

Horley Highlights

Newsletter of Horley Town Council

Issue 7

May/June 2005

Three Awards presented at Annual Town Meeting



Horley Town Council is delighted to announce that the three worthy recipients of the prestigious town award for 2004/05 were presented with their awards at the Annual Town Meeting on Thursday 28 April.

Barbara Hall

Barbara Hall has been supporting local charitable organisations for more than forty years. In recent times she has become even more involved in the town of Horley.

Barbara has been a member of the patients committee at the Kings Road Health Centre for many years and has recently become a non-executive director for the NHS East Surrey PCT. She is also actively involved with Open Line through the Horley Help Shop.

David Hall

David Hall has been supporting the local community for over forty years. He has been actively involved in local voluntary work and charity work, as well as being a School Governor and a past member of Surrey County Council.

David has been Chairman of the Horley Local History Centre, based in the Library, and is very involved with the Local History Society. He also continues to conduct his own research into the town's history.

John Melvin

John Melvin has been an active member of the Horley Lions Club since 1974 and has been President on three occasions, 1976, 1982, 2003.

Since his retirement in 1982 he has spent much of his time sorting the many paperback books which are sold on the Lions Bookstall in the town centre each Saturday. Over twenty two years he has personally sorted some quarter of a million books and his efforts have made a substantial contribution towards the Lions' funds.



John Melvin, left, with Town Mayor Cllr. Michael Miller, Barbara Hall and David Hall with their award certificates

Emlyn Meadows Nature Trail



photo courtesy of Surrey Mirror

Emlyn Meadows is a 10 acre site, on the northern edge of Horley, bordered by a residential development to the south and the Burstow Stream to the north. It borders Bolters Wood SSSI (Site of Nature Conservation Interest). The site is mainly short mown grass, with a number of standard trees, mainly Oak, linked by a narrow wooded strip. The remnant of an old hedge line runs along part of the centre of the site.

The site is regularly used by dog-walkers and local children. Horley Town Council owns the site and is very keen to enhance the site's potential as a community asset and area for wildlife.

The Town Council has successfully completed phase one of the Nature Trail Project at Emlyn Meadows. During this phase Horley Town Council has managed the planting of various species of trees. Gatwick Greenspace Partnership (formerly Horley Crawley Countryside Project) was consulted throughout this phase. The native species of trees

have been planted in an existing broken hedge line which will over the coming years form a small copse. Trees planted were spindle, goat willow, hazel, guelder rose and hawthorn and will reach maturity probably in about 10 - 15 years time. They will also help to provide a habitat for wildlife. The Horley Learning Partnership has been actively involved in the design and implementation of this part of the project and as a result our local schools were consulted and school children participated in the recent planting.

Cllr Simon Marshall (Leisure & Amenities Committee Chairman) gratefully acknowledges the financial assistance given by Sutton & East Surrey Water plc. The recent association with the Company on the overland pipeline project in 2003 has demonstrated the excellent working partnership.

As part of the next phase of the Emlyn Meadows Nature trail, we shall work with local schools to describe and promote the ecology and lifecycle of the river.



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Precept

The Town Council has announced the town element of Council Tax for 2005/2006 will be £245,074, representing an annual increase of £2.41 per household.

This will result in a Band D Parish element of Council Tax of £29.34 per household per annum. Earmarked funds (funds which are ring fenced for future liabilities) will be increased by £26,705 to £55,000.

The Town Council is committed to its programme of enhancements and will continue to make improvements to the recreation grounds and childrens' playgrounds. The Council intends to start to improve the condition of its football pitches at Court Lodge having conducted a thorough evaluation of the requirements there. Vandalism continues to be a major cost to the Town Council; consequently crime prevention will remain a top priority, with additional CCTV cameras likely to be installed.

The Town Council will continue to support St Bartholomew's two churchyards. To assist the Church, the Town Council will make a grant of £12,500 towards essential improvements and maintenance of the churchyards.

Charges for the hire of football pitches and allotments have been increased to ensure we recover the council's running costs, although charges for community facilities (such as the use of the Albert Rooms) will remain unchanged for the coming year. Full details of all charges for 2005/06 are available on request.

Horley Town Council achieved Quality Status in July 2004, becoming the first Town Council in Surrey to receive the prestigious award. This will enable the Town Council to bid for additional funding from Central Government for future specific projects. This is an abridged form of the statement which can be downloaded in full from our web site or is available from the council offices.



- Recreational areas & town centre
- Property maintenance & improvement
- Churchyard maintenance
- Increase in earmarked funds
- Administration
- Donations & section 137
- General expenditure
- Rents, rates, lettings & utilities

Horley In Bloom

Residents can enter the 2005 competition by filling in the entry form below by Friday 1 July. Businesses can also support HIB in a number of ways:

- Sponsor one of the Town's hanging baskets.
- Enter the Commercial or Hanging Basket category of the competition.

• Sponsor or donate prizes for one of the competition categories.

- Provide general sponsorship for the competition e.g. sponsorship of certificates, the Awards Ceremony etc.
- For further details contact the Town Clerk. All sponsors will receive certificates.

HORLEY IN BLOOM ENTRY FORM 2005

CATEGORIES

- Residential (*front garden*)
- Residential (*back garden*)
- Commercial (*inc. hotels*)
- Community (*inc. schools*)
- Guesthouse/B&B
- Cottage Garden (*front only*)
- Hanging Basket
- Best Newcomer (*from all categories*)

Name: _____

Company name: _____

House no. and road: _____

tel: _____

closing date: Friday 1 July 2005

return entries to:

Town Clerk, Council Offices, Albert Road, Horley RH6 7JA



Town Meeting

The Annual Town Meeting was held this year on 28 April in the Albert Rooms, Albert Road. We are pleased to say that attendance was the highest for several years. At the start of the meeting the Chairman of the Council had the very pleasant task of presenting town awards, as mentioned on the cover page of this newsletter.

The meeting then received the accounts of Smiths Charity for the year ending 28 February 2005. This was followed by the reports of the Town Mayor and Committee Chairmen. These are contained within the Annual Report which is available by application from the Town Council. The meeting then discussed two resolutions; the first resolution was to seek an assurance that town centre CCTV equipment would be permanently monitored and a record of prosecutions maintained and published. Figures below from Surrey Police confirmed that a number of prosecutions and arrests had taken place.

For the financial year April 2004 - March 2005, the total number of arrests as a result of CCTV in Horley were:

Drunk	7	Suspect person	1
Theft	8	Nuisance	4
Assault	9	Drink/Drive	2
Breach of Peace	2	Criminal Damage	2
Wanted on warrant	1	Missing persons detected	1
Other	4	Total Arrests	41

Total arrests for the whole Borough were 348 for the same period, therefore 11.78% of all arrests were in Horley. 102 cameras in Borough, 8 in Horley, therefore total percentage of cameras is 7.83%.

The next resolution was to discuss the lack of a public toilet in the town centre. This was referred to the Borough Council for action. Both resolutions were unanimously supported by the Town Meeting and were discussed by the Town Council at its meeting on 10 May.

The final part of the proceedings was to receive presentations on plans for Town Centre Revitalisation. These were given by Robert Cottrill of Reigate and Banstead Borough Council and Robert West of Roger Evans Associates. For those who missed the presentation, display boards are available for viewing at the Consort Way Helpshop. The public consultation period closes on 31st May.

The South East Plan

Section E9 – Gatwick Area Sub Region

The South East England Regional Assembly has set out its vision for the region through to 2026 in its draft South East Plan issued January 2005. It will address important issues such as housing, transport, economy and the environment. Horley Town Council has recently responded. An abridged version of our response follows:

The problems for development of this region have been highlighted in the recent 5 year struggle to adopt the Reigate and Banstead Local Plan. The region has very little brownfield land available and infrastructure is deficient.

This means that any future development will require significant release of either Green Belt or Greenfield sites. Since there is no requirement for developers to address infrastructure shortfall, development usually compounds the problem i.e. more road traffic congestion, more overcrowding of trains at peak periods, greater risk of water shortage etc.

Furthermore, current policies on affordable housing for the low paid and first time buyers are not radical enough to solve the problem.

We suggest that the proposed levels of housing growth proposed in Option 1 and Option 2 are too high. Proposals for 30,000 or 38700 dwellings are unjustified, unsustainable and derive from an over emphasis on economic development.

We suggest that the only justified and sustainable housing growth is for affordable, low cost housing on brownfield sites within existing town centres.

For example, Horley currently has a draft plan for the redevelopment of the town centre which relies on the delivery of section 106 agreements from 400 dwellings. Only a creative approach which restricts and controls the development industry will prevent unrestrained, unnecessary housing.

VE Celebrations - no rations here!



Horley's Regent House Community Centre attracted about 80 people to its special VE Day lunch with entertainment. The Albert Road premises include a drop in centre for the active 50 plus, and the special lunches are a feature of special occasions. Regular activities include tea dances, art club and the Regent rambles.

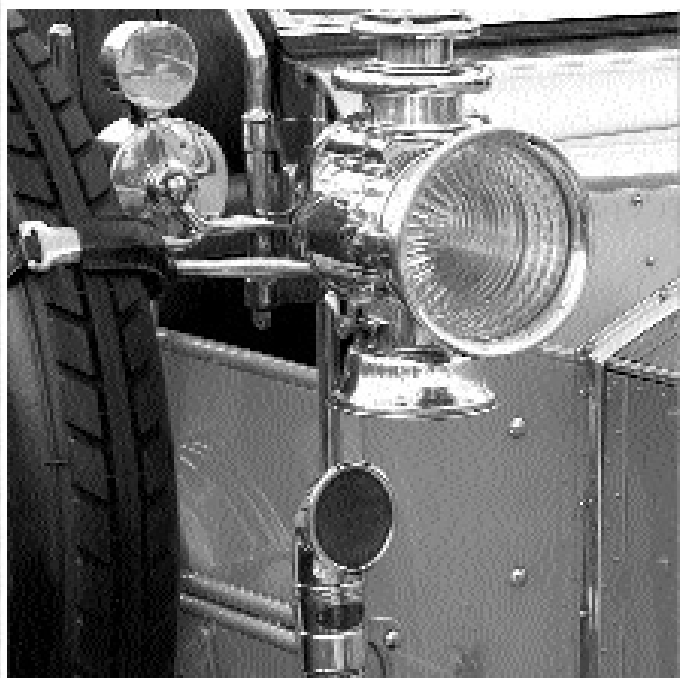
Around the Clubs in Horley

www.horleycameraclub.co.uk



Horley Camera Club was formed by a small group of enthusiastic photographers in 1958, and still meets on a weekly basis in the Strawson Hall.

Photography has made remarkable changes during the last 50 years due to the greater availability of colour film, and more recently digital imaging.



An excess of chrome by Roger Busbridge



Fiona in the tunnel by Cherry Larcombe

Members, however, do work in black and white, colour and 35mm slides achieving creative images. A number of these pictures can be seen on our much praised website, where you can also find details of our varied programme with speakers and judges when we have competition evenings.

We also show our work in our annual exhibition and through inter-club competitions.

If you have an interest in photography - traditional or digital - why not come along to the Strawson Hall on Wednesday evenings or visit our website www.horleycameraclub.co.uk

Recycling Centres

Horley Town Council is evaluating whether a recycling bank for glass, paper and plastic could be situated on a trial basis in any of

the town council's properties. We want to consider every residents views on this matter.

Sites currently being considered are Emlyn Meadows and an area adjacent to Church Road allotments.

HORLEY TOWN COUNCILLORS

Ward Codes N - North NW - North West
 NC - North Central S - South
 NE - North East SE - South East

BC - also Reigate & Banstead Borough Councillor

Ward	Councillor	Ward	Councillor
NC	 Cllr. Diana Andrews 16 Wesley Close, Horley RH6 8JB 01293 773189 (H) dianajandrews@horley-surrey.co.uk	SC BC	 Cllr. Bernard Kendall Heritage Lawn, Horley RH6 01293 820624 bernardkendall@horley-surrey.co.uk
SC	 Cllr. Eddie Andrews 16 Wesley Close, Horley RH6 8JB 01293 773189 eddiejandrews@horley-surrey.co.uk	SE	 Cllr. Dr Andrew Kent 151 Balcombe Road, Horley RH6 9DR 01293 430611 andrewkent@horley-surrey.co.uk
NC	 Cllr. Deborah Ann Ashley-Smith 1 St Hilda's Close, Horley RH6 7BA 01293 776197 debbieashleysmith@horley-surrey.co.uk	NC	 Cllr. Graham Larcombe 63 Church Road, Horley RH6 8AB 01293 432632 grahamlarcombe@horley-surrey.co.uk
N	 Cllr. Sarah Branwhite 21 Oakside Lane, Horley RH6 9XS 01293 773075 sarahbranwhite@horley-surrey.co.uk	N	 Cllr. Simon Marshall 12 Castle Drive, Horley RH6 9DB 01293 786859 simonmarshall@horley-surrey.co.uk
NE BC	 Cllr. Tony Breen 34 Massetts Road, Horley RH6 7DS 01293 820112 (H) tonybreen@horley-surrey.co.uk	SE BC	 Cllr. John Meech 41 Castle Drive, Horley RH6 9DD 01293 783655 johnmeech@horley-surrey.co.uk
NW	 Cllr. Denese Brooke-Harte 47 Parkhurst Road, Horley RH6 8EU 01293 418090 denesebrookeharte@horley-surrey.co.uk	N BC	 Cllr. Michael Miller 50 Haroldslea Drive, Horley RH6 9DU 01293 784201 (H) 07712 889228 (M) michaelmiller@horley-surrey.co.uk
NE	 Cllr. Jack Chapman 43 Bonehurst Road, Horley RH6 8PJ 01293 786165 jackchapman@horley-surrey.co.uk	N	 Cllr. Tania Peppiatt 43 Bonehurst Road, Horley RH6 8PJ 01293 786165 taniapeppiatt@horley-surrey.co.uk
NW	 Cllr. Michael George 31 Rutherford Close, Horley RH6 8RD 01293 411655 mikegeorge@horley-surrey.co.uk	NW BC	 Cllr. Andrea Venn The Old House, Bremner Avenue Horley RH6 8EP 01293 823775 andreavenn@horley-surrey.co.uk
NW	 Cllr. Maureen Goldsmith Council Offices, Albert Road, Horley RH6 7JA 01293 823734 mogoldsmith@horley-surrey.co.uk	SC	 Cllr. Barry Weston 20 Hatchgate, Horley RH6 7EA 01293 428948 barryweston@horley-surrey.co.uk

All councillors may be contacted at their home address
 Contact the council for further information.

The views expressed in the contents of Horley Highlights and
 as defined by the editorial staff are not necessarily those of
 the Town Council.

Annual Report

The Town Council's Annual Report was published in late April and will include information about the Town Council's activities, including financial information, details of all the town award winners, members' attendance records and reports from all committee chairmen.

The full report can be obtained on request from the Town Council or by downloading from the council's web site.

Councillors' Surgeries

Town Councillors are available to discuss constituency matters with members of the public, in confidence, at the Council Offices every other Saturday morning between 10.00 and 11 am on the following dates:

28 May

11 June

25 June

Council Meetings

Horley Town Council meets regularly, based on its regular cycle of Committee and Full Council meetings.

Members of the public are very welcome to attend and voice their own opinions on various local topics during the Public Forum.

The Council represents all parts of the community and it is your views that are important in assisting us in making realistic and sound decisions.

Meeting Dates 2005

All council meetings commence at 7.30 pm.
 Agenda for all meetings are posted on town centre notice boards a few days beforehand.

Members of the public are cordially invited to all meetings and if they wish may address councillors during the public forum.

For further details and for any general enquiries, please phone, fax or e-mail the Town Clerk.

June

7 Leisure and Amenities
 14 Planning and Development
 21 Spare
 28 Finance and General Purposes

July

5 Planning and Development
 12 Spare
 19 Full Council
 26 Spare

August

2 Planning and Development
 9 Spare
 16 Spare
 23 Planning and Development
 30 Spare

September

6 Leisure and Amenities
 13 Planning and Development
 20 Spare
 27 Finance and General Purposes

If you know of someone who would benefit from an audio or large print copy of this newsletter, please contact the Town Clerk