

March / April 2020 update

HADLEY WOOD ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES LETTER

The Coronavirus (Covid-19 or CV) is an unprecedented challenge to all of us individually for ourselves and our loved ones, in our work and businesses, and as a community. Our thoughts go out to everyone caught up in this tragedy, especially victims of the illness and our NHS and other critical workers.

For the HWA, we have roles to play as our residents association and as the responsible manager of our Centre & Grounds. We also have continuing projects and campaigns. We must keep up our membership administration. Your Association is responding as best we can in the circumstances. All help will be appreciated.

HWA & COMMUNITY RESPONSE

All those who need support now and over the next long weeks, please call HWA on 020 8449 7193. The office is closed but we shall pick up messages daily and respond. Leave your name and phone number. Or text or call our mobile 07398 081 575 between 0900 and 1200. Or send us an email on hadley.woodassoc@btconnect.com.

The Association through its members has volunteers and will provide support with food and medical deliveries and social (distanced) contact. We have a WhatsApp for Corona Support & Volunteers. **See Home page for details**

We are setting up Covid Coordination for Hadley Wood across the several local organisations, communities, clubs, businesses and individuals active in providing support, and to link with NHS Volunteers, police and other national or council services. Our HWA Security Committee is a successful precedent.

The main message must be to follow NHS advice and government instructions to save spreading infection and respond properly when you need to isolate. Rely upon yourselves and your family and friends, but reach out if you need support. We have many volunteers ready to help, along with Neighbourhood Watch and others.

Hadley Wood is showing its strong community spirit at this strange and dangerous time.

HWA AS CENTRE MANAGER

HWA must refer you to all NHS advice and Government instructions; we are following the advice as managers of the Centre and Grounds, our Users are doing so and we insist members and non-members respect the advice when they are within our Grounds for any proper reason, as well as elsewhere.

Users of the Centre have all decided to close their activities until further notice: PreSchool, Dance and Bridge. Tennis have had to close the courts as well as their use of the bar area. Please follow their respective notices. Hall hirers are cancelling their bookings.

The Grounds are open and have been recently mown; very tempting in the Spring sunshine. We are so fortunate to have them. But please use them only within allowed rules (which may become more restricted) for staying at home and self distancing when outside. The Car Park is for use by HWA members only, and at your own risk. We do not expect to see more than two or three cars there at any time - including regular dog walkers.

The Sports Field is NOT OPEN for any gatherings (even of two people) apart from one household families (please keep small) and singles, again subject to "stay at home" and any other relevant rules. If any such use attracts larger gatherings, it must be stopped. Always subject to the latest NHS advice and government instructions.

The Centre itself is closed until further notice.

This includes the office, but please leave messages on 020 8449 7193 which we aim to check daily. Or text or call our mobile 07938 081 575 between 09:00 & 12:00 Monday to Friday.

These numbers are for Corona Support as well as for HWA business including membership (for which you can also use email: hwassocmembership@gmail.com). Please see Home page for full details.

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Hadley Wood Association Trustees Letter *continued*

HWA PROJECTS + LOCAL AFFAIRS

Everything is being affected by CV19, but projects and campaigns continue to need attention - subject to following advice and postponements, not everything has stopped.

Our current “4 Cs” are Coronavirus (see above), Crime, Cockfosters and Centre Upgrade.

CRIME. After the successful series of Self Defence sessions at the Centre (arranged by Dawn Wellings and to be repeated), the next HWA HWW & Hadley Wood Security meeting (with MLB and police) is planned to be held in June open to all HWS members and non-member residents (ID will be required). The meeting is likely to be postponed but the work of those involved continues; we are very grateful to have MLB now as an integral part of our community in the front line round our streets every day.

CENTRE UPGRADE. As presented at the AGM, we have proceeded with the plans for the next stages of the project with particular benefits to our Users and the members generally: new toilets, a new security door inside the front door, new chairs and tables. With fundraising needed. The works were prepared nearly ready to be done at Easter but CV19 has required us to postpone - we intend to go ahead as soon as we can. This is a big disappointment after the great efforts put in by Helen Speroni and others, but it will not be wasted.

We are considering whether to mothball the Centre or take the opportunity for a Spring Clean, minor repairs and H&S works.

COCKFOSTERS. We finally succeeded in our Save Cockfosters Ward campaign with confirmation that Hadley Wood will remain linked to Cockfosters (we believe for police as well as local councillors). Many of you responded to the call to tell the Boundary Commission that you supported their revised (about face) recommendation.

“SaveCockfosters” is now devoted to opposing the gross overdevelopment TfL plans for 400 flats in tower blocks and no car spaces at the station car park site. The campaign is very active but needs support in numbers, expertise and money for consultants. A public meeting with both MPs arranged for 19 March had to be cancelled but efforts must increase as TfL are pushing on with their application. HWA is supporting this campaign, and opposition to gross over use of Trent Park by Enfield Council for very large multi day events which shut out normal park use for most of August.

HWA SUPPORT AND MEMBERSHIP

As your community organisation, the HWA Committee is working hard to organise support for residents in this most difficult time.

We appreciate the support coming from members and involvement in our initiatives. We do absolutely need the flow of membership subscriptions to continue; we face serious loss of income over the next months. We also need new members - less than half residents are members, although everyone enjoys benefits.

We are missing about one third of member email contacts. This is a problem when our primary immediate communication is by HWAMAIL. If you have not received our latest HWAMAIL (18 March and 27 March) we are missing your contact details or you are not a member (or we have made a mistake). Whatever the reason, please get in touch.

Wishing you all the best through the present crisis. Keep safe and help your neighbours, and keep in (non-physical) contact.

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