

# around ealing

Winter 2015/16

**Christmas coming to town:**

Events in town centres **p12**

**Pledging for a living wage:**

Council leads campaign **p33**

**Recycling and refuse:**

Collection dates **Back cover**

Cinema  
and cultural  
quarter  
**p5**

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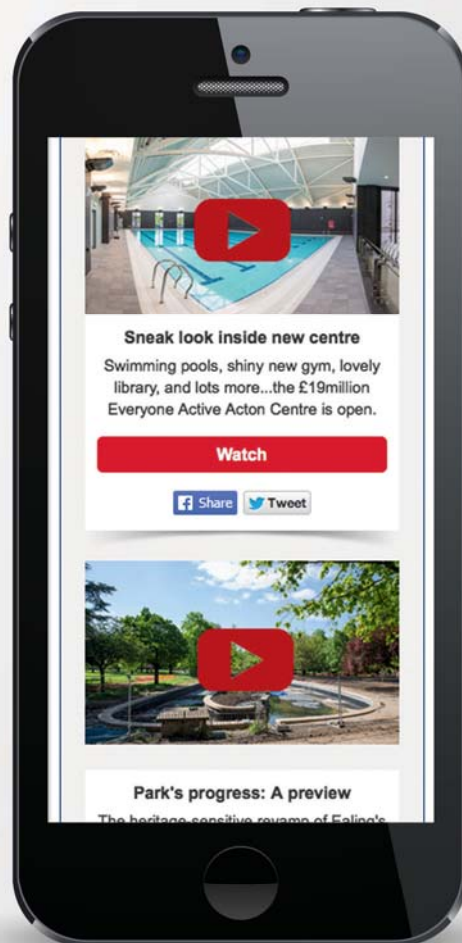
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# WINTER15/16 EDITORIAL



The nights have closed in; the festive lights are appearing; text messages are typed with numbed fingers; journeys home seem to take that little bit longer. It must be winter.

Inevitably, therefore, we have some information for you on Christmas events in our town centres (p12) and handy tips around this time of year, from recycling (p14-17) to keeping warm (p11).

Yet there is so much more – from improved school results (p38) to road safety (p22); and from a new restaurant training initiative (p28) to community orchards (p18). There are also interesting pieces on how the council's handyperson service can use small jobs to make a big difference (p30) – and on the global nature of the food industry in our borough (p34). There is plenty more, too – not least the young man whose life was changed through an apprenticeship (p20).

Happy Christmas, or Chanukah, to you all – and I hope you all have a good 2016.

**Richard Nadal**  
**EDITOR**

## Contents

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>4 UP FRONT:</b> Round-up, including sports facilities | <b>27 DON'T SKIP RULES:</b> Licences for building      |
| <b>5 LEADER'S NOTES:</b> Julian Bell's thoughts          | <b>28 MANOR ON MENU:</b> Restaurant and training       |
| <b>6 UP FRONT:</b> Horticulture with a conscience        | <b>30 VERY HANDY:</b> Handyperson service              |
| <b>7 UP FRONT:</b> Litter and spitting fines             | <b>34 GLOBAL GRUB:</b> Ealing's food world             |
| <b>8 UP FRONT:</b> Police cadets and outhouse video      | <b>37 SCHOOL PLACES:</b> Expanding high schools        |
| <b>11 KEEP COSIE:</b> Warmth in the winter               | <b>38 KEEPING STANDARDS:</b> School results improve    |
| <b>12 TINSEL TOWNS:</b> Christmas events                 | <b>40 PRIMARY SCHOOLS:</b> Time to apply               |
| <b>14 FESTIVE THOUGHTS:</b> Food and plastic             | <b>43 FRAUD BUSTERS:</b> Call the hotline              |
| <b>18 TREES ARE TOPS:</b> Community orchard projects     | <b>45 NEW HOMES:</b> Council housing schemes           |
| <b>20 EARN AND LEARN:</b> Café leads the way             | <b>46 COUNCILLORS AND WARD FORUMS</b>                  |
| <b>22 TWENTY IS PLENTY:</b> Why new speed limit?         | <b>50 LOCAL HISTORY:</b> Our early aviator             |
| <b>24 FOSTER PARENTS:</b> Extra special caring           | <b>53 WHAT'S ON:</b> Council-run activities and events |



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**1** Most **Ealing Council services** will be operating normally on 23-24 December and 2-3 January. However, only essential and critical service cover will be in place between 25-29 December and on 1 January. Limited services will run on 30 and 31 December. Check [www.ealing.gov.uk](http://www.ealing.gov.uk) for more information on services and [www.ealing.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/libraries) for library hours.

**2** Your usual collection day for **recycling and refuse** will change over the Christmas and new year period. See the advert on the back page of this magazine for details or visit [www.ealing.gov.uk](http://www.ealing.gov.uk)

**3** Real **Christmas trees** will be collected free of charge on the same day as your refuse and recycling collections between 4-29 January. Tree trunks must not exceed 20cm in diameter and any taller than 6ft will need to be cut in two. Alternatively, you can take them to be recycled at some of our parks this January. See the back page of this magazine for details or visit [www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling)

**4** The council's re-use and recycling **centres will be closed** on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. Normal winter opening hours (8am-4pm) apply on all other days over the festive period. These centres are located at Stirling Road, Acton, and Greenford Road, Greenford. Visit [www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling) for more information.

**5** **Burglars** are usually opportunists and winter nights tempt them with longer hours of darkness, people out at festive get-togethers, and the lure of Christmas presents. So, do not make it easy for them: Make sure presents cannot be seen through windows, put lights on timers and tear up and recycle packaging for pricey gifts. Visit [www.ealing.gov.uk/staysafe](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/staysafe)

**speedread**



PE lesson on the fields at William Perkin High

## Perkin' up sports

Work is starting on a £1.4million project that will transform the range of sports and activities on offer in Greenford.

Plans have been approved to build a pavilion and an artificial grass pitch marked with three five-a-side pitches at William Perkin Church of England High School, to complement the sports facilities already at the school, which opened in 2013.

The facilities will be open for community use, for local clubs and groups, as well as by the school's pupils. The work should be completed in summer 2016.

Ealing Council has joined forces on the scheme with the school, the Premier League, the Football Foundation, and Twyford Church of England Academies Trust.

## What is your view?

In February it will be announced which small community projects in East Acton will get money from a new fund.

**East Acton Champions** is a small-scale funding scheme to encourage people or businesses in the ward to come forward with little ways to make it a better place to live. A pot of £10,000 will be divided among the winning projects, which will each be given between £500 and £2,000 towards the cost of their project. Applications made in October and November dealt with environmental issues, local people's health, social activities or crime. Winners will be announced by the end of February, and then the projects must be carried through by March 2017.

Meanwhile, a **West Ealing Champions** funding scheme is accepting applications until 8 December. Visit [www.ealing.gov.uk/regeneration](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/regeneration)



# LEADER'S NOTES

"We will finally have a new  
cinema in Ealing."

**Councillor Julian Bell**

Leader of the council



Artist's impression of how new cinema could look

**W**e know many hard-working people struggle to get by and low wages are impacting on the quality of life our residents are able to enjoy. People should be paid at a decent rate by their employers. That is why the council is offering up a total of £200,000 in business rate relief to encourage local firms to pay at least the London **Living Wage**. See page 33 for more.

**P**art of the annual cycle at councils across the country is **budget setting** early in the new year.

Unfortunately, against the backdrop of government cuts to council funding, it is again a time we will be making difficult decisions as we seek to meet our tough savings target of £96million by April 2019. Please keep an eye on [www.ealing.gov.uk/news](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/news) for information.

**C**hristmas is such a crucial time for almost every local business. And, for every £1 you spend at an independent business in your town centre, between 50-70 pence circulates back into the local economy. Shopping locally supports the borough's traders, their suppliers and their employees as well – who are usually local themselves. It is something worth bearing in mind.

I wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

*Julian*

I am delighted to be able to report that we will – finally – have a **new cinema** in Ealing after more than seven years.

Ealing's town centre has been without one since September 2008 when Empire Cinemas closed the cinema opposite Ealing Town Hall. Most of the building was then demolished in February 2009 and thus has it stood since, with scaffolding holding up the old art deco frontage.

As a council we decided it could not be left that way any longer and, after discussions with Empire, eventually made a compulsory purchase order (CPO) in July 2014 to acquire the land. The council had held a competitive selection process which resulted in Land Securities being chosen to work with us to acquire the site and underwrite all necessary CPO costs with a view to the company developing an exciting, two-acre 'cultural quarter' with a new multi-screen cinema at its heart, along with restaurants, bars, cafes, shops and homes.

Empire objected to the CPO and a 10-day inquiry was held in April-May this year.

It is with great pleasure that I can say the verdict has now come back – and the objections were rejected. Therefore, the CPO can be progressed and we can move on with our ambitious redevelopment which will bring this derelict site back to life – the people of Ealing have waited long enough. Work should start in 2016 and complete in 2018.

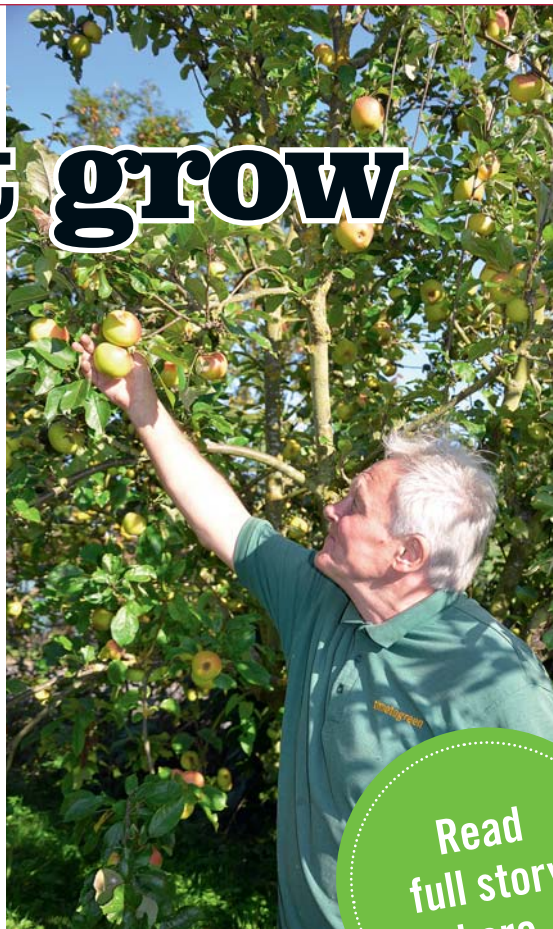
You can read more at [www.ealing.gov.uk/news](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/news) or see the spring edition of Around Ealing in March.

# Let it grow

Somewhere to buy organic fruit and veg, and plants for your garden, should be opening on Horsenden Hill in the spring – coinciding with the reopening of a popular vintage tearoom. But your help is needed first.

and at Horsenden Farm has been leased by Ealing Council for a 25-year period to a local social enterprise, Accession. The organisation was born in 2011 after evolving from services run by the council and West London Mental Health Trust.

The picturesque location on the side of the hill sits next to an open car park serving the farm and a section of



Read  
full story  
here

the Grand Union canal's towpath; and a children's playground owned by the council is close by, too. It is on the Capital Ring walking route which encircles London and is popular with hikers.

By the time Accession's staff and volunteers are finished, the land in front of the farmhouse will become a fully-functioning horticultural centre where people can buy a wide range of flowers, plants, fruit and vegetables.

And the popular tearoom, which was open in 2014 but closed to allow the work on the centre to take place, will reopen.

The primary purpose of the site is to provide a therapeutic and educational place to support those with mental health difficulties

or learning disabilities. They can work at the centre to gain confidence, get fresh air, learn new skills and, in some cases, the aim is to get back into employment. But the foodstuffs grown will also help supply the reopened café and any money from sales will pay to keep the centre open and be ploughed back in to Accession's services.

## HELP FOR THE FINAL PUSH

Although preparation of the site, which was formerly the farm's orchard and garden, is well under way there is plenty left to do to get it ready – and volunteers are being sought.

Managing director of Accession, Penny Newman OBE, said: "We hope the centre and also the café, which we already know is popular, will together become a destination that local people will want

to visit – families, walkers, gardeners, local people in

general. It has been three years in the planning and we're so pleased we've come this far. However, we now need some help for the final push – we need some further investment to get the café ready and we also need volunteers for things like watering, digging, planting, to help finish the site." 

## COULD YOU HELP?

Visit Bubble to find out how to volunteer at [www.dosomethinggood.org.uk](http://www.dosomethinggood.org.uk) or call Accession on 020 8567 3777. For more on Accession, visit [www.accessioncic.com](http://www.accessioncic.com)



◀ Managing director Penny Newman with herbs in new polytunnel



## Fines for spitters and litterers

"We spend £4.5million each year cleaning up after people who feel it is OK to litter our streets with rubbish, chewing gum, spitting or dog mess," said Councillor Bassam Mahfouz.

The cabinet member for transport, environment and leisure continued: "Residents are sick of seeing it and paying to get it cleaned up through their taxes. The changes we are making will turn the tide against these selfish individuals."

On-the-spot fines of £80 will be issued to people who are seen spoiling the borough's streets and parks by dropping litter, dumping rubbish, spitting or allowing their dogs to foul the streets.

The council has teamed up with Kingdom Security and Harrow Council to provide dedicated teams of uniformed officers to patrol the streets of both boroughs on a one-year trial basis.

Members of the public are obliged to give their name and address to the officers when asked. It is a criminal offence to either supply false details or refuse to give details and officers will be wearing body cameras to help gather evidence. Failure to pay fixed penalty notices could result in legal action being taken.

It is the start of a wider response to environmental crime in the borough which will see council teams working alongside the police and members of the public to improve the environment and public spaces. The co-operation with Harrow Council reflects the fact problems can spill over the boroughs' boundaries.

Residents can report littering and dog fouling online at [www.ealing.gov.uk/reportit](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/reportit)



## Getting a good start

Our borough is ranked sixth out of 132 local authorities in the country for helping very young disadvantaged children to achieve a good level

of development, according to the latest figures from Ofsted. Historically, children eligible for free school meals are more likely to start primary school at a stage of development that is behind other children of the same age. The latest figures show that, in 2014, 55% of children aged five and younger receiving free school meals in our borough achieved a good level of development. This is a 6% improvement on the previous year and puts Ealing in the top 5% of local authorities. Read the report at [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

## Go WEST for help

A new service is offering unemployed people in the north of the borough free training to help them find a job. WEST (which stands for work, education, support and training) has been set up by Ealing Council with the support of the Mayor of London. It aims to provide personalised, intensive support to out-of-work residents to enable them to progress into training or work. The project is, at first, focusing on areas with high levels of unemployment, starting with the Northolt West End, Northolt Mandeville and Greenford Broadway wards – and also unemployed residents in temporary accommodation. But WEST could be introduced in other parts of the borough. Regular one-to-ones are run at Northolt Library between 1-3pm on Thursdays, by appointment only. To find out more, call 020 8825 8486 or email [WEST@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:WEST@ealing.gov.uk)



▲ Councillor Mahfouz with officers from the police, council and Kingdom Security



## DID YOU MISS THESE STORIES?

All available online and by email



COMING SOON: HISTORY QUIZ

## Local knowledge

How much do you know of area's past? A book is up for grabs.



FULL-LENGTH VERSIONS

## The whole story

Around Ealing Extra has more in-depth versions of magazine articles.



BUSINESS NETWORKING

## Ealing expo

First ever Ealing in Business event took place in November.



SAFE DETERRENTS

## Foxing 'guests'

Not everyone is a fan of foxes in the garden but you can put them off.



FILM OFFICE

## More Reel Life

The popular blog on local filming says hello to the Hoff.

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## Mayor of London elections

With the elections around the corner for the next mayor of London, and London Assembly, people are being reminded to make sure they are registered to vote. The elections will be held on 5 May 2016 and the last day you can register to vote is 19 April. The system changed last year to mean everyone must register individually, rather than one person being able to register an entire household. For more information on the elections visit [www.london.gov.uk](http://www.london.gov.uk) or, for more details on registration, visit [www.ealing.gov.uk/elections](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/elections)



## Watch as outhouse is demolished

When outbuildings are built without permission in gardens, often then being illegally rented out as living quarters, the council has the power to order their demolition. When they are rented illegally, they are often referred to as 'beds in sheds'.

The council issues an enforcement notice first, ordering the building be taken down; but if this is not done within a specified period the council can then potentially send a team in to demolish it.

This happened recently – and it was captured on film. You can watch some of the footage on the [Ealing Council YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) and find out more.

Residents concerned about an outhouse in their area can report it online at [www.ealing.gov.uk/reportit](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/reportit) or by emailing [outhouses@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:outhouses@ealing.gov.uk)

## Golden bloom hat-trick

Our parks and open spaces have won gold for the second year running at the London in Bloom Awards. Ealing Council was given gold status for overall impact of horticulture, environmental management and community participation. Walpole Park, Ealing, was awarded gold in the large park category; and the Litten Nature Reserve, Greenford, was given gold and category winner for small conservation area. Meanwhile, Southfields Recreation Ground, Acton, won a silver gilt award in the conservation area category; and St Mary's churchyard, Ealing, won silver and category winner for churchyard of the year.



Visit [www.londoninbloom.co.uk](http://www.londoninbloom.co.uk) and [www.ealing.gov.uk/parks](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/parks)

# CSI classroom

An unusual addition to the school curriculum arrived at Mayfield Primary last month, with finger-printing, first aid and phonetic alphabets, as the long arm of the law reached into classrooms.

In September, Ealing Police's Volunteer Police Cadets started running after-school lessons each week at the school in High Lane, Hanwell. It is the first junior cadet unit dedicated to a school in the whole of the Metropolitan Police area.

Every Thursday after school for an hour, police officers take a lesson at the school. All 45 children in Year 6 are to be involved but the sessions will alternate every seven weeks with 15 pupils in each group.

All kinds of activities are used to help get across key messages like stranger danger, being a good citizen, avoiding trouble, and more. Recently, a crime scenes officer created a mini crime scene for the children. It has proved so popular that other schools are interested in getting involved.

Belinda Ewart, headteacher at Mayfield Primary, said: "The officers running the programme are fantastic and they have devised a programme that is exciting, interesting and varied. It is very popular."

## INTERESTED IN THE CADETS?

There are Volunteer Police Cadet units for young people from across the borough at Ealing Trailfinders Rugby Club and at Havelock Community Centre in Southall. These divide into junior groups for those aged 10-13 and senior groups for those aged 13-18. They are looking for new recruits. Contact [ealingcadets@met.polic.uk](mailto:ealingcadets@met.polic.uk) for more information on joining.



Read full story [here](#)



1 A scheme that provides support for adults with learning disabilities within a family home is looking for more carers. The council's **Ealing Shared Lives** brings adults with extra needs together with local families. It could be full-time care – or you can help for a set amount of time each week to give another family a break (perhaps taking them to regular organised activities). Shared Lives carers are paid and receive training and support, as well as holidays and breaks. A number of events were held in October and you can find out more at [www.ealing.gov.uk/sharedlives](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/sharedlives) or by emailing [kirazc@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:kirazc@ealing.gov.uk) or calling 020 8825 5436.

2 The mayor looked on when students from Featherstone High School enjoyed cycling at a London **2012 Olympics** venue, Lee Valley VeloPark, during its second annual Schools Festival. Mayor of Ealing, Councillor Harbhajan Kaur Dheer, went along to cheer on the Southall school's pupils.

3 Mayfield Primary School in Hanwell held a special week of events and activities to promote **healthy living and fitness** among its pupils. Not only did it look at individuals' lifestyles and how they can fit things into their day-to-day life, from food to how they travel to school; but it also involved the adults around the pupils too. A competition got whole families involved, with the winner getting a month's gym membership.

4 The council's trading standards officers helped smash a counterfeiting ring with the seizure of thousands of suspected **fake goods** and prescription-only medication. Visit [www.ealing.gov.uk/news](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/news)

# speedread



# Join us this Christmas...



## Santa's Taxi is Back

Broadway Circle, until 21<sup>st</sup> December

Grab your annual photo with Santa in-centre this December. Turn up on the day or book online – see website for details. Donations are welcome and proceeds will be donated to local charities.



## Christmas Market

Town Square, until 26<sup>th</sup> December

Our new-look Town Square is playing host to this year's Christmas Market. Shop everything from handcrafted gifts and festive decorations to a selection of tasty winter warmers.



## It's a Wrap

Broadway Circle

For those last minute buys this December, our friends from Marie Curie will be in-centre to give you a helping hand with your gift wrapping. For dates and times, visit our website.

**Extended opening hours start from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December.**

**For full details and list of stores and restaurants, visit [ealingbroadwayshopping.co.uk](http://ealingbroadwayshopping.co.uk)**



[ealingbroadwayshopping.co.uk](http://ealingbroadwayshopping.co.uk)

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# Keep COSIE

There is no reason for going cold this winter. If you are concerned about keeping your home warm, there is somewhere you can turn to for advice and support.

**E**aling Council's COSIE helpline (cold weather support in Ealing) is free to call from landlines and mobiles. Advisors have detailed knowledge of grants, support and information to keep your home snug while keeping energy bills down at the same time. Home visits by 'green doctors' are also sometimes possible.

Councillor Jasbir Anand, cabinet member for housing, employment and skills, said: "In total, almost £30,000 in savings has been made by people who contacted COSIE and were helped to switch energy supplier, at an average of £128.11 per household.

"Grants for low income households are now also available for first-time central heating installations, boiler replacements and insulation measures in the borough. Contact the COSIE helpline to see if you qualify.

"Although anyone can call COSIE, residents are more likely to be eligible for a home visit or heating and energy efficiency grants if they are either aged 65 or older, are on qualifying

benefits, have children under the age of five, or have a disability or specific long-term chronic health condition." The number is 0800 083 2265.

## STAYING HEALTHY

Staying warm over the winter can help prevent serious illnesses such as pneumonia, heart attacks, stroke and even depression. The council's public health team warns that cold and damp homes can have a significant impact on a person's health. People aged over 65 or those with disabilities or who have long-term health conditions are most vulnerable.


If you care for a person who will benefit from COSIE advice or measures to make their home warmer and cheaper to heat, you can call or make a referral on their behalf. Carers can now also benefit from the council's handyperson service (see page 30 of this magazine for more details).

## GREEN DOCTOR HOME VISITS

Some residents who call COSIE may qualify for a free home visit by a

'green doctor', who can offer tailored energy advice and support – more than 1,700 households have benefited since 2012. Energy saving measures such as draught-proofing, low energy light bulbs and reflective radiator panels may also be offered. Additional support is available for those who are struggling to pay their energy bills.

## COULD YOU GET INVOLVED?

This year COSIE is working with faith groups to train-up volunteers – could you be one? If you are interested in learning more, call 020 7922 1230. 

## MORE INFO

Call COSIE on 0800 083 2265 between Monday-Friday, from 9.30am until 5.30pm. Or fill in an online form at [www.ealing.gov.uk/forms](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/forms) – and search for COSIE under the heading 'frequently requested online forms'.





# Christmas is coming to town

Ealing Council, in association with a number of local traders' groups, community organisations and business partnerships, is delighted to announce details of exciting Christmas events for all the family to enjoy in the weeks ahead. Keep an eye on [www.ealing.gov.uk/whatson](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/whatson)



## Acton

Christmas Fair on Saturday, 12 December, 11am-4pm, at The Mount, W3 (outside St Mary's Church). Santa will be visiting and there will be lots of entertainment and activities. Acton Market is also running Christmas markets every Sunday in December.

## Ealing

Ealing Broadway Shopping Centre will be hosting a Christmas market with lovely food and gift stalls. It will run every day until 27 December – and there will be 'Santa in a taxi' every weekend until 21 December.

## Others

As usual, festival lights will stay up in Hanwell, Northolt and Southall town centres throughout the festive season. Visit [www.ealing.gov.uk/whatson](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/whatson) to keep an eye on any events.





## Greenford

Holy Cross Church will be hosting a Winter Craft Market on Saturday, 5 December 11am-4pm. There will be a big event in the town centre on Monday, 21 December, between 11-4pm. Santa is coming to Greenford and there will be festive stalls and activities for the family to enjoy.

## West Ealing

The West Ealing Christmas Fair will be taking place on Saturday, 12 December, 12noon-4pm in Melbourne Avenue (outside Sainsbury's). The popular carol singing event around the tree in The Avenue is on Thursday, 3 December, from 6pm. A special Christmas version of The Avenue's Antiques and Vintage Market is on Saturday, 12 December, 9am-5pm. The weekly Ealing Farmers' Market, held in Leeland Road on Saturdays, will be in full festive mood during December. Farmers will be taking orders for their free range poultry. 

## Christmas tree project

Ealing Police and the council's children's services have joined forces to help give vulnerable children some Christmas cheer. From 27 November, you can find out how to make a pledge to buy a gift by taking one of the tags hanging from a Christmas tree outside Christ the Saviour Church in Ealing Broadway (opposite Marks & Spencer). If you cannot get to the tree, you can drop donations at three local police stations at certain times – email [EalingXmasTree@met.police.uk](mailto:EalingXmasTree@met.police.uk) for details.





# Make your food go further this Christmas

A lavish feast is the centre piece to most people's celebrations, but did you know that the average UK family throws away more food at Christmas than at any other time? Deborah Dickey finds out more...

**T**he average UK family throws away around 10% of their Christmas dinner, according to recent research. Across the country, this adds up to the equivalent of £64million worth of wasted food.

Too much of this ends up in people's black refuse sacks, and around one third of all rubbish in west London consists of food waste alone. The council has to pay a tax based on the weight

of the waste it collects and takes to landfill – which means that some of your valuable council tax is being spent on paying for throwing away perfectly good food. Food leftovers can often be reused with a bit of imagination – and any unusable food waste should always be recycled in the food waste bin and not chucked in the general rubbish.

## **MORE IS THROWN AWAY AT CHRISTMAS**

Councillor Bassam Mahfouz, cabinet member for transport, environment and leisure, said: "A staggering, jaw-dropping, one-third of the contents of our black bags across west London is food waste. That's food that you've paid for and are then also paying to be thrown away. With a bit of planning and some imagination, we can make the most of the food we have; and if we do have food waste we should recycle it in food waste bins so it can be taken to be turned into valuable electricity. By leaving it in black bags you are wasting money



## Reduce your waste-line

- Only buy what you need – and thereby cut down on leftovers
- Freeze leftovers or use them in the next day's meals
- Use the green bin to dispose of food, including cooked food. You can order one at [www.ealing.gov.uk/reportit](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/reportit)
- Compost your vegetable peelings. You can order a discounted composter or wormery at [www.ealing.getcomposting.com](http://www.ealing.getcomposting.com)
- Download the Love Food Hate Waste app for tips and recipes.



Visit  
[www.ealing.gov.uk/  
 recycling](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling)  
 for more on food  
 waste

having it thrown in landfill and are also encouraging scavengers, vermin and pests to rip into those bags, leaving your rubbish strewn across the street.

"Because good food is a central part of most people's Christmases, we find that the amount thrown away increases even more at this time of year. This is bad for the environment and for our pockets, but there are some really simple changes that people can make."

### FOOD CAN POWER FAIRY LIGHTS

Cooked and uncooked food can be put in your food waste bin (including the communal bins for flats). This means that turkey bones, Christmas

pudding, vegetable peelings and half-eaten mince pies can all be put in there together and they will be collected by the council each week. When the council moves to alternative weekly collections and wheelie bins in the spring, the weekly food waste collection using the green bins will stay the same as it is now.

Once food waste is collected, it is sent to a special recycling plant where it is turned into fertiliser which can be used on farms to grow the food for next year's Christmas dinner – and this process also generates energy for the National Grid, which will help power the fairy lights. 🍷

## The science: why is it bad to throw food away?

When old food starts to decompose in landfill sites, it has two harmful side effects: It produces methane which is a greenhouse gas that is 20 times more potent than CO<sub>2</sub> and a liquid called leachate (bin juice) which can poison water supplies.

However, when food waste is collected in green bins and treated in the proper way it is turned into clean, renewable energy and fertiliser.

And vegetable matter that goes to compost is also good for the environment. Because it is not buried in landfill, it does not produce the same harmful gas and liquid that food waste in landfill does and, over time, it becomes a nutrient-rich, free source of compost for your plant pots and gardens.



# *Gifts that keep on giving*

Thousands of tonnes of plastic were collected for recycling by Ealing Council last year. Why not make a new year's resolution to give your plastic a second chance? Deborah Dickey reports.

**P**lastic is a useful material, but its popularity is a big problem. We use 20 times as much plastic today as we did 50 years ago, but the council's plastics recycling collection means that most of it can be collected, recycled and reused which is good for the environment, and for our pockets.

Plastic that is thrown away in black bags goes straight to landfill. This is bad news for the environment and it costs money, because the council is taxed for every tonne of rubbish that is thrown away and not recycled.

The Christmas and new year festivities are likely to create a small mountain of plastic that can be put out for recycling. The good news is that it is easy to recycle it. A wide range of plastics can be recycled through the household collection service and at Acton and Greenford re-use and recycling centres. From next spring, most household





recycling will be collected using new wheelie bins, which will make recycling even easier.

Once these plastics have been collected, they are separated into different types and sold to manufacturers who turn them into new products.

Companies use your old plastics to make a range of goods, including clothing; planter pots; window frames; toys; and garden furniture; which means that they continue to be useful long after their original lifespan is over.

### 'CHUCKING MONEY INTO LANDFILL'

Councillor Bassam Mahfouz, cabinet member for transport, environment and leisure, said: "Plastics make up more than 10% of an average household's waste, so recycling bottles, tubs and trays makes a big difference. It takes hundreds of years for plastics to decompose and when you throw them away you are literally chucking millions of pounds into landfill sites, because of the environmental taxes.

"At the moment, we want people to recycle plastics using their white sacks, but when we switch to wheelie bins in the spring, it will become even easier. People will be able to place all of their recycling, apart from food, in one wheelie bin and we will separate it for them later."



## Santa's plastic check-list

### Good (Do recycle)

- ☒ Bottles
- ☒ Cups
- ☒ Ice cream tubs
- ☒ Yoghurt pots
- ☒ Takeaway containers
- ☒ Other food containers

### Bad (Do not recycle)

- ☒ Cling film
- ☒ Polystyrene
- ☒ Hard plastic (like toys, garden furniture etc)
- ☒ Carrier bags

For a longer list and more information, visit  
[www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling)

### FEELING CRAFTY?



Check out our Pinterest page 'Recycled Christmas crafts' for ideas on how to turn your unwanted everyday items into beautiful decorations and presents:  
[www.pinterest.com/ealingcouncil/recycled-christmas-crafts](http://www.pinterest.com/ealingcouncil/recycled-christmas-crafts)



[www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/recycling)



**Volunteers Mani  
Dhanda, Martin Raven,  
Carole Connelly and  
Tim Uthmann get  
stuck-in at Southall Park**

# Yours for the picking

Mini orchards, with fruit trees and hedges, have been created by community groups with the help of the council – with many more on their way, reports Neelum Bains.

In the past, hedges and trees were used as natural larders of healthy seasonal food – apples, berries and nuts could be foraged locally and were used to supplement shop-bought groceries. These projects – in Greenford, Hanwell and now Southall – are not only bringing local people together, and making areas look more attractive, but also providing nutritional goodies for residents to eat and enjoy free of charge.

It involves sections of council-owned open spaces being taken over and given new life. Fruit-bearing trees and hedges that bear nuts and berries are planted, and the groups take responsibility for maintaining them for the community.

## FRUITS OF LOCAL LABOUR

Pioneering this approach was an orchard in Ravenor Park, Greenford, in 2011. It proved successful and many of those involved were also keen to get their hands dirty on other similar schemes in the borough.

The council's parks team began working with local volunteers on the Hanwell and Norwood Green Orchard Trail, to plant a 'fruit route' along the canal made up of fruit trees and bushes.

The project began by preparing an area along the edges of Hanwell Meadows (Trumpers Field, Jubilee Meadow and Blackberry Corner), for the trees to be planted in. The jobs included clearing wild brambles and weeds and cutting back overgrown trees.

Once the ground was ready, 40 mixed fruit trees, including a mixture of apples, pears, and a variety of stone-fruits were planted in spaces along the edges of the meadows.

The project members plan to extend this fruit



**Fruit at Ravenor Park orchard**



trail along the canal in either direction over the winter, linking the green open spaces of Hanwell and Southall.



Orchard work day with busy volunteers

## GET PLANTING IN SOUTHALL

Now, Southall Transition, a local community group that was set up recently with a view to promoting sustainability projects, has thrown its weight behind a new Southall Orchard Project, preparing the way for Southall Park to become the latest outdoor larder.

A tree planting event will be held on Saturday, 5 December and you are welcome to get involved. The group will be joined by Villiers High School children and their parents, council park rangers, volunteers from the Tree Council and local people.

The old rose garden in the park, now mostly grass and soil, will be converted into an orchard with nine fruit-bearing trees planted, surrounded by hedges that will bear berries and also nuts. If enough volunteers are available on the day, a few extra trees will also be interspersed between existing birch trees that stand

alongside the garden area. The Southall Orchard Project members are already looking at expanding and setting up similar schemes at up to four more open spaces in

the town.

Mani Dhandu got involved after taking part in the Hanwell orchard project in 2014. He said: "I got involved because I thought it was a brilliant idea to plant more trees, especially fruit trees.

They will be of manifold benefit to the community: Beautify the area, help create cleaner air and provide food. Trees are underrated and I want to encourage people to start appreciating them."

Southall resident Tim Uthmann is also volunteering and said: "What drew me to this is the community aspect – local people coming together and getting their hands dirty for the community."



## MORE INFO


■ To get involved, contact [hanwellorchard@gmail.com](mailto:hanwellorchard@gmail.com) or visit [www.southalltransition.org/projects](http://www.southalltransition.org/projects)

■ To set up a similar idea in your area visit community project and volunteering website Bubble at [www.dosomethinggood.org.uk](http://www.dosomethinggood.org.uk)



## 'WE ARE SO LUCKY LIVING IN EALING'

Carole Connelly has been involved with the orchard projects since the one in Greenford's Ravenor Park, and has also signed up as a tree warden with the council (see the box below 'Caring for our trees' for more information).

She said: "We are so lucky living in Ealing – it is so green. People just need to stop and look. I have learned so much about trees since I started, and become so much more aware of them. Seeing the saplings we planted a couple of years back looking lovely and flourishing is great. I report if I see anything wrong with any trees and I like to act as their eyes now." 

## Caring for our trees

Trees need a bit of attention from time to time, and there are tens of thousands of them in our area – in your garden, your road, or in your local park.

The council manages around 27,000 trees on residential streets, and more than 50,000 trees in parks and open spaces around the borough. We planted 1,500 new trees, the largest

number in London, as part of the Mayor of London's Street Tree scheme.

Could you be a tree warden and help look after newly planted trees in your area?

The tree warden initiative aims to equip people with skills and knowledge about trees and their local environment. Anyone interested in volunteering as a tree warden should contact Susan Wyatt at [wyatts@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:wyatts@ealing.gov.uk)



# 'Apprentices a good investment'

The Clocktower Café in Hanwell was the first to pledge to take on an apprentice as part of this year's 100-in-100 campaign. Since then, more than 100 placements have been promised...and still counting.

It is a campaign run by the council's Ealing Apprenticeship Network, and is in its third year. It is run in a bid to achieve pledges from local businesses to create 100 apprenticeships in a 100-day period between September and December – with the final day to make pledges being 9 December.

Morna McAuley, the owner of the Clocktower Café, has taken on apprentices in each of the three years of the campaign – and her latest pledge will mean she will have had five apprentices in total since opening the shop in 2013.

"It is really satisfying to genuinely help someone get their first decent experience of the workplace and add a success story to their CV so they can take



**Mikey Barnes at work  
in the kitchen of the  
Clocktower Café**

a step on the career ladder," said Morna.

"It can be a lot of effort training an apprentice but, on balance, it is a good investment for the business and, on a personal level, it makes me really proud to see them go on to do well."

## HOW IT WORKS

Ealing Apprenticeship Network supports businesses in setting up

the apprenticeships and the training programme required, while helping to match a young person to the placement.

It is still possible for businesses to sign up – and the network is also now looking for young people aged 16-23 interested in applying to fill the positions that are available. See the information box on these pages to find out how



to get in touch. As Around Ealing went to press 102 pledges had been made already.

Councillor Steve Hynes, the council's cabinet member for prosperity, skills and employment, said: "The apprenticeship programme is an increasingly popular option for young people choosing what to do when they leave school. I am grateful to all the local businesses that have joined the council again this year to help pledge apprenticeship places for young people to learn skills and on-the-job training while getting paid."

### 'I'D NOT BE WHERE I AM TODAY'

Mikey Barnes started at the Clocktower Café as an apprentice chef in 2014. After completing his year's apprenticeship and doing extremely well, he has secured a permanent position in the kitchen of a restaurant in Brentford. In fact, Mikey has been nominated for the Apprentice of the Year category in the West London Business Awards.

"If it wasn't for the Clocktower I'd not be where I am today," he said. "I had no real experience whatsoever and I've learned a lot. I've learned skills and how to cook, how to run a kitchen – and even how to handle stress and pressure. If anyone was thinking of going for an apprenticeship I'd really recommend it."

His employer at the café, Morna, added: "I'm really proud of how Mikey

has come on leaps and bounds. He cycles 12 miles to work, and is always working on his skills when he's not actually working, and comes into work in the morning with new ideas. He has become a real team player.

"It can be hard work sometimes, but adding an apprentice brings diversity to the team and gives them all the opportunity to manage and train the apprentice themselves, which is very good for their development, too. Everyone then enjoys seeing someone flourish and do well.

"I really believe small businesses have a responsibility to society, as all individuals do. You have the opportunity to make a difference to a young person's life and, therefore, have an obligation to at least consider taking it."

### AWARD WINNERS

Mikey was highly commended at this year's Ealing Apprenticeship Network annual awards. Read more at [www.ealing.gov.uk/news](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/news) 

## Watch

Find out more about how apprenticeships have worked at Clocktower Café



Look up Ealing Council channel on YouTube

### MORE INFO

- Call 020 8825 6234
- Email [apprenticeships@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:apprenticeships@ealing.gov.uk)
- Visit [www.ealing.gov.uk/apprenticeships](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/apprenticeships)
- Twitter #Ealing100in100



## What is an apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is designed for people who are starting out in a new skills area, often for young people who are starting out in the world of work. It combines a job with training and takes a minimum of a year to complete. Statistics show that for every £1 spent on an apprentice, an employer reaps £18 in return.

For all the facts, [read this article](#)





# Safety in numbers



Ealing was recently named national Transport Authority of the Year and 20mph zones are the latest part of the council's ongoing campaign to improve road safety.

**M**ore than a third of the borough is already covered by 20mph limits but it is estimated that a borough-wide 20mph zone could prevent 60 injuries per year and also stop three people from being killed or seriously injured each year.

This is in large part because it is six times less likely for a pedestrian to be seriously injured or killed if they are hit by a car travelling at 20mph rather than 30mph. The distance it takes for a car to stop at 20mph is only 12 metres (three car lengths) as opposed to 23 metres (six car lengths) at 30mph.

## PILOT AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The idea is to introduce the 20mph limit in two phases: Firstly in Acton, in summer 2016. This would be reviewed in 2017 after a year's trial, before it is decided whether to include the rest of the borough in a second phase in late 2018 and early 2019. A public consultation on the plan is has started and will run until Sunday, 13 December – visit [www.ealing.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/consultations)

## THE CASE FOR 20MPH

The number of people killed or seriously injured in accidents on the borough's roads fell from 218 in 2001



to 66 in 2011 as various other safety measures were introduced. However, the numbers have remained at roughly the same level since 2011 and the council believes new approaches to road safety, such as the 20mph limit, are needed to effect more improvements.

Councillor Bassam Mahfouz, cabinet member for transport, environment and leisure, said: "The idea of introducing a 20mph limit comes from the council's ongoing attempts to find ways to improve safety and also addresses concerns raised in the most recent residents' survey about traffic speed, which the council shares.

"As well as improving road safety it could have other implications for improving health and quality of life for residents by lowering the levels of noise and air pollution as vehicles accelerate and brake more gently and as some people become encouraged to swap their car for cycling, walking or public transport. This is in line with the findings of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence."

## CYCLING AND WALKING SCHEMES

The proposed 20mph limit is just one of a number of approaches to improving road safety being taken by the council.

New technology for lorry drivers is helping to prevent serious collisions with cyclists after the council ran a successful trial of the Cycle Safety

Shield detection system, which avoided 15 potentially serious accidents in six months. The system's intelligent cameras detect only pedestrians, cyclists and motorbikes and it eliminates blind

**"As well as improving road safety it could improve health and quality of life..."**

**COUNCILLOR BASSAM MAHFOUZ**

spots. It is now being used by the council's main contractors and is being tested by Transport for London on their buses and lorries.

The council's Biking Schools Programme has been very successful in training pupils and teachers in safe cycling skills, and school travel plans have been effective in encouraging a switch from car journeys to and from school, to cycling, walking or scootering instead.

## ROAD LAYOUTS

A number of road lay-outs have been remodelled to improve traffic flow and safety for pedestrians and motorists alike.


In Southall Broadway, a 20mph speed limit, narrower road lanes and wider pavements



have been introduced, along with four 'island' strips in the centre of the road to make it easier for people to get across safely. Early data suggests there has been a 25% reduction in accidents involving personal injury along Southall Broadway. The scheme won the Streets Award at the 2015 Chartered Institute of Highways and Transport (CIHT) Awards.

In the centre of Acton, the road surface level was raised for new pedestrian crossings and key roads such as High Street, The Mount and King Street were linked better to make it easier for people to move around on foot. Preliminary accident results in October showed a 15% decrease since the work was done.

Work is due to start this winter in Hanwell and West Ealing to make improvements there.

Visit [www.ealing.gov.uk](http://www.ealing.gov.uk) for more details. 



# BE AN EALING FOSTERING PLUS FOSTER CARER



## WHAT IS FOSTERING PLUS?

In the past, some of our more vulnerable children have been placed in residential care because we were unable to place them with local carers. Having had the right support while in residential care, some of these children are now ready to return to their local community. Fostering Plus enables us to provide these children with the right support to meet their needs and make this transition possible.

## WHY CONSIDER FOSTERING PLUS?

If you have experience working with children, particularly children who have experienced significant harm or trauma, you could be a Fostering Plus carer.

Fostering Plus foster carers receive the following support:

- The opportunity to work as part of a team around the child with the support of highly trained professionals such as social workers, teachers and psychologists.

- Extensive training and 24-hour support, seven days a week.
- A higher than average payment rate of £700 per week (additional rates are paid during the initial phase of Fostering Plus).
- The opportunity to gain a nationally recognised qualification in childcare - Level 3 Diploma for the Children & Young People's Workforce.

**We will be holding our next information sessions on the following dates:**

**7 December, 7.30-9.30pm**

**11 January, 11am-1pm**

**8 February, 7.30-9.30pm.**

**Contact us to book your place or for more information.**

Venue: Ealing Town Hall, New Broadway, Uxbridge Road, London W5 2BY.

**BE THERE. BE AN EALING FOSTER CARER.**

**Call Ealing Fostering and Adoption Connections on Freephone 0800 731 6550  
Email [fosteradopt@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:fosteradopt@ealing.gov.uk)**



"The difference you can make to a child's life is amazing."

# 'You're willing to give everything...'

Children come in to care for a range of reasons. They come from diverse backgrounds – some with more complex needs than others. Kristin Strambi reports.

To provide the best possible care for these children, Ealing Council has developed a scheme called Fostering Plus, which is specifically for the borough's most vulnerable children.

Julienne James and Phillip Doyle (pictured) were among the first foster carers to join the Fostering Plus scheme. Fostering Plus foster carers, like Julienne and Phillip, help children with complex needs stay in their local community, providing them with the extra support they need to give them the best possible start in life.

The couple were approved as Ealing foster carers in mid-2013 and since then have fostered three children with

ages ranging from 15 months to six years. Phillip used to be a youth worker and also worked in social services in the past. Their excellent support of children with high needs saw them move under the Fostering Plus scheme.

Phillip said: "Since switching to Fostering Plus we realise how diverse each child's individual needs are and there are many different professionals involved with the support of the children. It has been challenging at times but your heart goes out to the kids you care for and you're willing to give everything for them – even, in a way, more than your own children."

"A big responsibility for us as foster carers is being advocates for the children in all areas of their life – we are their eyes and ears. It has been our biggest test. But the training we have received has been excellent and the additional support for foster carers from professionals is invaluable."

Julienne said: "It is a massive responsibility to be a foster carer and

not to be done light-heartedly. You need to be patient, have a flexible approach, be playful, engaging and attuned to the behaviours and emotions that each child might present and be prepared to do your best for the child.

"But the benefits counteract this. Benefits such as embracing the great experience of having new children included in your family occasions, seeing them thrive and achieve and being able to share in and enjoy the children's' successes and challenges as they grow up in your care.

"The difference you can make to a child's life as a foster carer is amazing. It is possible to see improvements in the child even within a few weeks."

## BE THE SUPPORT

Could you be a Fostering Plus carer like Julienne and Phillip? Interested in finding out more about fostering in general? View the advert on the facing page, email [fosteradopt@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:fosteradopt@ealing.gov.uk) or call freephone 0800 731 6550. 

# GET MORE FROM YOUR LOCAL COLLEGE

College life doesn't just mean achieving a new qualification. There is so much more on offer at Ealing, Hammersmith & West London College. Gain a whole range of skills and experiences that will prepare you for the next step, whether that is progressing within education or employment.

You will be studying with students from all walks of life, with lots of different goals and a strong desire to learn in an exciting, stimulating way. Students develop skills that will help them succeed and go on to make contributions to society.

Previously students have benefitted from:

- Cooking with Michelin star chefs like Atul Kochaar and Mark Hix
- Mentoring from the BBC and the Ministry of Defence
- Coaching by Queens Park Rangers football club
- Work experience at Heathrow Terminal 5

Each of the four colleges Ealing, Acton, Hammersmith and Southall thrive on being in the heart of their communities.

Whilst the Hammersmith College site is attended by over 10,000 students, Ealing College provides a more intimate community feel. Ealing College also has a large A Level offering so there is a strong focus on academic pathways into higher education. The College is particularly proud of its many students that have successfully gained places at Russell Group Universities.

**Garry Phillips (CEO) says** 'At Ealing, Hammersmith & West London College we aim to give all students access to the power of learning. We put the learner at the centre of everything we do to give them the confidence to reach personal goals and succeed in life. The College aims to provide a friendly and supportive environment and we pride ourselves on being one of the safest colleges in London.'

Find out more about courses, meet students and staff and tour the facilities at one of their many Open Days throughout the year.  
Pre-register at [wlc.ac.uk/opendays](http://wlc.ac.uk/opendays)

## Meet Annabelle...



“Now I have been educated I feel I can climb up an invisible ladder. I did not have access to education which is a human right and I want to work on raising awareness and positively impacting others who do not have access globally. Highlighting this to those who need it most is something I feel passionately about. You can come from nothing but you can achieve everything.”

Former Ealing College A Level student and aspiring Human Rights Lawyer who is now studying Politics and International Relations at Queen Mary University of London.

## Meet Rashawn...



Hospitality student at Ealing, Hammersmith & West London College

“The college was recommended to me by people who had studied here so I knew it was going to be good. There's no typical day as such. One day you're learning about front of house, the kitchen, knife skills, and another day you could be learning about different cuts of meat or how best to use your prep time. We've also had people from the industry come in to do demos and give us advice on how to make things.

The college has also helped me to get work experience at the Royal Horseguard hotel so I can gain real life industry experience. It was a fun and challenging experience to be out in the field work with real chefs, and

see their drive, passion and professionalism in the way they set up the kitchen and ran the events.

My favourite things about the course have been learning new things, gaining new experiences and the College has great facilities for Professional cookery. I've definitely matured since I've been at the college. The teachers help you focus and push you to do more.

EHWLC is a great place to study. If you have a passion, you will receive so much support to help you get to where you want to go.



# Licence to build

The majority of our roads, pathways and pavements are owned by the council. This means they cannot be blocked or built on, even temporarily, without a licence. Deborah Dickey found out more...

**W**hen residents carry out building works and renovations, they may need to hire a skip, erect hoardings, use a crane or store materials on the pavement or road. This is allowed as long as the correct permit has been received from the council.

Councillor Bassam Mahfouz, cabinet member for transport, environment and leisure, said: "As a council, we want to be helpful, but we have to make sure that when people use space outside of their property's boundary this causes as little disruption as possible, doesn't damage our roads and pavements and isn't creating a hazard."

"As part of the application process, we check that the applicant has public liability insurance and carry out inspections to make sure that they are operating safely and haven't taken up more space than they said they would. Safety is our priority and we want to be sure that homeowners and builders are keeping to the rules."

## SKIP PERMISSIONS

Any skips stored on the public road must have the correct licence, too. They also must be equipped with lighting at night and be the correct size to meet regulations.

The council has made it easier to hire skips by bringing in a rule which says that only council-approved companies can be used if the skip is going to be stored on public land. The company is responsible for obtaining the licence from the council and for making sure that it is legal. Go to [www.ealing.gov.uk](http://www.ealing.gov.uk) and search 'skip hire' to find the list of approved companies.

Councillor Mahfouz continued: "We carry out spot inspections of buildings sites and anyone who should have a temporary structures licence and isn't displaying one is running the risk of being issued with a spot fine or being prosecuted."

"The good news is that it's also quick and easy to apply for a licence and our team is here to help with any questions that people may have."

For more information and to find out how to apply, go to [www.ealing.gov.uk](http://www.ealing.gov.uk) and search for 'temporary structures'.

## REPORT IT

If you think there is an unlicensed temporary structure in your road, go to [www.ealing.gov.uk/reportit](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/reportit)



# Getting ready to serve

The Southall Big Plan is turning up the heat on one of its key projects, reports Neelum Bains. A grand makeover of Southall Manor House will transform it into a restaurant, training centre and business hub.



**A**lmost £2million will be spent on not just restoring the historic Grade II listed house, built in 1587, but on bringing it back into full use for the community as part of a Dine in Southall project.

It will be a tasty combination of approaches that will allow students from the Southall campus of Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College to train in a real-life environment, from events management and business to trainee chefs and hospitality students. And a recognised restaurateur will be brought in as a partner to support the studying while running the restaurant as a going concern.

It is more than a restaurant and training centre, however. Side rooms will be used for lessons and workshops and partnerships will be struck with other employers in the area to help provide training opportunities. The rooms

will also be available for local entrepreneurs and small businesses to make use of – while the community will be able to hire space for functions and events; and large conferences and seminars could also be held in the building.

## STYLISH EXTENSION AND GARDEN

The manor house is the oldest building in Southall and very few Tudor buildings of its kind are still in such a good condition anywhere in the country. The existing building will be protected, but a new glass-fronted kitchen and dining area will overlook the grounds at the rear of the building, as well as a new walled garden.

There will also be two contained garden courtyards to distinguish the new building from the manor house. The innovative designs include an 'edible wall' made of fruit

**Above: Denise and the students in Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College's current training kitchen.**

**Right: Tutor Denise Charles and catering students Hannah O'Sullivan, Rashawn Fraser, Sam Bestic and Karen Beale at Southall Manor House**







trees, a picnic lawn for informal dining and a spice courtyard where herbs and spices will be grown to use in the training kitchen.

#### 'A PLACE PEOPLE WANT TO GO'

Councillor Steve Hynes, cabinet member for prosperity, skills and employment said: "Southall is internationally recognised as the place to go for an authentic taste of the Indian subcontinent. Whether you like shopping or eating Asian food, Southall has it all. This project will build on that reputation by giving local young people a purpose-built facility and the opportunity to learn skills and gain jobs in the food industry.

"This project will merge the area's history and traditions with the future by transforming the manor house into a place people want to go to enjoy great food, hold an event or get involved in community activities."

Garry Phillips, chief executive of Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College, said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for people being able to learn and earn. It is an innovative, new and exciting development that has also got a wealth of history and is in the heart of Southall."

#### WHAT IS NEXT?

The council has secured £1million for the project including £770,000 from the Mayor of London and have bid for another £900,000 with the help of the college.

Plans for the project are scheduled to be presented to the council's planning committee in early 2016 for final approval and, if given, work could start in spring. The revamped building might then open in autumn or winter 2016.

The idea is for a not-for-profit community interest company to be set up to run the site, in which the council would be the major shareholder – thus setting out its future for years to come.

#### EARLIEST CONVENIENCE

Before then, the old toilet block in front of the manor house will have been refurbished and transformed into a small shop space for a local business. It should be open in spring 2016. 



#### SOUTHALL BIG PLAN

The project is part of the council's Southall Big Plan which sets out a number of improvements to boost the town. This includes the completed redesign of The Broadway, new community facilities, and tackling crime. Visit [www.southallbigplan.com](http://www.southallbigplan.com)

# Extremely handy

"I don't like to keep good things to myself so I often tell people about the handyperson service," said Joan Edwards, one of the first residents to use the council's service. Caroline Clancy reports.

**T**he handyperson service started in 2003 and Joan, 92, has been singing its praises ever since.

It carries out simple jobs around the home such as fitting smoke alarms, changing lightbulbs and unblocking sinks. It is available to all non-working residents over 60, single parents on benefits, and disabled and vulnerable residents up to three times in a rolling year. It is also now available to carers who can also have three visits a year.

Over the years, the handyperson



service's contractors have carried out a number of jobs at Joan's house in Southall, including raising her bed to make it easier to get in and out of, fixing doors and access to the property.

The great-grandmother said: "It has been marvellous and made it easier living here. Without it, things would have been a bit more of a struggle.

"It's amazing how many little jobs crop up – but you don't want your son to travel down from Scotland to put a bolt on a door.

"All the contractors have been very good, clean, courteous, tidy and punctual."

## 'I'M A VERY HAPPY CUSTOMER'

Joan is such a champion of the service that she is a member of the council's user group which meets three times a year to give feedback and share ideas.

Every week, she also welcomes other pensioners to her home for a cup of tea and to teach them exercises that can be done in their armchairs.

"I'm a very happy customer and you can't beat word of mouth so I tell people to use the handyperson service," said Joan. "It's wonderful, especially because people can be frightened of having someone they don't know in their house





or they're worried about being conned. For my generation it's important to have someone in the house who you can trust. Safety is a real concern."

The service's contractors are vetted, carry identification and visit by appointment-only so people know when to expect them.

### 'LIVING SAFELY AND INDEPENDENTLY'

Last year the handyperson service carried out 2,500 jobs in people's homes. Typical tasks carried out included:

- Setting thermostats and timers
- Fitting grab rails, fuses, plugs
- Small areas of tiling
- Removing mould
- Putting up curtains, tracks or blinds
- Replacing toilet seats.

Councillor Hitesh Tailor, the council's cabinet member for health and adults' services, said: "The service has been invaluable for people who would find it difficult to do those little jobs around the house or who could put themselves at risk if they attempted them. We want to help people live safely and independently in their homes for as long as possible by carrying out work for them.

"A quick visit by the handyperson to nail down a bit of loose carpet or change a lightbulb means residents using the service may be less likely to have an accident in the home such as a trip or fall. One resident who had used our service thanked us because she had become too nervous to use a stepladder after a number of her friends had suffered falls."


### 'TRUSTWORTHY AND RELIABLE'

"I'm particularly pleased that carers can now use the service too," continued Councillor Tailor. "Caring for a friend or loved one can be physically and emotionally demanding without the added pressure of trying to do

these jobs around the house or having to pay someone to do them. Using our service means that you can be reassured that you will have someone experienced, trustworthy and reliable working in your home."

### SHORTENING HOSPITAL STAYS

The new 'hospital to home' service has been introduced to reduce the length of time people spend in hospital by making sure their homes are safe and

comfortable to return to. Work could include setting up a bed downstairs, installing safety alarms and making sure the heating works. 

### MORE INFO

■ To request a visit, call 020 8825 6070 and select option 1

■ Visit [www.ealing.gov.uk](http://www.ealing.gov.uk)



'We want  
to help people  
live safely and  
independently'  
COUNCILLOR HITESH  
TAILOR

Seeing potential  
Building confidence  
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Encouraging talent



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Reg. Charity No. 1118222 Company No. 03683014

**Volunteers**  
needed by families in Ealing



## A little of your time could make a BIG difference

Home-Start Ealing is a voluntary organisation that offers regular support, friendship and practical help to families with at least one child under the age of 5 years to prevent family crisis and breakdown. We are currently recruiting volunteers for our Volunteer Preparation Course

### We would like to hear from you if you are able to:

- Visit families in their own home
- Share your parenting skills
- Build up their confidence
- Encourage
- Listen
- Talk
- Enable

Full training provided and expenses paid.

### Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds welcome.

If you would like to find out more please call **0208 842 1617** or email [admin@homestartealing.org](mailto:admin@homestartealing.org) for an application form.

**HOME-START EALING – supporting families**





# Tackling low pay

Ealing Council has announced intentions to help make Ealing a Living Wage borough, reports Chelsea Keenan.

**T**he council is to consider a scheme to offer up a total of £200,000 in business rate relief to encourage local firms to pay their employees at least the London Living Wage, which is calculated according to the basic cost of living in the capital. This year it is calculated at £9.40 per hour, £2.70 above the minimum wage.

If the scheme is approved, up to £2,000 each would be available for the first 100 businesses that come forward. The council became a Living Wage employer in 2013.

Michael Hanreck is managing partner of PAG Leisurewear, the first local, private company to sign up for Living Wage accreditation. He said: "It is a clear, elegant, statement about the ethics of the business, backed by a financial decision that can't be smudged or worked round and the accrediting process is incredibly simple. Pay your staff what they need to live

a respectable life. We need our people to care, perform and be an asset to the business; the living wage is one of the fundamental steps to achieve that."

According to the London Poverty Profile, published by the Trust for London, currently more than 25% of the jobs in our borough are 'low paid', contributing to levels of in-work poverty, and child poverty.

Councillor Steve Hynes, the council's Living Wage champion, and cabinet member for prosperity, skills and employment, said: "I congratulate PAG Leisurewear in being the first private company based in Ealing to become an


accredited Living Wage employer and I hope that its commitment to ensuring staff get a fair wage will set a precedent for other local businesses to follow."

Leader of the council Julian Bell said: "By offering a business rate

discount we hope this proposed scheme will recognise and celebrate good employers in the borough and encourage others to step-up to provide a fair day's pay for their staff."

Sarah Vero, acting director of the Living Wage Foundation, said: "It's really good to see Ealing Council champion the Living Wage in such a practical way, supporting businesses in their borough that are showing leadership around tackling low-pay."

Details of the scheme will be confirmed following the council's formal budget setting process, when it will be considered by the council's cabinet and full council.

Any businesses interested in registering an interest should contact [revenues@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:revenues@ealing.gov.uk) 



# Our world of food

There is a good chance that when you sit down to tuck into your supermarket-bought, ready-made curry, it will have been prepared in the borough. Gracia Leo reports.

In fact, Ealing can be considered a food manufacturing hub in general, with products made in the borough going all over the country and exported across the world.

Some high street food chains have production kitchens in our borough and all kinds of products manufactured here can be found on the shelves in supermarkets across the country – from baklava to sushi.

And, with more than 3,000 food businesses based in different parts of the borough, a substantial amount of food is also imported into the borough every day.

Essentially, it is the council's food safety team's role to make sure foods entering and leaving the borough is safe and that labelling is accurate on what goes out and what comes in.

## AN INSPECTOR CALLS

While most manufacturers operate to very high food safety standards it is recognised that even the best supply chain can fall foul of problems. Generally, large manufacturers will get one or two visits from the council every year with sampling carried out to check for issues, such as microbiological contamination, presence of undeclared allergens, evidence of meat or fish substitution and accuracy of labels.

Most companies do everything by the

book, but occasionally enforcement action is required.

Recent inspections in the borough by council officers resulted in the seizure of illegally imported dairy products from Bahrain; and also jelly confectionary from Bangladesh which was a choking risk because of prohibited gelling agents contained in the ingredients.

Councillor Ranjit Dheer, cabinet member for safety, culture and community

services, said: "The council is committed to supporting food businesses in the borough and ensuring they are all aware of, and following, the relevant regulations. By working together it helps us to improve public safety and allows everyone to feel confident in enjoying the excellent food leaving Ealing for destinations all over the world, and likewise the food coming in."



## FINDING OUT WHAT IS IN STORE

Foods across the EU are stringently checked and inspected and routine testing over several years has uncovered issues relating to excessive pesticides or harmful toxins in certain imported fruit and vegetables. As a result, additional checks are carried out on specific products from specific countries. These consignments are tested at ports and then allowed to travel to custom-bonded warehouses to wait for the results.





Helen Statham, food safety team leader at the council, checks food in a holding warehouse in Southall



Ealing is home to a number of these warehouses, including St Mark in Southall. Where unsatisfactory results are found at port checks, such as excessive pesticides, council officers will then visit the warehouse to check the load. They work closely with staff at St Mark to ensure products with harmful contaminants are disposed of correctly.



Sunny Ali, manager of St Mark Freight Services Ltd, said: "We have food from all over the world come in here to be stored so it can be checked – from Africa, South America, Asia. But the number of consignments of food being failed by the inspectors is falling. This mainly seems to be because exporting countries are now cleaning up their act, in terms of how they use pesticide."

In 2014/15, this partnership between council officers, port health inspectors and local importers prevented more than 24 tons of unsafe imported foods from entering the food chain.

Matthew Morris, operations manager of the council's regulatory services, said: "Pesticides have an important role in the food chain but excessive levels can be dangerous. We work closely with local importers to ensure that unsafe consignments are removed and destroyed."

### FOOD LABELLING

In the UK, it is estimated that 1–2% of adults and 5–8% of children have a food allergy and every year there are around 4,500 hospital admissions and 10 deaths because of it.

New EU allergen food labelling rules were introduced in December 2014, making it easier for people to see what is in the food they are eating or putting in their shopping baskets. The council has helped one of the highest numbers of food establishments in London cope with the changes. All registered and approved food establishments in the borough were written to and inspectors carried out training sessions for business owners.



You can read more on the allergens and labelling of our foods [here](#)



In July of this year we were delighted to welcome a team of Ofsted inspectors into the school.

We had been looking forward to being inspected and the whole school community was more than ready to show how much progress we had made since the last visit in 2013. The inspection team was very thorough and we were delighted that the report confirmed what we already knew to be the case: That we have a vibrant, hard working school community which has succeeded in raising standards in all areas, with both the ambition and capacity to go further.

One of our key objectives is to secure the best possible academic outcomes for every student and we

know this is dependent on continued excellent teaching. The inspectors confirmed that our 'leaders' relentless focus on improving the quality of teaching across the school' has ensured that teaching is consistently good.

They were impressed, too, with the very good behaviour of students around the school site and described the relationships within the school community as 'very positive' and 'harmonious'. Our core values include respect, endeavour and kindness towards others, so we were especially pleased that the inspectors saw lots of evidence of these values in action during the two-day inspection.

Northolt High School has gone from

strength to strength in a short space of time and we are determined that it will continue to do so. Our GCSE and post-16 results are improving every year and this summer's results are our best ever in recent years. Being 'good' is an important step towards being judged 'outstanding' by Ofsted, which we will work hard to make sure is the case when it visits us again in three years' time.

We have exciting plans to extend our extra-curricular activities to include more visits abroad and job-shadowing opportunities. But there is more to come, because new school buildings are to be in place, at the latest, by the beginning of the academic year 2018.

The new buildings will be designed to reflect the 21st Century world we are actively preparing our students for. Our large site means that we will be able to use the existing buildings at one end of the site while the other end is rebuilt. We will be sharing architectural plans with the local community shortly so we can get a wide range of views.

Finally, I would like to thank our Chair of Governors, John Howard, who has decided to step down to move on to new opportunities. John has worked tirelessly during the last four years and played a significant role in the school's success. We wish him well in the future. His replacement will be Sue Bonney, who was born in Ealing and is equally committed to the school delivering excellence. Please contact Lauren Weeks, Clerk to the Governors, if you are interested in joining the Governing Body of Northolt High School and are keen on making a positive difference.

#### Gloria Lowe

Headteacher  
Northolt High School  
Eastcote Lane, UB5 4HP  
[www.northolthigh.org.uk](http://www.northolthigh.org.uk)



# Making room to grow

As the population of the borough grows, so does demand for high school places. Caroline Clancy reports on how the council is working to expand existing schools and support the opening of new ones.

**T**his process of increasing capacity to cater for more pupils started in 2008 for our primary school age children.

Since then, an extra 28 permanent forms of entry have been created in our primary schools, which are the equivalent of 5,880 potential new places in the classroom – places which are steadily being taken by additional children as the year groups fill up.

Of course, the problem does not end there because this rise in the number of

younger pupils will eventually impact on our high schools as those children grow older. In fact, the council is expecting to need an extra 23 forms of entry in our high schools by 2021 (3,500 places when those year groups are full).

## SO, HOW DO WE TACKLE THIS?

Some expansion has already taken place, including the opening of William Perkin High in Greenford in 2013 and Dormers Wells High School in Southall being rebuilt and expanded.

Two additional year seven classes will be created at both Brentside and Elthorne Park high schools in Hanwell in time for September 2016 to help meet early demand in that area and plans are in place to find ways to make room for other extra school places elsewhere.


Councillor Binda Rai, cabinet member for children and young people, said: "I believe every child deserves the best start in life and that means providing them with a place at a good, local school. I am proud of the work that has been done in recent years to create extra primary

school places for our children and, as they grow up and make the transition to high school, we want to ensure that those schools have the best facilities.

"Like many parts of London, we are seeing a growing demand for high school places. Our work to create more high school places is achieving results. Since 2012 we have created 1,200 high school places and we have done so through careful planning and investment as well as working closely with governing bodies to expand existing schools.

"The biggest challenge now is finding suitable sites for new schools in areas where demand is high. We carried out a search of the borough and recently presented a shortlist of six potential sites for high schools to the government's Planning Inspectorate. We now await its decision, which could see those sites protected in the future for educational use.

"It is important we take action now to plan for the future and ensure we have sufficient places."

Visit [www.ealing.gov.uk/education](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/education) for more information. 

# Rising to top of the

The borough's schools have been improving year-on-year and Deborah Dickey found out how more students than ever before – more than nine out of every 10 – now go to a good or outstanding school.

**A**n impressive 95% of Ealing pupils now go to a primary or secondary school judged to be good or outstanding by Ofsted (the government's school inspection body). As Around Ealing went to press, this put Ealing as the fourth highest in the country – out of 163 authorities in England – in terms of the percentage of schools rated good or outstanding.

Every secondary school in the borough was graded good or outstanding. A handful of primary schools fell just

short of this standard but are on-track to be judged good, or better, by the next inspection.

Councillor Binda Rai, cabinet member for children and young people, said: "I am immensely proud of the high quality teaching and learning that goes on in our schools. Naturally, local families want the best start for their children and our schools are delivering on this.

"Ofsted inspections are tougher than they were previously, making it harder than before to achieve a good or





# table

outstanding grade, but our schools continue to stay focused on what is important to them, and that is their pupils and our children."

"Our support teams work closely with schools and governing bodies and this collaborative relationship is paying dividends. None of us are complacent and both the council and schools will continue to work together to provide the best possible education for our children."

## SPECIAL SCHOOLS SUCCESS

Another success story is the performance of Ealing's six special schools. These schools are dedicated to meeting the needs of students with a range of special educational needs and disabilities and all are rated as being good or outstanding by Ofsted.

Councillor Rai is proud of this record. She said: "Our special schools are providing an excellent education for their students. Our teachers have high expectations of their pupils and work hard to help them to work to realise their strengths to help them achieve. This is reflected in their Ofsted reports which highlight what a wonderful job the teachers and parents are doing in working together to educate and support our children."

## NEW AND IMPROVING

New schools are also doing well. William Perkin CE High School, Greenford, had its first intake of students in 2013. It had its first Ofsted inspection earlier this year and was



judged to be outstanding. And, Holy Family Primary in Acton also received an outstanding Ofsted report when it was inspected for the first time this year.


## ABOVE THE NATIONAL AVERAGE

Results are also improving with increases in the number of primary children achieving the expected level in reading, writing and maths at the end of primary school. Ealing's results are above the national average and are especially good when it comes to disadvantaged pupils.

Nationally, 66% of pupils who qualify for free school meals reached the expected standard at the end of primary school. However, in Ealing, 75% of pupils finished primary school where they were supposed to be – which is 9% higher, and among the very best in the whole country.

In high schools, meanwhile, nearly half of disadvantaged students achieve five GCSEs at A\*-C grades, including maths English, 9% higher than the national average and again among the very best in the whole country.

Councillor Rai continued: "My heartfelt

thanks go out to all our teaching and non-teaching staff, who work so hard to provide our children with the very best educational experience. It continues to produce excellent outcomes yet, at the same time, nurtures confidence in our children and young people to discover their natural talent and ability, irrespective of their advantages or disadvantages. I would also like to thank parents for their support in strengthening the relationship between home and school, which is vital for this success." 

## MORE INFO

To read the latest reports from Ofsted, go to [www.ofsted.gov.uk/reports](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/reports) and search for the individual school. There is usually a few months' delay between a school inspection and its report being published. To view the latest school results, go to [www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance](http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance).





# Time to apply for primary school

If your child was born between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2012 he or she will be due to start primary school in September 2016.

Applications are being received – and will be accepted until the cut-off point of 15 January 2016.

Under the London-wide primary school admissions scheme, parents living in the borough will submit a single application to Ealing Council, listing their preferences, even if they are applying for a place at a school outside the borough.

The system helps prevent delays because it means parents will get only one offer of a place and everyone will receive them on the same day.

## WHAT TO DO

All parents and carers living in the borough need to list up to six different schools that they want to apply for, including any that are located outside the borough (but not private schools).



Your choices have to be ranked in order of preference, from one to six. This is important because only one offer can be made to you and this would be from the highest ranked school at which your child qualifies for a place. People living in other boroughs need to apply to their own local authority.

The **closing date** for applications is 15 January 2016. After that date applications will be considered as being late and parents may not be able to be offered any of their preferred schools.



**HOW TO DO IT**

Apply online at:  
[www.eadmissions.org.uk](http://www.eadmissions.org.uk)

**SUPPLEMENTARY FORMS****Faith schools**

If you want to apply for a place at a faith school you will also need to fill in the school's own 'supplementary information form'.

The supplementary information forms are available from the schools concerned or on the council's website at [www.ealing.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/admissions) and will be used to assess denominational commitment. The supplementary form must be returned to the school before the closing date.

Please note: If you do not complete both Ealing's common application form and the school's supplementary information form then your application will not be regarded as valid. If you require further information please contact the school(s) concerned.



for a place  
 at a school in  
 another borough,  
 it is important that you

read the primary prospectus  
 for that borough to ensure that you  
 understand the admission criteria for  
 the schools that you are interested in  
 applying to.

on the pan-London offer day on 18  
 April 2016, an offer will be made to all  
 applicants, as far as practically possible.

If a school is over-subscribed, its  
 published admission criteria will be  
 used to decide the order in which  
 applicants are offered places.

To make sure nobody is offered  
 more than one school place, the  
 pan-London admissions system will  
 co-ordinate all of the offers made to  
 parents who have applied for places at  
 schools in other areas. <sup>Be</sup>

**Applying to schools  
 outside the borough**

If you live in Ealing but are applying

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

After the deadline on 15 January 2016,  
 the applications will be processed. Then,

**MORE INFO**

■ Individual advice  
 sessions will be held at  
 Perceval House, Room  
 M023, on 9, 10 and  
 11 December. Book a slot by  
 emailing [mainroundadmissions@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:mainroundadmissions@ealing.gov.uk) or calling  
 020 8825 5511

■ Read the prospectus online at  
[www.ealing.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/admissions)



# EALING

## WEDDING FAIR 2016

SATURDAY 6 FEBRUARY - 11AM - 5PM

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LONDON W5 2BY

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# PUBLIC NOTICE



#### INITIAL DEMOLITION NOTICE

**This notice is given by the council of the London Borough of Ealing of Town Hall, New Broadway, Ealing W5 2BY ('the council') RE: The intention of Ealing Council to demolish properties at South Acton Estate, Acton, W3. The council is required by Schedule 5A of the Housing Act 1985, to publish the following information:**

1. The council intends to demolish a number of properties in South Acton Estate being 1 to 77 Anstey Court, 1 to 22 Arundel House, 1 to 75 Beaumaris Tower, 18 to 56 Bennett Court, 347 to 371 Bollo Lane, 15a to 91 Buchan House, 1 to 77 Corfe Tower, 222 to 252 Doyle House, 2 to 83 Enfield Road, 1 to 16 Glamis

Court, 1 to 76 Harlech Tower, 34 to 220 Jerome Tower, 1 to 16 Pevensey Court, 373 to 419 Webb Court ('the relevant premises')

2. The demolition of the relevant premises is necessary for the regeneration of South Acton Estate.

3. The council intends to demolish the relevant premises by 24 July 2022, however the intention is to demolish as soon as possible after the block becomes vacant.

4. The council will be serving initial demolition notices upon the tenants of the flats. These notices will remain in force until 24 July 2022 unless extended, revoked or otherwise terminated under or by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 5A of the Housing Act 1985.

5. Whilst this notice is in force the council will not be under an

obligation to grant a lease as is mentioned in section 138(1) of the Housing Act 1985 in respect of any claim to exercise the right to buy in respect of any of the flats within the relevant premises.

6. However, right-to-buy claims submitted to the council for any of the properties within the relevant premises whilst this notice is still in force will be processed by the council as normal, so that if the demolition plans cannot be implemented the application can be completed. This notice does not prevent a council tenant submitting a right-to-buy claim.

7. There may be a right to compensation under section 138C of the Housing Act 1985 in respect of certain expenditure incurred in relation to any existing right-to-buy claim.

8. Any claim for compensation under the previous paragraph of this notice should be served upon the council within the period of three months beginning from the operative date of this notice.

9. If the council serves a final demolition notice in respect of the relevant premises and a right-to-buy application is suspended because of the service of this notice, that application will lapse and no further application can be made whilst the final demolition notice is in effect.

10. The operative date of this notice is 24 July 2015, which is the date the notice was served on the secure tenants at the relevant premises.

**24 July 2015**

**Pat Hayes, executive director of regeneration and housing, on behalf of Ealing Council**





# Cooked-up stories

**One in five of all insurance claims in the UK are a complete turkey – shamelessly fake and fraudulent. Why should you, and Ealing Council, pick up the bill for these scams this Christmas?**

**T**he council sometimes finds itself on the end of such claims: Either completely fabricated, or exaggerated, by people looking to make some money. And, even if an insurance claim is turned down, your council tax is still helping to pay for a case to be investigated and defended in court. A recent case cost the council £100,000 to disprove a bogus claim about a faked fall.

Councillor Yvonne Johnson, cabinet member for finance, performance and customer services, said: "Every year,

this fraud results in millions of pounds being wasted across the country. These criminal attempts to steal from the public purse are not victimless crimes because you, the taxpayer, are always left to pick up the bill – and, consequently, funding for our local services suffers.

"Every pound we save by preventing this type of fraud could be spent on local services instead. In these tough economic times, it is especially important."

## HELP US STOP THEM

By calling FraudLine, you can help us stop these crimes against our community. If you think you have some information about a fraudulent insurance claim you can call 0800 328 9270 – a special 24-hour hotline. It is free and confidential, and is manned by people with the expertise to help.

The council, and FraudLine, has the support of the government-funded Insurance Fraud Enforcement Department, led by City of London Police.

## TYPES OF FRAUD

There are common types of insurance fraud. These include making exaggerated claims by pretending an accident was far worse than it really was; untrue personal injury claims that describe a false set of circumstances, time or place of an accident; completely bogus claims that use invented symptoms or an incident that never occurred; and multiple claims where the fraudster knowingly makes claims for the same injury in a number of different local authority areas.

## FRAUDLINE

Call the 24-hour freephone hotline

**0800 328 9270**

# ALEC REED ACADEMY

– FROM  
NURSERY TO  
POST-16 AND  
BEYOND...



[www.alecreedacademy.co.uk](http://www.alecreedacademy.co.uk)

## A 'Good school' where 'High expectations are the norm' (Ofsted April 2015)

- All-through education from Nursery to Post 16
- 'Excellent relationships between teachers and students' (Ofsted April 2015)
- State of the art facilities with indoor and outdoor sports centres (also available for community hire)
- Awarded the 2014 National Collins PiXL Award for Outstanding Progress for excellent examination results.

**T: 020 8841 4511      Bengarth Road, Northolt UB5 5LQ**

# EAL COURSE GUIDE

DAYTIME & EVENING ADULT LEARNING COURSES

## Enrol Online. Pay Online.

[www.ealing.gov.uk/adultlearning](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/adultlearning)

Concessionary fees may be available.

### Courses for 2015/16

- Philosophy For Everyone
- Bike Maintenance
- Business & Enterprise - An Introductory Toolkit
- Book Keeping (manual)
- Spray Tanning
- Sign Language Progression
- Singing Beginners
- Salsa - Absolute Beginners

*We continue to deliver courses in: Languages, Computing, Music and Dance and many more!*



# Places to live

"It's not just about bricks and mortar. We're creating desirable places to live"  
COUNCILLOR JASBIR ANAND

More than 100 new affordable homes are to be built by Ealing Council, while more housing estates have been earmarked for revamps, Andy Mahady reports.

**T**he new homes will be built on council-owned sites in Northolt, Greenford and Perivale, and will include

homes for affordable rent and low-cost home ownership:

- Buckingham Road Estate, Perivale – up to 50 homes
- Doncaster Drive, Northolt – up to 20 units
- West End Gardens, Northolt – up to 20 units
- Hotspur Road, Northolt – up to 10 units
- Mansell Road, Greenford – two units (and refurbish former caretaker's house).

These homes will add to the more than 300 council new-builds that have already either been completed, or approved, by the council since 2011.

Councillor Jasbir Anand, Ealing Council's cabinet member for housing, employment and skills, said: "We are constantly on the lookout for

opportunities to help alleviate the housing shortage. Our innovative approach is increasing the availability of affordable housing in Ealing and delivering the homes we know are so desperately needed."

## GREAT ESTATES

Meanwhile, the council's ongoing programme of redeveloping and improving its housing estates will continue with the High Lane estate in Hanwell. The council's cabinet has agreed to set up a new resident selection group to help the council decide on a development partner to work on the scheme. Work is likely to start in 2017, with plans for 302 new homes to replace the existing estate, with the same amount of affordable housing as exists now, along with homes to replace those bought under the right-to-buy and

further homes for market sale and rent.

Councillor Anand, added: "Our new-build and regeneration projects are not just about bricks and mortar. We're creating desirable places to live, with vibrant, mixed communities that are better connected to surrounding areas and contributing to an improved quality of life across the borough."

A further eight of the borough's estates have been recommended for investigation with a view to delivering significant social and community improvements: Cowgate Road, UB6; Gurnell Grove, W13; Medlar Farm, UB5; Steyne Road, W3; Trinity Way, W3; Vale Estate, W3; Wales Farm Road, NW10; and Yeading Lane II, UB4.

Although no firm decisions have yet been made, the possibility of building additional new homes by making better use of available land will be considered on some sites. Full resident consultation will take place before any changes are agreed.

Visit [www.ealing.gov.uk/housing](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/housing) 





**Councillor Julian Bell**  
Leader, and regeneration



**Councillor Ranjit Dheer**  
Deputy leader, and safety, culture and community services



**Councillor Yoel Gordon**  
Chief whip



**Councillor Hitesh Tailor**  
Health and adults' services



**Councillor Binda Rai**  
Children and young people



**Councillor Jasbir Anand**  
Housing



**Councillor Bassam Mahfouz**  
Transport, environment and leisure



**Councillor Yvonne Johnson**  
Finance, performance and customer services



**Councillor Steve Hynes**  
Prosperity, skills and employment

## The Mayoralty



**Mayor of Ealing**  
Councillor Harbhajan Kaur Dheer



**Deputy mayor**  
Councillor Patricia Walker





**Key:**

■ Acton ■ Ealing ■ Greenford ■ Hanwell ■ Northolt ■ Perivale ■ Southall

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WEST END



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**Acton**

- **Acton Central:** 17 Feb, 7pm at St Mary's Church Hall, The Mount
- **East Acton:** 14 Mar, 7.30pm at East Acton Primary School, East Acton Lane
- **South Acton:** 2 Mar, 7pm at Centre for Armenian Information and Advice, Mill Hill Road
- **Southfield:** 9 Mar, 7.30pm at Southfield Primary School, Southfield Road

**Ealing**

- **Cleveland:** 1 Mar, 7pm at St Barnabus Church, Pitsanger Lane
- **Ealing Broadway:** 9 Feb, 7.30pm at Council Chambers, Ealing Town Hall, Uxbridge Road
- **Ealing Common:** 1 Mar, 7.45pm at Boddington Gardens Sports Ground Pavilion, Boddington Gardens
- **Hanger Hill:** 3 Mar, 7.30pm at West Twyford Primary School, Twyford Abbey Road
- **Northfield:** 21 Jan, 7.30pm at Northfields Community Centre, Northcroft Road
- **Walpole:** 8 Feb, 7pm at Ealing, Hammersmith & West London College, The Green

**Hanwell**

- **Elthorne:** 3 Mar, 7pm at Green Man Lane Community Centre, Tewkesbury Road
- **Hobayne:** 3 Mar, 7.30pm at St Mary's Church Hall, Greenford Avenue

**Greenford**

- **Greenford Broadway:** 24 Feb, 7pm at Greenford Hall, Main Hall, Ruislip Road
- **Greenford Green:** 8 Feb, 7pm at Bridge Hotel, Western Avenue
- **North Greenford:** 3 Mar, 7pm at Horsenden Primary School, Horsenden Lane North

**Northolt**

- **Northolt Mandeville:** 25 Feb, 7pm at Islip Manor Community Centre, Arnold Road
- **Northolt West End:** 2 Mar, 7pm at Viking Primary School, Radcliffe Way

**Perivale**

- **Perivale:** 11 Feb, 7pm at St Mary's Church Perivale Lane

**Southall**

- **Dormers Wells:** 8 Feb, 7pm at Dormers Wells High School, Dormers Wells Lane
- **Lady Margaret:** 9 Mar, 7pm at Lady Margaret Primary School, Lady Margaret Road
- **Norwood Green:** 17 Mar, 7pm at Havelock Primary School, Havelock Road
- **Southall Broadway:** 29 Feb, 7pm at Ealing, Hammersmith & West London College, Beaconsfield Road
- **Southall Green:** 23 Mar, 7pm at The Dominion Centre, The Green



For full details, visit

[www.ealing.gov.uk/wardforums](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/wardforums)



# Knitting us together

When Acton resident Sara Nathan saw there was a need for hats, gloves and scarves for children of asylum-seeking families during the winter periods she turned to Bubble for help.


She used the community website to request donations of wool and for helpers to offer their knitting skills to create knitwear that could be distributed as part of the London charity she helps support.

Sara said: "I can't knit but my husband's 94-year-old, housebound auntie Essie can. So I supply the wool, which is mostly donated, and she knits. But we have lots of babies and children now attending the monthly asylum-seekers' drop-in centre and really

we need more wool and more knitters.

I'm really grateful to Greenford Women's Institute, which has provided lots of scarves and hats already through Bubble."

Bubble ([www.dosomethinggood.org.uk](http://www.dosomethinggood.org.uk)) was set up by the council to help connect people: Anyone looking to get involved with something already happening, anyone hoping to start something new, anyone with some spare time to help someone in need, or anyone looking for some help themselves.

More than 110 volunteering opportunities and initiatives were being promoted on the Bubble website at the time Around Ealing went to press, ranging from recruiting school governors to setting-up art exhibitions; and even a request for help in cooking surplus fruit collected from public land, back gardens and allotments. 

**FIND OUT MORE**

- [www.dosomethinggood.org.uk](http://www.dosomethinggood.org.uk)
- [www.twitter.com/ealingbubble](https://twitter.com/ealingbubble)
- [www.facebook.com/ealingbubble](https://www.facebook.com/ealingbubble)



# Soane's Ealing legacy

Pitzhanger Manor has been closed as part of a large project to restore it to its former Regency-era glories – inspired by its most famous past owner, Sir John Soane. Its former grounds, Walpole Park, were reopened by the council last year after a similar makeover.

**T**he association of Soane and Pitzhanger Manor is well known, and it is common knowledge he bought the house in 1800. But it is less well-known that he had become aware of the house many years previously.

This was because, when the bricklayer's son was a lad of just 15 years old, he had worked in the offices of an architect called George Dance when Dance was employed to extend the original mansion house in 1768.

And so, when Soane bought it for himself in 1801 as a man in his late 40s,



Pitzhanger Manor House

he was buying somewhere he had already worked on. Between 1801 and 1803 he demolished the original building but kept the wing Dance and he had worked on years before (this is the southern portion of the house).

By then Soane was a renowned architect and surveyor himself with a distinguished portfolio of work, including with the Bank of England and Royal Hospital Chelsea.

## A SECOND HOME

The house in Ealing was not bought as a family residence, however. Rather, Soane and



Sir John Soane





his family lived in Lincoln's Inn Fields. His house there, which he also designed, can still be visited because he established it as a museum by act of Parliament in 1833, requiring that the building's stylised interiors be kept as they were at the time of his death (which came just four years later in 1837).

A second house in the 'countryside', as Ealing was then, to entertain guests outside the city of London would confirm his position in society and provide space for his ever-expanding collection of art and artefacts. In fact, he first bought a plot of land in Acton in 1800 for this purpose but sold it when Pitzhanger Manor came up for sale a year later.

One of Pitzhanger Manor's other purposes was to serve as a place of architectural education for his two surviving sons, who he hoped would follow in his footsteps as an architect. John junior had been born in 1786 and George three years later. However, by 1810 it was clear that John junior would not make an adequate architect and George was uninterested. Combined with the added factor of his wife's declining health, Soane decided to sell the house.

#### **BUILDING A SELF-PORTRAIT**


But by then he had carried out extensive work on both the house and the grounds (now known as Walpole Park) and left it transformed.

It was meant to be a kind of self-portrait. He wanted it to preserve various fragments of antique sculpture by including them in what he thought of as being an Italian villa. In the late 18th Century Soane had been on a Grand Tour in Italy and greatly admired what he had seen. So, in the grounds of the house he had built a number of imitation Roman ruins, recalling what he had seen. These no longer exist.

Inside the house, now Grade I listed, there is much that survives of his vision. The decorations in the breakfast room drew their inspiration from wall paintings from a Roman house that Soane had seen. The entrance façade is meant to resemble a triumphal arch, again something he would have seen in Italy.

Another legacy was its name, which Soane spelled with a 'z' in Pitzhanger. Previously it had variously been Pits Hanger, Pitts Hanger or Pitshanger.

You can read about the current restoration project, led by the council and the Pitzhanger Manor Trust, online at [www.pitzhanger.org.uk](http://www.pitzhanger.org.uk)

Find out more about Soane on the official website [www.soane.org](http://www.soane.org) 

#### **HISTORY QUIZ: WIN BOOK**

How much do you know about our area? Dr Oates has set 20 questions on local history. See how many you can answer for fun – or get serious and enter a competition to win a copy of Dr Oates's book *Foul Deeds and Suspicious Deaths* in Ealing.

Have a go at the quiz [here](#)

#### **HOCKEY HERITAGE**

Very few of the girls and boys who play for the recently reformed Ealing Hockey Club have any idea of its history or the achievements of its past players and teams. But the club has a rich heritage, writes Clare Cogswell, the club's secretary and a former player.

The club was reformed three years ago with the support of Ealing Council's Active Ealing service after various mergers had seen the old club fade out of existence by 2000 after almost 120 years of action.

It all started in October 1884 when, through the Middlesex County Times, Edward H Nash appealed to local gentlemen to join him in setting up a club in Ealing.

Read the full story [here](#)





Public Health  
England

**NHS**

Ealing

Clinical Commissioning Group

# Feeling under the weather this winter?

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Winter can make existing health problems worse. So if you feel like you're coming down with something, even if it's just a cough or a cold, don't wait until it gets worse. Act quickly.

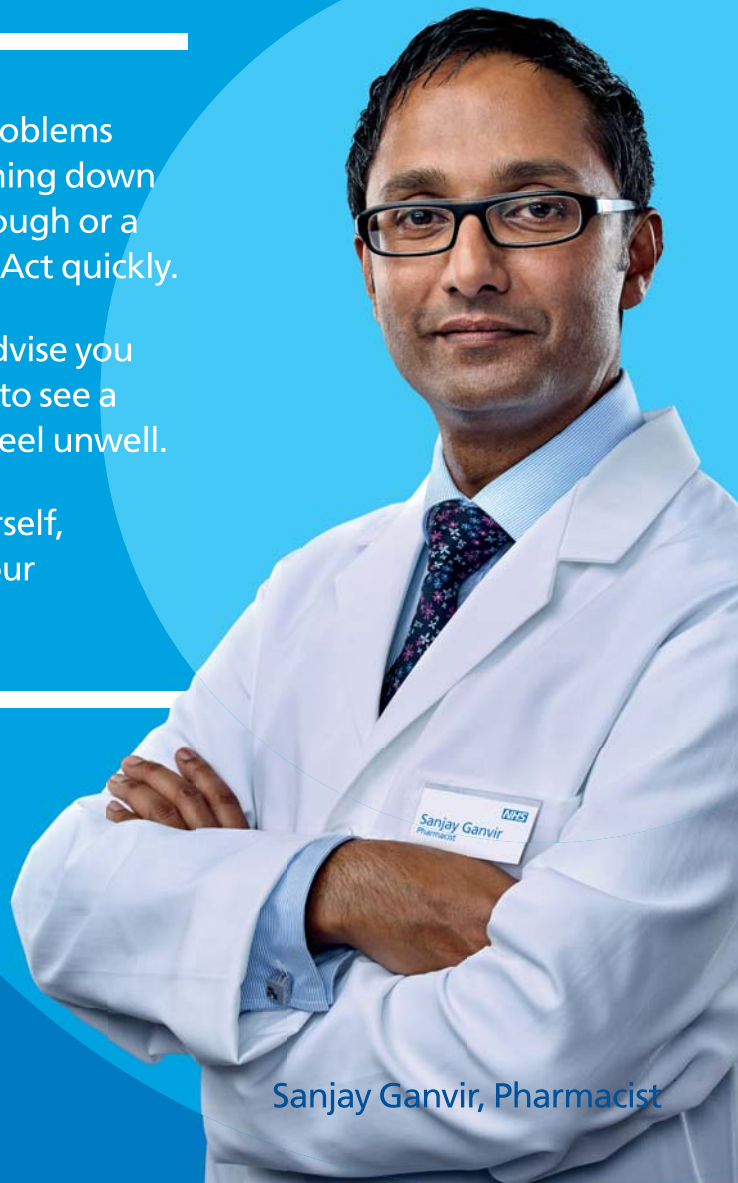
Pharmacists are fully qualified to advise you on the best course of action. So go to see a pharmacist as soon as you start to feel unwell.

If you can't get to a pharmacist yourself, ask someone to go for you or call your local pharmacy.

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**STAYWELL  
THISWINTER**

[www.staywellnwl.nhs.uk](http://www.staywellnwl.nhs.uk)



Sanjay Ganvir, Pharmacist



# WHAT'S ON

## PM Gallery & House

Walpole Park, Mattock Lane,  
Ealing W5 5EQ

The house and gallery are closed to the public for restoration until Spring 2018 however Pitzhanger will continue to hold a range of heritage and arts activities, workshops and classes at the new Rickyard venue in Walpole Park, and in spaces across the borough.

For information contact: 020 8567 1227 or visit [www.pitzhanger.org.uk](http://www.pitzhanger.org.uk)



## Libraries in Ealing

There are 13 public libraries in the borough where you can borrow items from books to DVDs and CDs. Free internet access is available in all libraries to members and non-members. Libraries are free to use. Events are also free unless otherwise specified.

For information contact your local library or email [reading@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:reading@ealing.gov.uk) or visit [www.ealing.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/libraries)

## Library events

**Christmas Card Craft**  
5, 12 & 19 December, 2–3pm at Wood End Library,  
Whitton Avenue West, Greenford, UB6 0EE  
Come and make festive Christmas cards. FREE

**Christmas Crafts**  
Various activities. Contact the specific library for more details.

Acton Town Hall Library – 5 December, 2–3pm  
Northolt Leisure Library – 5 & 12 December, 10am–12noon  
Dominion Centre Library – 5, 12 & 19 December, 2–3pm  
Ealing Central Library – 12 December, 2–3pm  
Perivale Library – 12 December, 2–3pm  
Jubilee Gardens Library – 12 & 19 December, 2.30–3.30pm  
Hanwell Library – 17 December, 11am–12noon  
Northolt Library – 17 & 19 December, 11am–12noon  
Northfields Library – 18 December, 11am–12noon  
Greenford Library – 19 December, 11am–12noon

### Making Suburban Faith: Changing Places of Worship in Ealing

**Tuesday 8 December at Ealing Central Library**

A talk by Dr Nazneen Ahmed and Dr Claire Dwyer, two UCL academics about how faith communities come together and how they operate.

## Local history talks

### • 12 January 2016: Agatha Christie and Ealing

On the 40th anniversary of the death of the best selling author, this talk looks at her links with Ealing, where she often stayed with her great aunt, the inspiration for Miss Marple, and references to Ealing in her stories.

### • 9 February 2016: The Ancient Rectories and Vicarages of Ealing Talk

This talk looks at some of the more prominent buildings in the borough, often dating back to the Middle Ages and how they were rebuilt and how they declined in the 20th Century.

### • 29 March 2016: Underground Ealing

What lies beneath the surface of the borough now and in the past? Talk deals with air raid shelters, post war civil defence structures, an underground toilet, an ice house, underground streams and also the tunnels of local fantasy. All in the Green Room at Ealing Central Library at 6.15pm.

Contact the local history centre on 020 3700 1055 or email [ealing.localhistory@carillionservices.co.uk](mailto:ealing.localhistory@carillionservices.co.uk)

## Other

**Fostering and adoption information sessions**  
7 December (7.30–9.30pm); 11 January (11am–1pm);  
and 8 February (7.30–9.30pm) at Nelson Room,  
Ealing Town Hall, New Broadway, Ealing, W5 2BY

Come along to one of these information sessions to find out more about fostering and adoption through Ealing Council. Contact freephone 0800 731 6550 or email [fosteradopt@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:fosteradopt@ealing.gov.uk)

## Gunnersbury Park Museum

Gunnersbury Park Museum is currently closed for restoration until January 2017 however there are still lots of activities to attend. For information contact 020 8992 2247/1612 or visit [www.visitgunnersbury.org](http://www.visitgunnersbury.org)

### Music in the Small Mansion: West London Folk Band Christmas Concert

**Sunday 20 December, 12noon–1.30pm (including interval) in The Terrace Room of the Small Mansion (next to Gunnersbury Park Museum), Gunnersbury Park, W3 8LQ**

Join us for a free Christmas concert by this lively community folk band! Whether you want to bring your dancing shoes and join in with reels and jigs, or just sit and listen to the wonderful folk music – everyone is welcome! Tea/coffee and mince pies will be served during the interval. Doors open at 11.50am. Admission free but advance booking essential.

Visit: [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/west-london-folk-band-christmas-concert-tickets-17878387739](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/west-london-folk-band-christmas-concert-tickets-17878387739)

For general information: [gunnersburylearning@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:gunnersburylearning@ealing.gov.uk) or call us on 07803 454813.

## Council meetings

### DEC

**Wed 2** Scrutiny review panel 3 (co-operative enterprises)

**Tue 8** Full council

**Wed 9** Planning committee

**Tue 15** Cabinet

**Wed 16** Scrutiny review panel 4 (child sexual exploitation)

**Thur 17** Overview and scrutiny committee

### JAN

**Tue 12** Regulatory committee

**Wed 13** Planning committee

**Thur 14** Overview and scrutiny committee

**Wed 19** Cabinet

**Thur 20** Audit committee

**Thur 21** Scrutiny review panel 1 (Ealing 360 degrees)

**Wed 27** Health and adult social services scrutiny panel. Licensing committee. Standards committee

**Thur 28** Scrutiny review panel 2 (community centres)

### FEB

**Wed 3** Planning committee

**Thur 4** Scrutiny review panel 3 (co-operative Enterprises)

**Thur 11** Overview and scrutiny committee

**Fri 12** Overview and scrutiny committee

**Tue 16** Cabinet

**Thur 18** Scrutiny review panel 4 (child sexual exploitation)

**Tue 23** Full council

**Wed 24** Planning committee

Meetings due to be held at Ealing Town Hall at 7pm. Correct at time of publishing. Visit [www.ealing.gov.uk/committees](http://www.ealing.gov.uk/committees) to check dates and times.

# Ealing Animal Welfare

# BAZAAR

## Hanwell Methodist Church

Church Road, London, W7 1DJ

**Saturday 5th March 2016**

**10:30am - 4:00pm**

A wide range of participating societies

admission  
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38th year

[www.animalwelfarebazaar.info](http://www.animalwelfarebazaar.info)

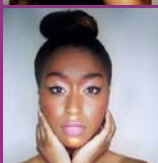
## Hair competition

**House of Hair UK** in The Grove, Ealing, is offering Around Ealing readers the chance to win one of four vouchers each worth £100 off a full-head application of hair extensions.

To be in with a chance, answer the following question correctly and email [aroundealing@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:aroundealing@ealing.gov.uk) by 4pm on Monday, 21 December 2015: How much does the average woman spend on hair per month, according to research?

a) £110    b) £40    c) £300

Use the email subject line: Hair voucher competition. Include your postal address in the email. For more information, visit [www.houseofhairuk.com](http://www.houseofhairuk.com)



### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The winner will be drawn at random from among those who have supplied correct answers. Only the winner will be notified. Voucher cannot be used in connection with other promotions or with other vouchers. The voucher can only be redeemed when you have a full head application of micro rings or fusion bond hair extensions 18-22inch long, 150 strands remi human hair. Expiry date for the voucher is 14 February 2016. Around Ealing and Ealing Council do not accept any responsibility for goods or services offered by advertisers or businesses offering competitions.

  
**HOUSE OF HAIR UK**  
THE HOME OF HAIR Extensions

FROM BLUE

# LEE RYAN

as Jack

# NEIL BROMLEY

as Dame Trot

# KERRIS PEELING

as Fairy Nuff



# Jack and the Beanstalk

The Giant Pantomime Spectacular!

**Fri 11 Dec - Sat 2 Jan**

**HAYES  
BECK THEATRE**  
[becktheatre.org.uk](http://becktheatre.org.uk)

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**7:30-9.30pm**

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<sup>†</sup> Based on weekly statistics provided by Siteimprove

# Christmas and new year collections



**Your usual collection day for recycling and refuse will change over the Christmas and new year period**

Usual collection day	Actual day
Monday 21 December	Monday 21 December
Tuesday 22 December	Tuesday 22 December
Wednesday 23 December	Wednesday 23 December
Thursday 24 December	Thursday 24 December
Friday 25 December	Monday 28 December
Monday 28 December	Tuesday 29 December
Tuesday 29 December	Wednesday 30 December
Wednesday 30 December	Thursday 31 December
Thursday 31 December	Saturday 2 January
Friday 1 January	Monday 4 January
Monday 4 January	Tuesday 5 January
Tuesday 5 January	Wednesday 6 January
Wednesday 6 January	Thursday 7 January
Thursday 7 January	Friday 8 January
Friday 8 January	Saturday 9 January
<b>Monday 11 January</b>	<b>Returns to normal</b>



## Christmas trees

Christmas trees will be collected on the same day as refuse and recycling between 4–29 January (trunks must not exceed 20cm in diameter and any trees taller than 6ft will need to be cut in two), or from the following parks/open spaces during the same period:

- Acton Green Common
- Acton Park
- Berkeley Fields (Berkeley Avenue)
- Churchfields, Hanwell (car park)
- Cleveland Park
- Ealing Central Sports Ground (Horsenden Lane South)
- Ealing Common (Junction of Grange Road and The Common)
- Elthorne Park (Boston Road)
- Islip Manor Park (Eastcote Lane car park)
- North Acton playing fields
- Perivale Park (Cowgate Road)
- Pitshanger Park
- Ravenor Park (Oldfield Lane South and Ruislip Road)
- Rectory Park (Parkfield Drive)
- Southall Park (Green Drive)
- Southfields Park
- Spikes Bridge Park (West Avenue)
- Springfield Gardens (Rosemont Road)
- Walpole Park (Lammas Park Gardens).