

STREETREPS

MARCH 2011

Dear All

This is the penultimate issue of Streetreps for HRNP in its present form. Because of that, we've tried to include as much information as possible about ways to remain informed, involved and supported in the future. We would like to produce Streetreps after April – with support from local people and organisations. If you would be interested in supporting a community newsletter in the future, or would like to learn more about writing, designing and printing Streetreps, please contact us on 0208 968 5543 or email hrnp@ghg.org.uk.

This issue of Streetreps includes a sneak preview of our final report, partly based on the exit survey we have asked local residents to fill in. This includes recommendations for future services working in Harrow Road, and specific information on resident involvement groups for those who indicated an interest in getting involved. If you didn't fill in a questionnaire, but would like to put your name down to join the Maida Hill Market steering group, the Maida Hill Place steering group, or the police Ward Panel, it's not too late! Please get in touch on 0208 968 5543 or email hrnp@ghg.org.uk

We'll be holding one final Posh Do on March 24th at The Pyramid Room, Paddington Arts, Woodfield Road from 6-9pm. Please come along to say goodbye and hear more about the future for Harrow Road.

Julie Bundy and the HRNP team

Maida Hill Place

From April 1st Maida Hill Place will be set up as a community venue and social enterprise, eventually based in 2-4 Fernhead Road.

Maida Hill Place will include Westminster Artisans Ltd and Maida Hill Market as key components of the social enterprise. The Co-ordinator will be taking over responsibility for the day to day running and promotion of the market. Westminster Artisans will formally take over the market from April 1st. Improvements to Maida Hill Market will take place as Maida Hill Place is developed.

Over the next month the activities of Harrow Road Neighbourhood Partnership will be wound down. The vision and objectives of Maida Hill Place will be put in place together with the governance structure for the new organization.

There will be a short period of transition during which the Neighbourhood Centre at 421 Harrow Road will be used as a base for Maida Hill Place. The objectives for this venture are to promote health and wellbeing and the wider determinants of health in a broad sense; key areas are access to services and promoting healthy lifestyles.

In line with this the focus will be to maintain and consolidate existing links with the community around inclusion/engagement and volunteering together with the development of the centre. The secondary aim is around connecting with local services and partners and delivery of health and wellbeing services through partners. Reporting will be against an NHS evaluation framework.

Refurbishment

Contracts to carry out refurbishment works at 2-4 Fernhead Road have been let to David Miller Architects who are working for Maida Hill Place on a pro-bono basis, a minor works agreement is under negotiation to ensure that all appropriate safeguards are in place for all parties. All design and surveying work is complete. Ark Build PLC, who are working on a cost-only basis, are currently completing the schedule of works. A timeline and project management schedule will be available once the final budget has been agreed. A kitchen plan and kitchen equipment list has been completed and a specialist caterer taken on to act in an advisory capacity.

We are working with the contractors to engage volunteers and Streetreps (with appropriate insurance) to help with some of the construction work and labour in order to further reduce costs and in order to include the community in the development of the Centre. Groups of disabled people, with whom we have worked in the past, have been contacted to ensure that Maida Hill Place will be fully accessible and appropriate design details incorporated so the space works for everybody. Details of the help needed will be publicised, once health and safety considerations have been satisfied, through the Streetreps network, Timebank, the Community Stall on Maida Hill Market and community publications (including Maida Hill Life) and our websites. Planning Permission (change of usage) and a Premises Licence is being applied for but most of the other leasehold legal requirements have now been fulfilled.

“The Look”

Drawings and designs will be available shortly. The main issue is to sort out disability access – currently the floors are uneven and the toilets are not accessible to wheelchair users. The upper space in 2-4 will be kept as open as possible in order for the space to be used for a variety of purposes. The ceiling is being sound-proofed and new lighting added – if the budget will stretch audio-visual equipment will be installed. The frontage will be painted and new awnings will be installed.

Communications/Marketing/Promotion

A number of businesses and organizations have been approached to support the project and have responded favourably. The Spring Bank Holiday in May will be the main launch event. A new page and link to Maida Hill Place is currently under construction and will be linked to the current HRNP blog and Westminster Artisans website. Streetreps will be kept informed through quarterly mailouts, funding permitting. A mapping exercise is currently underway in order to communicate with all the organizations who have previously expressed an interest in using Maida Hill Place over the past three years. These groups are as diverse as film, theatre and arts groups and individuals and organizations interested in developing health and wellbeing services.

Governance/membership of Maida Hill Place:

The method of governance and membership of Maida Hill Place will be explored over the coming months and Streetreps will be encouraged to actively participate. The venue will be for use as a community hub and for corporate/commercial purposes. For the time being Maida Hill Café will remain a café although healthy food will be more readily available there once the kitchen has been refurbished. A rate card and marketing pack is currently being developed and will be available in April.

Existing groups such as the History Group, Gardening group, Waste Action group and Joint-residents group will be facilitated through the community hub at Maida Hill Place and through Timebank. It is hoped that 421 Harrow Road can continue to be used for community use and that some of the interview rooms will also be available for hire. A mission statement, video and presentation will be made at the next Streetreps ‘Posh Do’ and HRNP Board meeting on March 24th 2011 - please come along to the Posh Do to find out more!

**ONE
LAST
POSH
DO
6 - 9PM
THURSDAY
MAR 24TH
PADDINGTON ARTS
WOODFIELD RD**

Out and About

Employment

Westminster Works advisors are in Harrow Road ward over the next couple of weeks meeting residents who are keen to register for Westminster Works. The project comes to an end in April, but ongoing employment advice and support will be available to residents who have registered before the end of March. If you would like more information on how Westminster Works can help you find employment or training please call 020 3214 3113.

Information

We have installed three new notice boards around the ward, to publicise local community information. The locations of the boards are: Chantry Close on WECH estate, the entrance of Hermes Close (off Chippenham Road) and Fernhead Road/Barnsdale Road. Both WECH and Westminster Artisans will have keys to the boards, if you would like to publicise any local events please contact Julie Bundy on 0208 968 5543. We hope to install a final notice board at Maida Hill Market once the development of Maida Hill Place has been completed.

It's over to you now...

As HRNP (in its current form) comes to an end, and a number of other community projects have lost council funding, local projects will only survive with your time, skills and support. **Below we've collected updates from a range of community projects which will be continuing after March 31st.** You can join up as a member to any of them, or volunteer to help with their organisation in the future.

Tell It Like It Is

The TILII Parent Campaign Group continues discussions about where the project will go in 2011 and is waiting to hear about cross-ward funding opportunities. In the mean time, TILII parents organised a rally in response to the community wishing to 'make a stand' against postcode wars in North Westminster/Brent South/North K&C – it ran on March 5th at Maida Hill Market W9 and attracted a wide range of local people. For more details contact melody41@btinternet.com.

Paddington Academy Garden

Local resident Lizzie has developed a community garden in partnership with Paddington Academy, which includes chickens and raised vegetable beds. To supplement the work of students at the Academy, who tend the plot during school hours, there is an opportunity for residents to use the space outside of the school day or at weekends. A chicken hatching course is also planned. Residents run the project, and they are looking for interested people to sit on the steering group. If this sounds like something you could support, please contact HRNP and we will pass your details on.

Community choir

The choir was originally set up at the end of 2009 by

Wigmore Hall, after an approach from the Harrow Road Ward councillors. The set-up and first term were paid for by the ward budget for Harrow Road. After this, Wigmore Hall continued to support the choir, but unfortunately they were not able to fund it past the end of 2010.

The choir was always intended to end up as a community-run group and to this end it established a committee to help with its running. The committee are an important part of the choir as they help inform decisions on its future as well as organising things such as rehearsals, refreshments and publicity. They meet regularly to ensure that people know what the choir is doing at all times.

The choir is continuing to run at Paddington Academy on Tuesday evenings from 7-9pm and will give two concerts each term. If you want to find out more, or get involved, please contact Kate at allsingchoir@gmail.com

North Paddington Timebank

NPT has been running for a little over a year, and will continue operating in its current form until at least summer 2011. After this point members will need to decide if they would like to coordinate it themselves, apply for more funding to support it in the future, or wind it down. Current activities are detailed below – you can contact Paola to find out more about any of them. Many of these could be continued without financial support – for example:

- **Table top market** – currently runs on Tuesdays at Maida Hill Market. This is set up and overseen by residents with some Timebank support and could continue to run if participants are interested in taking over all the coordination.
- **History group activities** like movie nights,

research projects and pub quizzes, are all self run, although the group currently meets at the HRNP offices. In the future meetings will move to Maida Hill Place, which will also take over storage of the history archive.

- **Free adult education classes** (languages, literacy, music) – are currently running from the HRNP offices and are delivered by Timebank members. We hope to move these to the new centre at Maida Hill Place, where you will be able to book space to share or learn skills.
- **Social groups** – like needlepoint, knitting and coffee mornings, are currently coordinated by Paola and run by residents. Again we hope that Maida Hill Place will offer a space for this in the future. Please pop in when the centre opens to find out more.

Health and wellbeing

To tackle issues such as heart disease, diabetes and stroke, free health checks are being offered to those aged between 40-74 in local: pharmacies, GP practices, and some local community events.

These pharmacies offer free health checks:

- Benson Pharmacy, 276 Harrow Road, Tel: 020 7286 8738
- Medicare (London) Ltd Pharmacy, 568 Harrow Road, Tel: 020 8960 3540
- Williams Chemist, 214 Elgin Avenue, Maida Vale, Tel: 020 7286 3792

Aramide, our health outreach worker, says: "If I do not get to meet some of you before HRNP finally closes I would like to wish you all good health. Remember the doctor's surgery at Half Penny Steps has a walk in clinic and the Beethoven Centre runs many health and fitness programs. Your local library will also have information on events."

At the Neighbourhood Centre

Activities and support are still available at 421 Harrow Road until March 31st., when they will start to wind down. This includes QPBA, Westminster Works, the Somali Womens' group and Genesis Opportunitities Plus running surgeries each week, and general advice and information every day from 10 – 5pm. Read on for a quick recap of upcoming dates for your diary !

- North Paddington History group - Wed 6th April, 6pm @ the Neighbourhood centre.
- Knitting group - inc. crochet, embroidery... bring your skills & creativity!: Every 3rd Thursday of the month. Next on 17th Mar 3-4pm at the Neighbourhood Centre - book with Paola.
- Language group: English speaking/writing: ESOL & foreign languages & BSL for beginners. Every Thursday 4-5pm - Please book with Paola.
- Health and Fitness Workshop: Thursday 17th March 12-3pm at The Neighbourhood Centre.
- Timebank is also collaborating with Energise Queens park to support local people in running and maintaining an energy efficient house - check out the launch from 4-6pm on Wed March 9th at the Beethoven Centre.

Timebank are also looking to set up a band to play at community events - if you are musically minded, especially if you can drum, strum a bass or play keyboard, please get in touch!

Behind the Scenes

Keep making a difference !

HRNP recently met with representatives from almost all of the Residents' Associations operating in Harrow Road ward. It was decided that in the future residents' and tenants groups will try to communicate with one another more so that they can work together on issues affecting the whole community.

As part of this, we have set up pages on the Harrow Road blog for each association to provide contact details and keep you updated. Look for the under 'Useful info' then under 'Residents' Associations'.

Below is a summary of the groups we have found locally, and the areas they cover. Please check www.harrowroadblog.com or email hrnp@ghg.org.uk for more information about any of these, or to register a group we've missed.

- **Amberley Residents' Association** - Millennium Centre, 11 Clearwell Drive, Amberley Estate, London W9 2JZ
- **Lydford Estate Tenants & Residents Association** - The Lydford Estate Hall, 74 Fernhead Road, Lydford Estate, London W9
- **Maida Vale Estate Tenants & Residents' Association** - The Maida Centre, Lanark Road, London W9
- **Street Properties Sounding Board** - (covers

the majority of street properties in North Westminster managed by Pathmeads) 155 Westbourne Terrace, London W2

- **Windsor Gardens Residents Association**
- 1 Windsor Gardens, London, W9 3RQ
- **Original Shirland Mews RA** - Shirland Mews (predominantly Fernhead Road end)
- **Ernest Harris House RA** - EH House (corner of Chippenham and Elgin)
- **Hormead Rd Association** - Hormead Road
- **Paddington Academy Liason Group** - Oakington/ Marylands/ Elgin / Edbrooke Rds
- **Shirland Mews Residents Association** - Shirland Mews (predominantly Shirland Road end)
- **Edbrooke Rd Neighbourhood Watch** - Edbrooke Road
- **Marylands Rd and Chippenham Mews Residents Association** - Marylands and Chippenham Rds
- **Paddington Academy Garden** - Paddington Academy
- **Chippenham Mews RA** - Chippenham Mews
- **WECH** - WALTERTON, FERNHEAD, ELGIN AVE, SHIRLAND, WARLOCK, BARNSDALE, ERRINGTON, LYDFORD
- **Stadium – Russells Wharf**, 423 Harrow Road
- **Stadium – James Collins Close**, 419/419a Harrow Road
- **Stadium – Waterside Court**, Hormead Rd
- **PCHA** - Orpheus House, Miller House, street properties

Greening and Cleaning!

Residents have formed two sub-committees, focusing on waste and greening. The waste action sub-group has organised a local 'Clean Up Day', to take place on March 18th and 19th, and run a youth competition to create a logo for the 'Clean Up Maida Hill' campaign. Some of the final logo designs are displayed on the right. They have also run several productive meetings with Veolia and WCC around local cleansing and litter collection policy.

To get involved with the Spring Clean please read the attached letter, come up with an activity and use the pre-designed flyers (one enclosed and more available from the Neighbourhood Centre) to invite friends and neighbours.

The gardening group have conducted five planting sessions around the ward, ordered a range of large 'public space' planters for the market and other areas and secured donations of plants, seeds and trees from both Veolia and a local nursery. More planting is planned for the spring and a gardening 'toolbank' has been established for this purpose – so if you'd like to

get gardening, get in touch and register to rent out equipment for free!

The groups meet monthly, the gardening group on the first Tuesday of each month at 6.30pm at the Prince of Wales Pub, and the waste group on the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm at 421 Harrow Rd. All are welcome and it is hoped that these groups will continue to meet after HRNP comes to an end. You can contact each group with questions or suggestions on their new Gmail accounts – maidahillgardening@gmail.com for the gardening group and maidahillwaste@gmail.com for the waste group.

Unfortunately this year HRNP will not be able to run a gardening competition and therefore we will not enter the London in Bloom competition. We would like to thank all residents who have helped us improve our local environment over the past years. We would like to suggest that keen gardeners check London in Bloom website at www.londoninbloom.co.uk if you would like to register the area this year.

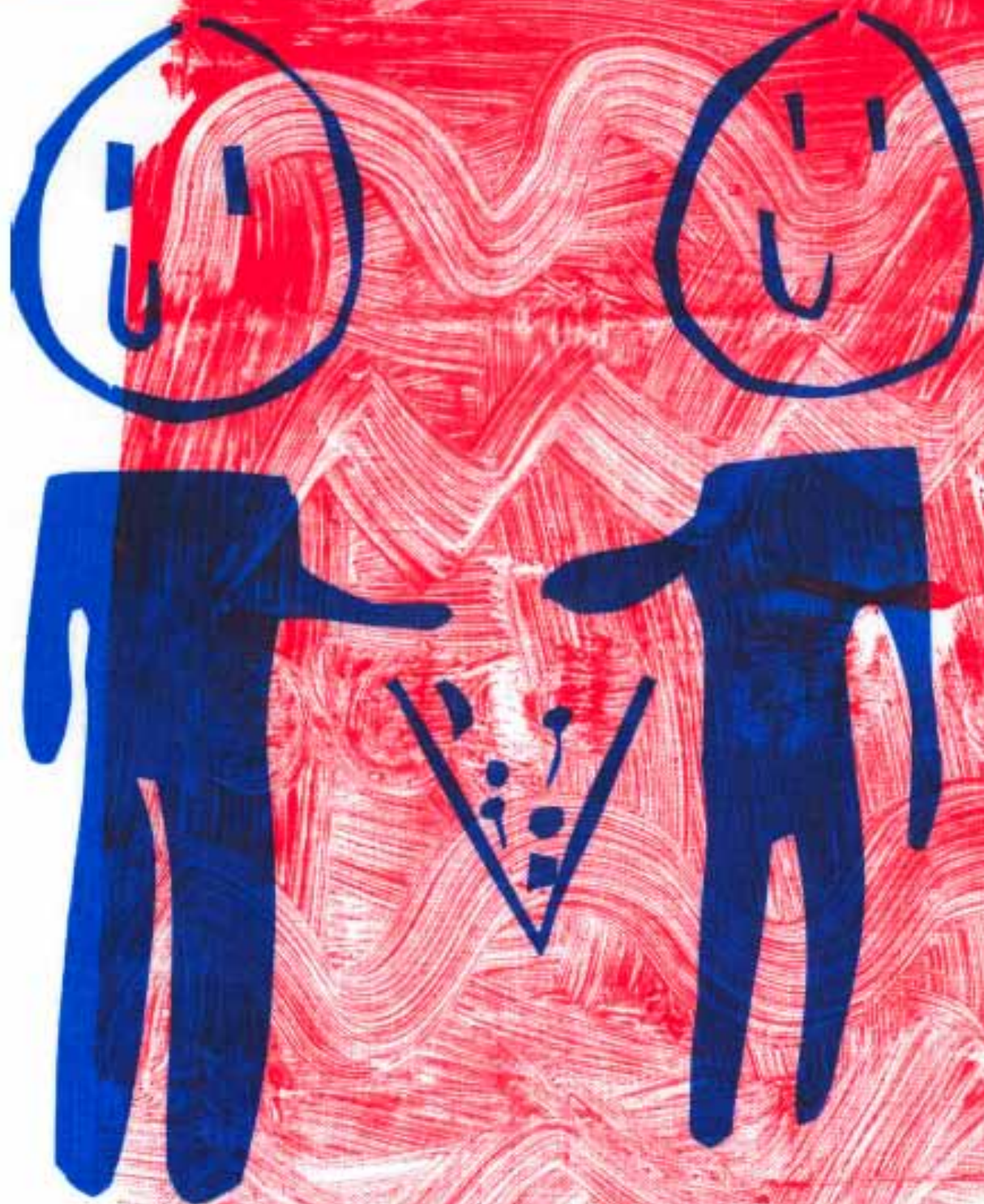
More information about gardening competitions, activities and other local heritage activities can be found at the addresses below (or from local residents associations at the contacts given overleaf) :

- <http://www.inpaddington.com> - local heritage and local walks
- <http://www.rhs.org.uk/advice> - gardening tips and info
- <http://www.northpaddingtonguide.org.uk> - local organisations and information



Maida Hill Spring Clean

March 18th & 19th



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

A message from students at Queens Park Primary School
Visit www.harrowroadblog.com to get involved