

Highams Residents' Association

Founded in 1955 for the residents of The Highams Estate

NEWSLETTER - Nov 2011 No.8

A 'Safer Neighbourhood' with thanks to the SNT.

Over the last few months the SNT (Safer Neighbourhood Team) have been working hard to keep our streets safe. Thanks to their passion and commitment to keeping crime at bay the SNT have tackled a particular problem near to the flats on Chingford Lane - a group of young children's attempts to develop a 'gang' have been quashed. Their work within the community was superb and the HRA wish to thank them for all their hard work. If you have noticed groups of children hanging around, please report this to the SNT. Needless to say that the troublesome lot were not from our area and were taking advantage of the quiet surroundings we are so lucky to live in.

The SNT have two dates for your diary;

19th November - Security Bike Marking, to be held at 12pm-2pm on Hatch Lane junction with Connington Crescent.

There is a Drop-in surgery for the Hatch Lane SNT on **Thursday 24 November 2011, 11am - 12pm**

Location: T.M.O Offices, Chingdale Road, Chingford, E4

A Request from the HRA Committee (please read)

Unfortunately our Committee Members are becoming very few, where some members have stepped down we are not receiving enough interest from residents to continue, ideally there should be representatives from each road and currently there aren't any from Keynsham, Tamworth, Marion, Crealock or Lichfield. Without more recruits we may have to reduce the activities of the HRA. It would be great if more residents were willing to join the committee - there are only about 4 meetings a year and they are very informal, if you are able to volunteer a few hours each year and have an interest in the estate and community - please email highamsra@me.com or call Hazel on 0208 504 5911. We will need to make a decision at next years AGM if there is no interest shown.

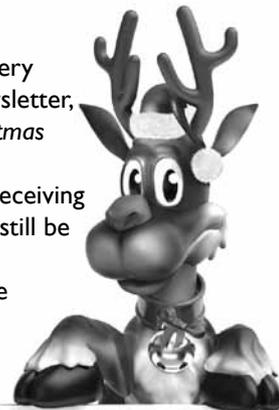
The HRA committee team would like to wish you all a safe and enjoyable Christmas - REMEMBER - If you would like to receive emails from our very own 'HRA Early Warning System' telling you about crime or suspicious behaviour in your area, send your email to highamsra.org.uk. Thank you for all the addresses so far.

NEW Special Guest Profile:

Name: Rudolph **Age:** unknown **Status:** Head Reindeer

Address: North Pole, secret location!

Personal Blog: Hi there - thank you very much for letting me appear in your newsletter, I'd like to wish you all a *very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*. It looks like the children in The Highams Estate will be receiving some great gifts this year, but you must still be good or Father Christmas will know! Remember that carrots are my favourite food, they help me to see in the dark! *Listen out for my sleigh bells, see you soon.*



Waltham Forest Council -
Bringing you six fantastic free
events to celebrate
the Olympic year

New Year Fireworks - Free event - Monday 2 January 2012, 4pm - 8pm

Two firework displays at:

Marsh Lane Playing Fields, Marsh Lane, Leyton E10 7DE
and our very own: The Highams Park, The Charter Road,
Woodford Green IG8 9RE

We are going to be welcoming in 2012 with a bang, as we light up the sky of Waltham Forest with two spectacular firework shows that will be choreographed to music from the movies. Mark the end of your seasonal celebrations by coming down to Marsh Lane in Leyton or The Highams Park to marvel at the fireworks, while enjoying our fun packed entertainment programme including a fantastic fun fair and food and drink stalls for everyone to enjoy.

It promises to be an amazing event, so register now to ensure you are kept updated with all the latest news on The Big 6.

<http://walthamforestbig6.co.uk/register/>

www.highamsra.org.uk • email: highamsra@me.com

SANTA'S GROTTTO on THE GREEN - 18th December 2011

Some of our fantastic residents have asked the HRA to let you know there will be a 'Santa's Grotto' on the green triangle (where Henry's Avenue and The Charter Road meet). Father Christmas will be there along with a bbq and light refreshments. We'll let you know the time nearer the date (weather permitting obviously).

Community Wards Information

Community Wards-next meeting Thursday 9 February 2012
7pm-9pm Longshaw Primary School, 18 Longshaw Road
Chingford, E4 6LH.

The September meeting was held on Tuesday 6 September 2011 at Thorpe Hall Primary School. Tony Fletcher, Regional Corporate Affairs, and Andrew Boyle, Project Manager, came along from Tesco to talk about the new store in Highams Park and answer questions raised by residents. Lorna Lee, Head of Libraries, Museum and Gallery gave a presentation on future plans for the Library Service. Councillor Geraldine Reardon, Cabinet Member for Leisure, Arts and Culture also attended the meeting. Lorna answered questions and provided forms for residents to respond to the Library Consultation which ended on 9th September. Councillors presented the resident suggestions for spending Hale End and Highams Park and Hatch Lane ward funding. There was time for questions from residents and a report from the Hatch Lane Safer Neighbourhood team. The Hale End and Highams Park SNT also attended.

What's happening with The Lake?

All "raised reservoirs" of over 100,000 cubic metre capacity, are inspected by engineers for the Environment Agency. This spring's report resulted in the serving of a "Section 10 Notice" legally requiring Epping Forest to make changes to the lake to ensure safety in the occurrence of a 1 in 10,000 year event (e.g. massive flooding causing the dam to be over-topped).

They have to ensure the integrity of the lake. A feasibility study is being undertaken. In January the possible options will be decided upon. In spring/summer public consultation will begin. It seems the dam will be raised by 1 metre. Some trees may be removed from the lake edge, bearing in mind it's a Repton landscape, some effort will be made to restore some of Repton's vision. Work on the dam will require the water level to be lowered and they think while this is happening they have the ideal opportunity to bring forward work to dredge some of the lake! Work is required to be completed within 3 years. Predicted cost of £750,000



Neighbourhood Watch news and information

Christmas Crime Prevention Information;

Help us to help you prevent burglary

The Met is cracking down on burglary. We understand that it can be financially costly and emotionally devastating for victims and their families.

However, by taking just a few simple measures you can dramatically reduce the chances of it happening to you.

Most burglaries tend to be opportunistic rather than planned. So if your home does not look secure, seems unoccupied, or provides unobserved access, it could be at risk. Understanding what burglars look for when choosing their target will help you identify weak spots in your home's security.

Our 10 Top Tips:

- 1) Mark or etch your property with your postcode, house or flat number or the first three letters of your house name.
- 2) Register items with a serial number at: www.immobilise.com
- 3) Do not leave your car keys or ID documents near doors, letterbox or windows.
- 4) Always check who's at the door and don't open it if you feel anxious.
- 5) Close and lock all your doors and windows, even if you are only going out for a few minutes.

- 6) Keep your valuables out of sight.
- 7) Leave some lights on if it will be dark before you get home.
- 8) Install a visible burglar alarm.
- 9) Always keep sheds and outbuildings locked.
- 10) Cancel milk or other deliveries if you will be away for days or weeks at a time.

The Highams Estate is covered by two Teams - the main part including the park is **Hatch Lane SNT** and the lower end inc. Nesta Road is **Hale End and Highams Park SNT**.

Hatch Lane: team members are: Sgt Lee Palmer, PC Adewale Akano, PC Steve Kilbey, PCSO Aaron Prayter, PCSO Thomas Appiah and PCSO Sue Coughlan. You can contact the team at any time on 020 8721 2641 or 07920 233822. Leave a message and one of the team will get back to you.

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Hale End and Highams Park SNT: Sergeant Paul Gibb is now managing Chapel End Ward and Hale End and Highams Park Wards. If you wish to contact him please call him on 07920 233816. If you wish to speak to the team please call on telephone number 020 8721 2646.