

February 2021 update

Letter from the Chairman

SPRING HOPES

A new mood is spreading across Hadley Wood as days lengthen and bulbs emerge. There is real excitement about the successes of the vaccination programme, with stories of the different centres and help getting people to them. There is sadly the continuing undercurrent of infections, with a range of suffering slight to very severe, but also recoveries. Panini has reopened for takeaways joining the vital Londis contribution to keeping us nourished.

At the Centre, Pre School has carried on as a community beacon under the new supervision of Angie Roberts, taking over from Judy Quickenden who kept our education flame alive so well. Covid has presented Angie, Gill and colleagues with exceptional challenges which they have met with skill, care and a lot of cleaning. Sadly Tennis is quiet again, Dance has to wait longer to resume and Bridge remains online. Having restored organised sports at Bartrams Lane last term with Mount House School, and engaged with new football teams, it is a pity that we shall miss the rest of the winter season. Cricket beckons after Easter.

Our finances remain severely impaired by Covid, but we have great encouragement from the success of the Fireworks Appeal (now up to nearly £5,000 following a recent generous £500 donation and still open, with a useful prompt for Gift Aid forms). Use of the car park by film crews (kindly put our way by Neale and Amanda Haynes) has produced a couple of welcome contributions. Membership is holding up through the winter, ahead of another drive after Easter as activities resume.

New and continuing projects include a closer cooperation with Hadley Wood School, other football clubs, investigating whether HWA can play a role helping streets collectively procure fibre net, and the station garden.

All our work depends on volunteers with a range of involvement. We are currently looking for two new Committee members to replace Katie Michael and David Sumners each of whom gave us their time and skills on specific projects and with wise input for our Committee discussions. We are very grateful to them. The available roles include Secretary and Membership Secretary. We look forward to hearing from you!

Robert Wilson Chairman Hadley Wood Association.

ICE - AT YOUR OWN RISK. Our car park becomes icy in freezing weather, as all regular users are aware. A stream has emerged across the tarmac. There can also be black ice on the path by the tennis courts. We can do some salting, but cannot possibly keep these areas free of ice nor have any responsibility. AVOID IN ICY WEATHER. TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOURSELVES AND FAMILIES.