

# In Contact

June 2010  
ISSUE 25



[www.harrowagenda21.org](http://www.harrowagenda21.org)

## THANK YOU'S.....AND GOODBYES

At the forthcoming AGM we will be saying farewell to Caroline as our Chair. She has been involved with HA21 in various capacities for many years and has been a mainstay of the organisation.

Although she's still passionate about HA21, she feels the time has now come for her to step back and concentrate on her studies and her many other activities.

But, you never know, when the time is right, Caroline may feel she can return.

Someone else who will be standing down from the Executive Committee is Linda, our hardworking Secretary. She too is a committed HA21 person and will be missed in this role. We are extremely fortunate though that she will still be helping to support the organisation as a volunteer.

## DATE FOR YOUR DIARY HA21 AGM

28 July 2010  
at 7pm

Committee Rooms 1 & 2,  
Harrow Civic Centre

## CONTACT US

HA21's office is open  
Mondays, 10.30am-1pm  
Room 3, Community Premises,  
27 Northolt Road,  
South Harrow, HA2 0LH  
020 3114 6020

## HA21 WELCOMES.....

- Our new Executive Committee Council appointees, Cllrs. Phil O'Dell, Sachin Shah and Bill Phillips for Labour, and Cllr. Susan Hall for the Conservatives with Cllrs. Stephen Greek and Stephen Wright as her deputies.
- Our new Individual Member, Joanna Nathan; and Organisation Member, the Roxborough Road Residents Association.

## WHAT'S THE BUZZ... COMPETITION TIME

HA21 ARE RUNNING A COMPETITION TO SEE WHO CAN PRODUCE THE MOST INGENUOUS AND TASTY LEFTOVER RECIPES  
*See Mick's article on page 3*

## NOW IT'S UP TO YOU!

While it's good that our membership has continued to grow over the last year, we are still looking for more of you to become involved in our action groups.

What would be even better would be if members could "step up to the plate" and volunteer to chair the Planning and Consumer groups.

How about it? You can phone the office or email [admin@harrowagenda21.org](mailto:admin@harrowagenda21.org) and I will direct you to the relevant action group.

"In Contact" Editor – Eve Swabe  
[admin@harrowagenda21.org](mailto:admin@harrowagenda21.org)

## ENJOY.....!



## TOP TIPS FOR 10-10 SHOPPING CAN BE VIEWED ON THIS LINK

[www.1010global.org/uk/2010/05/five-golden-rules-1010-shopping](http://www.1010global.org/uk/2010/05/five-golden-rules-1010-shopping)

## ACTION GROUP MEETING DATES

**Waste & Recycling**  
Wednesday 14 July at 7pm

**Ethical Consumer**  
Tuesday 13 July at 6.30pm  
both at the Meeting Room  
Community Premises

## DID YOU KNOW?

[www.harrowagenda21.org](http://www.harrowagenda21.org)

HA21 members can access our website members' area with a password. To obtain this password, please email [admin@harrowagenda21.org](mailto:admin@harrowagenda21.org)

## GREENER HARROW

from

David Summers (Chair, Greener Harrow)

Greener Harrow (GH) continues to attract an increasing representation from the environmentally conscious of Harrow's community. Most recently GH held a Transport themed meeting at which TfL's Director of Borough Relationships presented and discussed the updated TfL Business Plan to 2018, with special attention to investment in Harrow.

Whilst there have been numerous local improvements and others are in the committed pipeline, the economic downturn, the after-effects of Metronet's demise and the Tubelines buyout have had a delaying effect on some high profile local schemes to beyond 2018.

Nevertheless, Harrow Council's Ann Fine encouraged GH to participate actively in Harrow's imminent Transport Local Implementation Plan (LIP2). Ann also updated GH on the Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP), which had been one of the first strategies brought to GH for consultation in 2006/7.

Minutes and presentations to all GH meetings are on the Harrow Council website:-

[www.harrow.gov.uk/info/200105/sustainability/995/greener\\_harrow](http://www.harrow.gov.uk/info/200105/sustainability/995/greener_harrow)

At GH's next meeting at 10am on 27 July at the Civic Centre, the new Leader of the Council (Cllr. Bill Stephenson) and Portfolio Holder for the Environment & Community Safety (Cllr. Phil O'Dell) will address the meeting. There will be an opportunity to ask questions of the new Council administration.

A new Chair from the Voluntary & Community sector is to be elected at the September meeting.

## NATIONAL EVENTS

On 17 May, HA21 member Richard Maylan attended a meeting of the London Low Carbon Communities Network. He writes:

"I thought it was good as an informal forum where people involved in carbon matters in London could swap ideas, exchange contacts etc. I felt that other Harrow groups involved with practical green issues would find it valuable and motivating, and you'd probably want to encourage them to attend the next one on 13 July 2010 at City Hall."

If you would like to find out more, you can contact Richard on 020 8427 6086 or [rmaylan@ntlworld.com](mailto:rmaylan@ntlworld.com).

## FOLLOW UP....

### Stanmore Station – disabled access – a question for TfL

You may recall that in the last *In Contact*, a reply from the Advertising Standards Authority suggested approaching TfL about disabled access at Stanmore Station.

This is their Customer Service Advisor's response:

*Thank you for your feedback form about step-free access at Stanmore station.*

*We are aware of the issues with the step-free access at Stanmore and that the route is difficult, especially for people not arriving at the station by car.*

*We are making an effort to clarify this by improving signage; there is also full information about the distances involved in the Step-free Tube Guide. Unfortunately there is no opportunity to include this information on a standard Tube map, as the space available is limited. Although, as you rightly say, the step-free access route is far from ideal, it would be manageable for some people*

*(particularly if driving to the station), and we believe that presenting the information in this format allows people to decide if the route is manageable for them.*

*At present we don't have any plans to install lifts or escalators at Stanmore. We have a number of additional stations where we have committed to provide step-free access by 2010, and plans beyond this date are yet to be confirmed. One of the stations to be completed by this date is Edgware, which whilst not ideal, may be of use to this customer. Unfortunately improving access in these ways is expensive and there is a lot of competition for funding. When drawing up the list of stations to benefit from step-free access we do consider a number of factors, including how busy a station is, the number of step-free trips that could be taken should that station be made step-free and the demographics of a 1.5km surround which included the number of disabled people and the number of older and younger people.*

*I'm sorry I'm not able to give you a more positive answer on this occasion. Please contact me again if you need any help in the future."*

## ACTION GROUP UPDATE Education Group

The Summer Walk on Stanmore Common in May, led by Simon Braidman, was very successful. It was an event that showed both the natural beauty of Stanmore Common and the service that can be provided by Continental Landscapes Ltd.

Don't forget that Harrow schools can enter for the Anne Swain Award and win £500.

For more information contact [marilyn.raymond@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:marilyn.raymond@tiscali.co.uk)

## FROM MICK OLIVER CHAIR OF THE WASTE GROUP

[wastegroup@harrowagenda21.org](mailto:wastegroup@harrowagenda21.org)

### HARROW AGENDA 21 FOOD LEFTOVERS COMPETITION

British households throw away £12 billion of food a year. That's nearly 8 kilos per household per week!

A waste of the food itself, and of the resources which were used to produce and transport it, possibly by air freight; this would be bad enough in a world which was adequately fed, but we live in a hungry world where many are in want.

We worry about the packaging materials we dispose of – we do not consider that we throw away a greater weight of waste food. In landfill packaging materials are inert and long-lasting – waste food decomposes to form methane, a much greater problem than the CO<sub>2</sub> which concerns us so.

So, why not use this food as food? Even if it is a bit tired, it can still be used in ingenious recipes. To encourage the people of Harrow to develop ingenious and tasty ways of using their leftovers, Harrow Agenda 21 are running a recipe competition, open to all residents of Harrow.

Entries will be judged on how well they use leftover food, on economy, convenience and taste.

There are no age limits – students may lead frugal lives, people with long memories may remember more austere times – all entries are welcome.

The prizes are a box of organic vegetables and a supermarket voucher.

Please send your recipe before **10 July 2010** (with a picture of the finished dish if possible), by email to the Waste Group or by post to Recipe Competition, Harrow Agenda 21, Community Premises, 27 Northolt Road, South Harrow, HA2 0LH.

We will judge the entries during July and present the prizes at our AGM on 28 July.

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### WHAT GOES IN THE BLUE BIN?

#### *One week's experience for a retired couple*

I was curious to know what recyclable rubbish my household created and put in its blue bin, so I measured its contents (by volume and by weight) using kitchen scales, bathroom scales, and the 45 litre green recycling box (which Harrow used to use) before it was collected.

Material	% (by volume)	% (by weight)
newspapers*	26	69
other paper	9	12
cardboard	35	8
plastics	23	5
aluminium		1.3
steel	7	1.5
glass		2.9

#### Notes

- \*We take a newspaper every day, which usually ends up in our recycling – a large influence on the proportions of materials we recycle.

- I didn't attempt to compact the separate materials –
- the newspapers in the above bulk down naturally, but cardboard boxes and plastics do not – hence the great difference between the percentages recorded by weight and by volume.

Would anyone else like to do the trial and share their results with *In Contact* or the Waste & Recycling Group?

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### EARTH CHARTER



Rabbi Jeffrey Newman explained the Earth Charter to members at the 2009 AGM. Jeffrey is leading a workshop on the Earth Charter for the London Churches Environmental Network in Southwark on Thursday 15 July at 6pm.

If you are interested, need directions or want more information contact Mick Oliver by email as above or phone 020 8954 4976.

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### HA21 VIST TO WEST LONDON COMPOSTING

- The Waste Group has arranged a visit to West London Composting in Harefield on Thursday 05 August at 10.30am.
- The plant processes Harrow's brown bin waste.
- The visit is open to all members of HA21.
- Please email Mick Oliver if you wish to come on the visit; or by post to the Community Premises or phone 020 3114 6020.
- We still have to make arrangements for travel.