish Council

Information Centre, 62-64 Queens Road,
Buckhurst Hill, Essex IG9 5BY
tel: 020 8498 9933 fax: 020 8498 0868
email: office@buckhursthillpc.gov.uk
web: www.essexinfo.net

Worried about Burglary?

Fit an ACE alarm for peace of mind



- Fact 1** Most burglaries are committed by opportunists who cannot overcome a professionally installed alarm system
- Fact 2** Few properties with a professionally installed alarm system are even attempted
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BUCKHURST HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Councillors

West Ward

Cllr Joyce Darby – Chairman
 Cllr Angela Cass – Vice Chairman
 Cllr Jill Sutcliffe (& District)

Cllr Sylvia Watson
 Cllr Robert Church
 Cllr Ron Braybrook

East Ward

Cllr Peter Spencer (& District)
 Cllr Gavin Chambers
 Cllr Janice Curd

Cllr Dev Dodeja (& District)
 Cllr Eleonor Spencer

Committee Members

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT

Cllr Angela Cass (*Chairman*)
 Cllr Ron Braybrook (*V. Chairman*)
 Cllr Gavin Chambers
 Cllr Janice Curd
 Cllr Joyce Darby
 Cllr Dev Dodeja
 Cllr Eleonor Spencer
 Cllr Sylvia Watson

FINANCE & ESTABLISHMENT

Cllr Peter Spencer (*Chairman*)
 Cllr Angela Cass (*V. Chairman*)
 Cllr Robert Church
 Cllr Dev Dodeja
 Cllr Eleonor Spencer
 Cllr Jill Sutcliffe
 Cllr Sylvia Watson

COMMUNITY FORUM

Cllr Eleonor Spencer (*Chairman*)
 Cllr Jill Sutcliffe (*V. Chairman*)
 Cllr Janice Curd
 Cllr Joyce Darby
 Cllr Dev Dodeja
 Cllr Peter Spencer

RECREATION & AMENITIES

Cllr Jill Sutcliffe (*Chairman*)
 Cllr Eleonor Spencer (*V. Chairman*)
 Cllr Ron Braybrook
 Cllr Angela Cass
 Cllr Robert Church
 Cllr Janice Curd
 Cllr Joyce Darby
 Cllr Dev Dodeja
 Cllr Sylvia Watson



Chairman –
 Cllr Mrs Joyce Darby



Vice-Chairman –
 Cllr Mrs Angela Cass



Cllr
 Dev Dodeja



Cllr
 Mrs Eleonor Spencer



Cllr
 Ron Braybrook



Cllr
 Mrs Jill Sutcliffe



Cllr
 Robert Church



Cllr
 Ms Sylvia Watson



Cllr
 Janice Curd



Cllr
 Peter Spencer



Cllr
 Gavin Chambers

EXPERIENCE IN ZAMBIA

In August 2009, a group of seven members from St John's Church went out to Zambia with Mission Direct, an organisation that specialises in short term mission trips to countries all around the world, where there is great need among the people. Mission Direct work in partnership with local churches and builders to help with community building projects and in supporting health and vocational training projects in the local areas.

The St John's group were part of team 3 (of 5 teams in total) – 21 people of all ages and backgrounds who paid to spend two weeks of their holiday gaining an experience of a lifetime. They spent the mornings working on the construction site of a new primary school building that serves Kaunda Square, one of the poorest compounds in Lusaka. The main task for team 3 was to prepare and complete the construction of the ring beam that would support the ceiling and eventually the first floor that will be the second phase of building work for next year. Due to lack of electricity, no mechanical equipment is used, so every part of the work is done manually, from cutting and bending the steel rods and ring supports to mixing the concrete and shovelling it from wheelbarrows into buckets (with holes in them!), to passing them up by hand for pouring. There was also the task of sawing all the supports that were required to hold the weight of the wooden shutters while the concrete dried. These were very hard wood tree trunks of 15-20cm in diameter and the saws were general purpose hand saws...it was a long and tiring job!

Getting to know the builders as you work alongside them is an important part of the experience, as is true with all the other people you meet during the visits to other projects. Zambia is a very poor country, with around 50% of the population living below the poverty line of less than \$1.25 per day, and approximately 80% of children are either single or double orphans, mainly through HIV/AIDS. Tuberculosis and malaria are also widespread. We visited villages, meeting people who are suffering from these diseases, in their mud hut homes. These dwellings, no bigger than a garden shed, are home to extended families of up to ten or more people who live, sleep and eat on rush mats on the mud floor. Their

(Continued on page 10)

WE NEED YOU!! TO KEEP BUCKHURST HILL CLEAN!

The Parish Council's litter campaign re-commences on the following dates during 2010 and we would welcome regular or occasional volunteers please to help **'KEEP BUCKHURST HILL CLEAN'**:

3rd April • 5th June • 7th August • 2nd October

We meet at 10.00am at the Parish Information Centre and return a couple of hours later to enjoy much welcomed refreshments.

A big **'thank you'** to our regular volunteers.



RECYCLING BANKS

Remember you can recycle the following items in the banks situated inside the entrance to the Buckhurst Hill underground station car park:

- ✓ Paper
- ✓ Glass
- ✓ Clothes
- ✓ Cans
- ✓ Plastic

Buckhurst Hill Horticultural Society

The SPRING SHOW

will be held on

Saturday
10th April

at

The Centenary Hall,
St John's Church,
High Road,
Buckhurst Hill
between
2.00-5.00pm

Refreshments available
Plants for sale
Good parking facilities

NEW YEAR FIRST AID COURSES

A comprehensive Standard First Aid course will be held at your local Red Cross Centre in January 2010.

This in depth course will cover all aspects of first aid giving many opportunities for practising your new skills. The course, which costs £80.50 and includes a manual, will run for 12 weeks on Monday evenings from 18th January.

If you just need basic life saving skills, a one day course will be held on Saturday 30th January 2010 at a cost of £30.

For details of both types of course and information on registering, please telephone the centre at 125 High Road, Loughton, on 020 8508 2162 between 10.30am and 12.30pm any weekday except Tuesday.

Mobile Library

The timetable covering the mobile library route serving the Buckhurst Hill area has been revised as follows:

Roding Valley (Station Way):
Arrives 16.40 leaves 17.10

January 6th, 20th
February 3rd, 17th
March 3rd, 17th, 31st
April 14th, 28th
May 12th, 26th

Woollard Centre (Loughton Way):
Arrives 10.15 leaves 10.30

Buckhurst/Regency Court:
Arrives 10.55 leaves 11.25

January 14th, 28th
February 11th, 25th
March 11th, 25th
April 8th, 22nd
May 6th, 20th
June 3rd, 17th

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING Buckhurst Hill Neighbourhood Action panel

Are you concerned about the area you live in?

A group of local residents/businesses meet every month with the police to discuss and action key issues that affect our community.

We are looking for people like **YOU** to join this group.

Issues that we have addressed so far include:

Anti social behaviour • Alcohol-related crime • Increased police presence

Police surgeries

Police surgeries for the Buckhurst Hill area are held:

on the 1st Saturday of every month in the Parish Council offices, 62-64 Queens Road Buckhurst Hill between 10.00am-12.00noon

and a new surgery at the Post Office, Station Way Buckhurst Hill every Wednesday 09.30am-11.00am

For more information please contact a member of the Buckhurst Hill Neighbourhood policing team on **0300 333 4444 or 07968354021**.

Traders in Buckhurst Hill – a new series

ACE SECURITY AND ELECTRICAL LIMITED

In 1981 two local businessmen started a new business in Buckhurst Hill. Originally located in the Midland Bank Chambers at the top of Queens Road the company now has offices in Loughton Way Buckhurst Hill and two newer offices in the home counties. One of the security consultant surveyors recently joined the company following a career as a crime prevention officer in the metropolitan police.

Most of the company's business consists of installing door entry systems and intruder and fire alarms.

In 2001 a new policy was introduced if a police response is wanted. The equipment consists of both a movement sensor and a door contact otherwise a key holder is contacted.

Recently the police have used the company's services in an attempt to deal with the anti-social behaviour of intimidating youths gathering around the Loughton Way parade of shops and the communal stairways of the flats above.

Cllr Peter Spencer

Chairman's GARDEN PARTY SUCCESS

We were blessed with a really beautiful day on Saturday 12th September when the 'Chairman's Garden Party' took place.

The Rectory garden looked resplendent with colourful gazebos, tables prettily dressed with gingham cloths and flower arrangements. There was a huge display of raffle prizes which proved to be very popular.

Our guests came from all corners of the community and gave generously in support of the Chairman's chosen charity 'Asthma UK'. The total contribution to the charity amounted to £504.

My thanks to the team from St Johns who worked so hard preparing the garden and the food, serving the teas, washing up etc., also to the Chan-Pensley family and friends for providing some speciality food and of course to the Rector for allowing us the use of the Rectory garden.

This was a really great event which gave pleasure to a good number of people.

*Chairman Councillor
Mrs Joyce Darby*

LADIES' DAY AT THE WARREN HOUSE

In summer last year I attended the City of London's Ladies Day at the Warren as one of the ninety guests who were presented to the Lady Mayoress, and joined her for lunch following a guided walk from Buckhurst Hill via Barn Hoppitt to Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge in Chingford.

We witnessed the work being undertaken on some of the 50,000 veteran trees in Epping Forest and met Paul Thompson the new superintendent of the forest who is overseeing the latest 'Branching Out' project aimed at involving schools and other partners such as Parish Councils in educating the younger generation and residents to appreciate the forest and its wildlife.

Cllr Peter Spencer, Buckhurst Hill Parish Council

**Braeside
School**
Buckhurst Hill, Essex



**Independent Day School
for Girls Aged 3 to 16**

Our Early Years Department
in its last Ofsted inspection
was judged to be
'outstanding' in all areas.

In 2009 95% of students
gained **5 A* to C** grades in
their GCSE examinations with
an **outstanding 56% of all**
grades being **A* or A**.



All enquires: 020 8504 1133
www.braesideschool.co.uk



Local residents enjoy local park facilities even in the snow!

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE PARISH 2009

Our Parish Councillors once again visited many of our senior residents delivering small Christmas parcels which were very well received as a number of 'thank you' notes were received by the Parish Council. The Parish Council Chairman Cllr Joyce Darby is pictured presenting Mr John Hughes with his parcel.



Winner Alex Cass & Chairman Cllr Joyce Darby

The children from local primary schools took part in our best 'Christmas Card' competition and the winning design by Alex Cass from St John's C.E. School was printed and used by the Parish Council Chairman sending formal Christmas greetings from the Authority. Runners up were Greg Garland from Daiglen School, Jamie Smith from Buckhurst Hill County Primary School and Roy Compton from Loyola Preparatory School.



Runners up (left to right) Roy Compton/Cllr A Cass, Greg Garland/Cllr E Spencer, Jamie Smith/Cllr E Spencer.

The Parish Council once again lit the three trees in Buckhurst Hill at The Piazza in Queens Road, junction of Palmerston Road/Victoria Road and at the top of Queens Road.

A very successful Christmas Carol service was held at St John's church in the High Road on Wednesday 16th December.

It was organised and led by the Chairman of Buckhurst Hill Parish Council, Cllr Joyce Darby and the Revd Dr Ian Farley.

Children from St John's Primary School sang carols after readings from local councillors and a pupil of the school.

People from all sections of the community attended and the collection

donated to the Chairman's chosen charity 'Asthma UK'.

All your Parish Councillors and Officers hope that all residents of Buckhurst Hill enjoyed Christmas and are settling into a prosperous and Happy New Year.

Results of the 'Best Illuminated House' competition:
East Ward – 114 Loughton Way and West Ward – 36 Stradbroke Grove.

You are invited to an
OPEN DAY

at the Woollard Centre

50 Loughton Way, Buckhurst Hill, IG9 6AD

Friday 5th February

12 noon – 3pm

The long-awaited refurbishment of the Woollard Centre is almost complete and the Parish Council will be holding an Open Day on Friday 5th February 2010 from 12.00 noon to 3.00pm to allow local residents the opportunity to view the works undertaken to date.

This project has seen the refurbishment of the main hall together with three smaller meeting/function rooms which hold between 15 and 25 persons. This valuable community resource will provide local groups and organisations of all sizes with a modern facility and will hopefully encourage new social clubs and events to the local area for our residents to participate in.

We hope many local residents will join us on the day for a look around and tea and biscuits.



BUCKHURST HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The summer show in July and autumn show in September were well supported by members and non-members. It was noticeable in the autumn show the increased entries for the vegetable section, which indicates the great interest there is for people 'growing their own'.

During the winter months we have a series of talks on different aspects of horticulture. These are held in St James' Church, Palmerston Road, Buckhurst Hill at 7.30. Refreshments available and all visitors welcome.

Monday 1st February

The Ancient Garden

Russell T Bowes from Eltham

Monday 1st March

Using plants with character to get the best from your border

Roger Harvey of Harveys Garden Plants, Bury St Edmunds

(We have been very fortunate to engage him as he is in great demand and very knowledgeable on this subject. He will also have plants for sale).

Readers might be interested to know that Buckhurst Hill Horticultural Society joined 'The London Garden Society' in 2006. This society exists to promote and encourage private gardens in public services (e.g. ambulance and police stations etc.) in all the London boroughs and the areas adjacent to Greater London in order to brighten and improve the environment. The L.G.S. holds an 'All London Championship' for these various categories and some of our members have entered their gardens over the past 3 years, with encouraging results:

Maureen Briggs

was awarded a silver medal for small back garden

Kay Fisher

was awarded a silver medal for large back garden with professional help

Adam Parker

was awarded a bronze medal for small back garden

Carol and Terry Brighten

were awarded a silver medal for large back garden'

Other members have been awarded 'highly commended' certificates or 'certificate of excellence'. These recognitions of gardening excellence do much to promote Buckhurst Hill Horticultural Society and the winners are to be congratulated on their achievements.



Dates for your diary



2009/2010 BUCKHURST HILL PARISH COUNCIL (Meetings held at the Parish Information Centre, 62-64 Queens Road)

- **14th January 2010**
8.00pm: Full Council meeting
- **18th January 2010**
1.30pm: Planning & Environment committee
- **1st February 2010**
1.30pm: Planning & Environment committee
- **4th February 2010**
7.30pm: Community Forum committee
- **6th February 2010**
10.00am – 12.00noon – Councillors surgery
10.00am – 12.00noon – Police surgery
- **15th February 2010**
1.30pm: Planning & Environment committee
- **25th February 2010**
7.30pm: Recreation & Amenities committee
- **1st March 2010**
1.30pm: Planning & Environment committee
- **6th March 2010**
10.00am – 12.00noon – Councillors surgery
10.00am – 12.00noon – Police surgery
- **15th March 2010**
1.30pm: Planning & Environment committee
- **18th March 2010**
7.30pm: Finance & Establishment committee
- **29th March 2010**
1.30pm: Planning & Environment committee
- **3rd April 2010**
10.00am – 12.00noon – Councillors surgery
10.00am – 12.00noon – Police surgery
10.00am – 12.00noon – Litter Pick day
- **8th April 2010**
8.00pm: Full Council
- **12th April 2010**
10.00am – 12.00noon – Councillors surgery
10.00am – 12.00noon – Police surgery
- **26th April 2010**
1.30pm: Planning & Environment committee
- **29th April 2010**
7.00pm: Parish Assembly

BUCKHURST HILL ANTIQUES CLUB

Buckhurst Hill Community Association, Bedford House, Westbury Road.

Fridays 7.45pm for 8.00pm. Visitors welcome.

Membership £34 per term. Visitors £5 per evening.

For more information telephone 020 8504 6668.

BUCKHURST HILL BOWLING AND LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Great for exercise and fun. The outdoor bowls season extends until early October and the tennis courts are in use all year round. Coaching for all ages is available.

For further details contact Peter (tennis) on 020 8529 1296, Margaret (ladies' bowls) on 020 8504 4249, Henry (men's bowls) 020 8504 7518.

www.bhbhlc.freeserve.co.uk

BUCKHURST HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Bedford House, Westbury Road, Buckhurst Hill, Essex IG9 5NW

In 2009-10 we are offering over 70 courses in the friendly and relaxed setting of Bedford House and Hall.

There are still vacancies on a number of courses so you could start the New Year with a resolution to try a new interest, pursue an old one, or simply get fitter at one of our classes?

Day and Evening Courses:

Aerobics, Art, Birdwatching, Bridge, Calligraphy, China Painting, Keep Fit, Line Dancing, London, Nature Walks, Needlecraft, Piano, Pottery, Printmaking, Rambles, Sculpture in Clay, Yoga, Yoga for Pregnancy.

Saturday Workshops:

Alexander Technique, Creative Writing, Curtain Making, Exploring Your Garden, Flower Painting, Landscape Painting, Life Drawing, Mosaics, Portrait Painting, Pranayama Yoga, Roman Blind Making, Watercolour Basics.

Spring Term begins on 11th January 2010

Brochures available from the Parish Office, local libraries or phone the BHCA Office on 020 8504 6668.

E-mail: office@b-h-c-a.org or see our website www.b-h-c-a.org for further details. Registered Charity No. 301268

BUCKHURST HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meetings take place at The Information Centre, 62-64 Queens Road Buckhurst Hill.

Annual subscription: £6 per person or £10 per couple.

Non-members £2 per head.

Where tickets are required please contact: 020 8504 1799/
020 8504 2844/020 8532 0593

BUCKHURST HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Meetings take place at St James' URC Church, Palmerston Road at 7.30pm. These are held on the first Monday in October, November, February and March. Different speakers talk on a variety of horticultural subjects. 3 flower shows are held in April, July and September

■ **1st February** 'The Ancient Garden': Speaker Russell T Bowes from Eltham

■ **1st March** 'Using plants with character to get the best from your border' – Speaker Roger Harvey

■ **Saturday 10th April** Spring Show. 2.00pm – 5.00pm, Centenary Hall, St John's Church, High Road. Refreshments, plants for sale, good parking facilities.

All visitors welcome. For more information telephone 020 8504 8436 or 020 8504 3238 or enquire at the Parish Information Centre, Queens Road

BUCKHURST HILL RESIDENTS SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 2469, Buckhurst Hill, Essex IG8 1EU

Website: www.buckhursthillresidents.co.uk

email: info@buckhursthillresidents.co.uk

New members always welcome

FUNFARE 50+ CLUB

Tuesdays 11.30am to 3.30pm at St James' United Reformed Church, Palmerston Road

11.30am – 12 midday: Coffee

12.30pm: Lunch

1.30pm: Afternoon session begins

2.00pm: Speaker / Activity

3.00pm: Tea and biscuits, lunch and afternoon £3.50: Afternoon session only £1.50

Volunteer helpers required. For more information telephone 020 8504 0520

IG10 ART GROUP

■ 13th March

An exhibition at St Mary's Church, High Road, Loughton 9.30am – 4.30pm. 10% of sales will be donated to Haven House Children's Hospice.

For more information telephone: 020 8502 2567

RODING PLAYERS ORCHESTRA

This enthusiastic group of musicians meet weekly on Monday evenings 7.15 – 9.30pm at Roding Valley High School, Loughton, Essex. New members welcome, especially strings and brass.

For more details contact the Musical Director on 020 8505 4329

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

7.45pm on the first Tuesday of each month at St James' URC Church, Palmerston Road.

For more details contact the Secretary, Stephen Goddard on 020 8505 2570

ST JAMES' UNITED REFORMED CHURCH ECOLOGICAL COMMITTEE

St James' URC, Palmerston Road.

Free entry. Tea and coffee served at the end of the meeting.

For more details contact Steven Neville on 020 8504 5325

ST JOHN'S CHURCH

High Road, Buckhurst Hill

Sunday services – 9.00am: Quiet service.

10.30am: Family service. Everyone welcome!

SENIOR MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Second Tuesday in every month at St John's Church, High Road 12.00 noon – 14.30pm 2-course hot meal. Speaker. New members welcome (retired or near retirement age).

For more details contact the Secretary, Roy Allen on 020 8504 1631

THE NATIONAL TRUST

Meet at the Sir James Hawkey Hall, Broomhill Road, Woodford Green. Admission free to centre members, visitors £2.

Refreshments available. National Trust Sales stall

■ 21st January 2010

2.30pm – Chelsea Physic Garden: Christine Hodgson

■ 8th February 2010

8.00pm – Temple & Tigers (Indian): Maggie Tear & husband

■ 3rd March 2010

2.30pm – History of Fingerprints and Police Milestones: Terrance Rockall

■ 30th March 2010

2.30pm – Without Let or Hindrance: Martin Lloyd

■ 21st April 2010

8.00pm – AGM: Lost Mansions of Essex: Peter Lawrence
Admission by programme 50p, available at the door. Children accompanied by an adult free.

For more details contact Chris Rogers on 020 8505 3501

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/assocs/woodfordgreen

WEST ESSEX RAMBLERS

As a member of the Ramblers' Association, our Group offers a wide range of facilities. We are a friendly Group. Come along on some of our walks to see if you would like to join.

For a sample programme please contact: Pat and John Juchau, Publicity and Recruitment Officers on 020 8502 1628 or Keith Wenden, Membership Secretary on 020 8529 6265

www.westessexramblers.org.uk

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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WOODFORD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA was formed nearly fifty years ago, and for all that time this friendly group of musicians has been giving at least three public concerts each year in Redbridge, together with invitation concerts within and beyond the borough. Rehearsals are held at Roding Valley High School, Loughton on Thursday evenings.

Tickets: £7, concessions: £6, children under 12: £3 at door or telephone.

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An “old” initiative takes on “new” life

Some residents may recall reading in past editions of the Newsletter about a Youth Initiative started by Cllr Eleanor Spencer. During 2009 this “initiative” became a reality and it is now named BH4UTH Forum and works independently of Buckhurst Hill Parish Council although councillors past and present maintain a very close interest. The main aim of the Forum is to provide young people in Buckhurst Hill and area with interesting and rewarding activities based on their needs in a constructive and supportive environment.

The Forum consists of an Adult and a Youth Committee. The Forum was very fortunate to receive funding from the Charles S French Charitable Trust and from Waitrose. It has been working closely with The Bridge, Princes Road where several events have taken place.

Our activities in 2009 have been one-off events such as a pizza and ice cream evening, visit to IKEA and barbecue. In March 2010 a conservation event hosted by Epping Forest District Council

Countrycare will take place in Linders Field in Buckhurst Hill. Linders Field has a special and unique history and in August 2000 was declared a Local Nature Reserve. To quote EFDC Countrycare: “The United Nations has declared 2010 as International Year of Biodiversity to highlight the plight of the earth’s fragile biological resource and the grave threat to many species of extinction due to mankind. Through this volunteer day you will have the chance to **“think globally and act locally”**”.

BH4UTH Forum hopes to make a contribution by helping to clear a section of the wood (which includes scrub and vegetation clearance and tree felling) and to remain involved by monitoring this area over the following weeks and months (and hopefully years).

The Youth Committee is growing steadily in confidence and we hope to have many varied events in the future.

BH4UTH Forum is very keen to attract young people to come along to its events. So, if you are a young person under the age of 18 and would like more information

about the Forum and the conservation day on 7th March 2010 please contact: info@buckhursthillpc.gov.uk and we will pass this on to the Committees.



EXPERIENCE IN ZAMBIA *(Continued from page 3)*

possessions are no more than a few cooking pots; basic plastic plates and cups; maybe a couple of mattresses and little else. One family I visited (a widowed and disabled grandmother caring for 9 children from babies to teenagers), had not eaten since the previous day. When I asked if they would eat today she answered, “If I manage to sell this small bag of charcoal we will eat tonight...If not, we won’t.” Unfortunately that story is not an isolated case; rather it is typical of how millions struggle in their daily fight for survival.

We met so many wonderful children during our visit, children as bright, funny and ambitious as any child here in the UK, yet a world apart as far as the opportunity for gaining a full education; access to healthcare or even surviving beyond the age of 15yrs if they live on the street. It’s heart-wrenching to witness the scale of human poverty and need which leaves you feeling helplessly inadequate in terms of what you as an individual can do to make a difference. Yet, the people were so grateful to think we had paid and given up our holiday time to go out and work in order to help them. You cannot help but lose your heart to these children who so want to be able to go to school and gain an education in order that they might attain their hopes and aspirations to become an adult who can make a difference in society, and yet, unlike children here, will have little or no opportunity to complete a full education. Their hunger to learn and achieve so that they in turn can help others as a result is an example and lesson that many children and young people in this country could truly learn from!

Despite no extra luggage allowance being given to take aid out, the team managed to fill their cases and hand luggage with a large quantity and variety of goods, including knitting wool and needles; stationery items; small toys, baby clothes and toiletries donated by family, friends and church members, and St John’s Primary School parents kindly donated a large number of school dresses and boys uniforms, which the children at the Kumbaya School now proudly wear as their uniform. This school has approximately 400 pupils but only two classrooms, so they are taught in shifts throughout the day!

Spending even as little as two weeks living, working and sharing time getting to know about the people and culture of

a country such as Zambia is an experience that definitely challenges and changes you as a person in ways that affect your perspective on life, making you consider what the really important things are, and how much is taken for granted here...the right to free education; healthcare; clean water; social welfare to name but a few. A quote I heard sums up the difference between the rich west and poor rest, “We are so ungrateful for the vast amount we expect to have. They are so grateful for the little they do have”.

The trip had had an impact on all of us. We learnt practical skills on the building site and all came home a lot fitter than we went, due to the physical tasks involved! We laughed and cried; were challenged by cultural differences and human mindset; witnessed abstract poverty; corruption; need; hopelessness and yet we saw real hope as young people were being given a second chance- street kids rescued from hopelessness; glue sniffing (to keep out the cold and hunger); probable death by the age of 15yrs old – taken in by an

(Continued on page 11)



CHRISTMAS FIESTA

Long established Buckhurst Hill business Leigh Languages held its renowned Christmas Fiesta on Sunday 6th December in the hall at Bedford House. The room was packed with pupils of the school, their friends and family, for what promised to be a wonderful night of top class entertainment.

While they enjoyed a delicious range of home made tapas, the audience were entranced by the Mariachi Mexteca, led by the charismatic Salvador Jiminez. Wearing typical Mexican costume the musicians marched into the room playing accomplished mariachi music. Following a set which brought the audience to its feet, guests were then served with seafood and vegetarian paella cooked by the Paella and Tapas Company.

As the second half got under way, the audience were entertained by two young performers from the children's Spanish class, who demonstrated how to make a Spanish omelette, using real ingredients. Mariachi Mexteca then played again. The music and applause was so loud that several people came into the hall to find out what was going on and stayed to enjoy the party. After an encore, the party was played out by Leigh Languages regular, John Drummond, with his salsa DJ set.

Our spring term begins on Monday 11th January 2010.



EXPERIENCE IN ZAMBIA (Continued from page 10)

organisation set up by a former street kid who was himself rescued and now dedicated to giving these boys a real chance in life to gain that all important education, to achieve their potential and ambitions, and hopefully, to use their experience to help reach out and help others like themselves in the future... a small pebble dropped in a pond spreads ripples that reach far and wide.

You can't help but question how we can possibly make a difference when the scale of the problems facing Zambia and so many other poor countries are so vast. The story Mission Direct use is of a small boy walking along a beach covered with stranded starfish, with his mother. As he keeps stopping to pick one more up and throw it back into the sea his mother tells him he's wasting his time as he can't possibly save them all. The boy's reply is, "Well I've just saved that one, and that one, and that one..." and that really sums up the way we can make a difference to the people we have had the privilege of meeting as we have briefly stepped into their world and lives.



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For Further Information contact: Leigh Languages: Telephone/Fax: 020 8504 3652

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