



ELECTION, CHOICES AND MEMORIES



Dear Residents

We are in the middle of a summer General Election campaign with voting on 4 July. Hadley Wood is now part of the new Southgate & Wood Green constituency; Monken Hadley is part of marginal Chipping Barnet. The Association is strictly apolitical; residents must make their own assessment of the impact on local issues. Reminder: voter ID is now required.

Choices are also being made across Hadley Wood about the vexed subject of internet connections and providers with mixed experience of Open Infra (who have at last reached our streets) and plenty of advice on the Community WhatsApp - such a service to the community by Hadley Wood Watch who have some stories to tell of their own successes (see article).

We have memories of two great friends and local characters, Graham Sharp and Jim Lockhart, who lived life to the full and found time to serve as leaders of the Association and the Golf Club. Graham ran the Association as Chairman and Trustee for ten years, alongside Rod Armstrong. We join with thanks in the celebration of their lives.

Rupert Mackay has made great contributions to Hadley Wood as vicar and (also for ten years) as Chairman and Trustee. He has now moved into London from Beech Hill. He is kindly staying on as a trustee until the AGM or earlier co-option of a replacement, as reported to HWA Members. We express our deep appreciation for all he has done.

We have rescheduled the HWA Centre Upgrade into 2025 when we hope to have some benefit from the CIL money gained through the Neighbourhood Plan. We are looking forward to our new early years providers (Alphablocks - see article) settling in over the next year, enlivening the Centre alongside the activities of the new tennis coaches, and having their involvement as we develop the plans for our community centre.

This edition starts with the phenomenon of Northern Lights over Hadley Wood on our front cover and has plenty of interesting articles including Hugh Small's research into local history and the success of our excellent primary school under Head Mistress Fran Worby. Francesca Caine provides her regular report on the vigilant activities of HWRUG and we have an important and positive update on the Green Belt Campaign.

We end this Letter with encouragement to support the vital work of the Monken Hadley Common Trust, with its importance for us as they maintain that part of our green circumference. John Hall continues to be a vital link to MHCT and the Barnet Museum, and finds time to support the opera evenings by Jack's Lake. Thank you.

We welcome contributions for our Hadley Wood News to inform and encourage us about community activities. The deadlines are in the notice below.

SAVE THE DATE SUNDAY 3 NOVEMBER for the FIREWORKS

Robert Wilson for Trustees

NEXT EDITION OF HWN:

We publish the Hadley Wood News every other month. For HWN August we aim to deliver around 16 - 18 August. **We will need contributions and adverts by 26 July.**

Please contact HWA office@hadleywoodassociation.com