



Dear HWA Members and all Residents

In the last HW News, as at the AGM, I explained how the Association is seeking to broaden our community efforts, for example to help older or vulnerable people who may not have full family or friendship support. None of us imagined the scourge of Covid-19 and its rapidly escalating impact.

Community support is now demanded on an unimagined scale, with the combination of the dreadful new virus infection, and requirements to cut ourselves off from personal contact with family and friends. It is ever more important to provide very local support, through close neighbours and our range of community groups, as people self-isolate or otherwise require support with food or medicine deliveries or social contact (at a distance), and for those suffering this lonely illness and their families.

HWA has been aware of the many efforts being made by individuals and through our strong networks such as St Paul's and the Jewish Community, and Hadley Wood Security (MLB as first responders and close observers). Hadley Wood Watch (and its NHWs) were quick to contact as many as possible in the streets they cover, which is now most of Hadley Wood. Special thanks to Simone who runs HWW with fantastic personal commitment.

HWA have encouraged its members to offer support to neighbours and to reach out if they need any support themselves. Rupert and Dawn have covered gaps in other networks and are running a HW Corona Support & Volunteers group.

COVID COORDINATION

Within Hadley Wood, HWA is setting up COVID COORDINATION for the local neighbour response to the Coronavirus with other groups and individuals, clubs, businesses, councillors and police. There are gaps between the support networks, and this is a long haul. An unprecedented challenge that we must meet together.

The principle is to share information and say what we are each doing, see how best to engage and channel resources, and generally support each other's efforts and the residents of all ages. Like the successful HWA Security Committee, we find that our local various groups can complement each other to great effect.

Our range of invites include: HWWatch, HWSecurity, MLB and Police; Councillors; St Paul's, Jewish and Greek Cypriot Communities; Women's Institute; HWRail User Group; HWSchool; HWGolf Club; our HWA Centre Users (Tennis, PreSchool, Bridge, Dance); HWNews; HWNPForum; Londis and Statons.

We are getting positive responses from these. We are not exclusive; on the contrary. We are seeking representatives of other communities including Turkish Cypriot. We invite anyone who is running a support network or has good contacts or information, please let us know. We want you to be involved. As this is a large number of invites, we anticipate some steering group will be needed. shall report.

We are aware that there are major state and volunteer efforts beyond Hadley Wood (now with the NHS Volunteers plus the tasks given to Enfield and other local Councils). We must support and complement these as well.

The main message must be to follow NHS advice and government instructions to save spreading infection and respond properly when you need to isolate: STAY at home; PROTECT the NHS; SAVE lives.

You will rely first upon yourselves and your family and friends, but do not hesitate if you need support to reach out to whichever network and individuals are best for you. We have many volunteers ready to help from HWA along with Neighbourhood Watch and others.

Wishing you all the best through the present crisis. Keep safe and help your neighbours, keep in touch with them and be considerate.

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