



# Manor Park & Hempstead Fields Residents' Association Winter Newsletter



## Message from Paul Sparks, Chairman of the Association:

'We are fortunate to live in a town and neighbourhood that has a good caring community spirit and, although many have a busy life style, we do help each other along the way. The formation of your Resident's Association was largely to enhance that community involvement through the Surgery Car Service, Good Neighbour Scheme and the various events that have been arranged.

There is no doubt that all of this has helped and supported our residents but I'm sure that there is more that could be done and I would welcome any ideas or thoughts that you may have. I look forward to hearing from you. Kind regards Paul'

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### Surgery Car Service

Don't forget we can help you to get to your appointment at the local GP surgeries.

If you live in Manor Park, Hempstead Fields, Manor House Court, Shaftesbury Court, or Grants Hill Court then you qualify for this service. Just call us on **01825 578006**

### Horlock Holdcroft FINANCIAL CONSULTANTS Ltd

As Independent Financial Advisers we want to help fellow residents. Death, ill health, retirement - have you made plans for these? For a free initial chat call Jeremy Hallett 07876 275031.

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## News in brief – mostly good news!

- Following a resident's suggestion and to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day we plan to install another **commemoration bench on the brow of the hill in Browns Lane**. This will be similar in design to the bench we placed outside Streatfeild House.
- After prolonged discussions with the landlord of the shops in Browns Lane he has agreed to install a **handrail to serve the steep footpath** that leads to the shops.
- After two years of pressing East Sussex Highways to address the damaged and dangerously rutted **grass verges in Downsview Crescent** the Highways Department recently reinstated and reseeded the verge.

Sadly within a few days it was again being used at school pick up and drop off times and is rapidly being churned up and becoming a quagmire. We had asked for bollards to be installed or grasscrete laid but unfortunately these suggestions were not progressed.

We are told that the verge will be reseeded again in the Spring.
- We were sad to hear that the **Sussex Horse Rescue Trust** charity had to close. Michael, Jo, Heidi and co. have been great supporters of the Association and we wish them well.
- Construction of the new **Uckfield College** continues and with it even greater pressure on street parking in the surrounding roads. Fortunately, our Chairman, Paul Sparks, has a good working relationship with Kevin Cowie, the Project Manager, and meets with him on a regular basis to try to iron out any particular issues. Kevin kindly came along to the AGM last summer to talk about the project.
- After a well-earned rest the **Big Lunch** will be back again this June – please let us know if you are able to lend a hand.

## Tripping?

October saw the Association's first organised day out – a minibus trip up to the Imperial War Museum in London.

We were joined by members of the Uckfield branch of the Royal British Legion and Uckfield Lions Club supplied the minibus at a knockdown rate. Lions Club member Barry drove us smoothly and safely to and from the museum – thank you Barry.



The day was a great success and we would like to arrange a similar trip in the Spring, but first we would like your ideas. Thoughts so far include:

- The **Wings Museum and a pub lunch**. The Wings museum is just down the road near Balcombe. The museum provides “....a fascinating insight into life during WW2”
- The **Tangmere Military Aviation Museum** which is located on the former site of RAF Tangmere and includes exhibits from WW1 through to the Cold war.
- A visit to **Chartwell**, once the home of Winston Churchill.

These suggestions reflect that 2020 will see the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE and VJ days but we are not bound by this theme and different suggestions are welcome.

## Not a member – then why not join us?

As you will see from this newsletter the Association does a great deal to support our community. Many residents are happy to simply follow our Facebook page or read these free newsletters, which is fine, but without paying members we will be unable to maintain and progress our work.

There are of course many other advantages to being a paid-up member including:

- Being part of an organisation that can provide a strong clear voice on local issues.
- Access to the Shoppers Discount Scheme that gives you a discount of up to 15% at numerous local small businesses plus local solicitors, estate agents, accountants etc.
- Supporting our community initiatives such as the Surgery Car Service, the Good Neighbour Scheme, providing seats at strategic locations, Twittens Toolkit, Local Tradesmen list etc

The Association is run entirely by unpaid volunteers and we only ask for a very modest annual subscription of **just £5 per household**. If you would like to join us then please complete the following form, I look forward to hearing from you. Kind regards Peter, Secretary.

### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Subscriptions fall due on 1st January each year. The subscription is **£5.00** per household per calendar year.

Name(s):			
Address:			
Telephone:			
E-mail:			
Signed:	.....	Date:	.....

You may pay by standing order, cash or cheque, if paying by cheque please make it payable to:

**MP and HF Residents' Association** **please use this exact wording or the bank will not accept it.**

If you wish to arrange a Standing Order then please complete and sign the form below:

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To the Manager of:	
Branch Name and Address:	

Please pay: The sum of **£5.00** now and then on 1st January each subsequent year until further notice,

From my account number:		Sort code	
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Into **MP and HF Residents' Association, Lloyds Bank, Sort Code: 776314, acct no. 71020460**

Signed:		Date	
Name on Account:			

Payment Reference:	MPHF/	This part will be completed by the MP and HF Residents Association
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Please post or deliver to: **Peter Griggs, Secretary MPHFA, 2 Woodlands Close, TN22 1TS**



## Good Neighbour Scheme – here to help

A quick reminder about our latest initiative, the **Good Neighbour Scheme**

We have a group of friendly volunteers happy to help you with odd jobs around the house, to fill in a complicated form, or maybe to simply pop in to have a friendly chat over a cuppa.

The scheme is open to all those living in

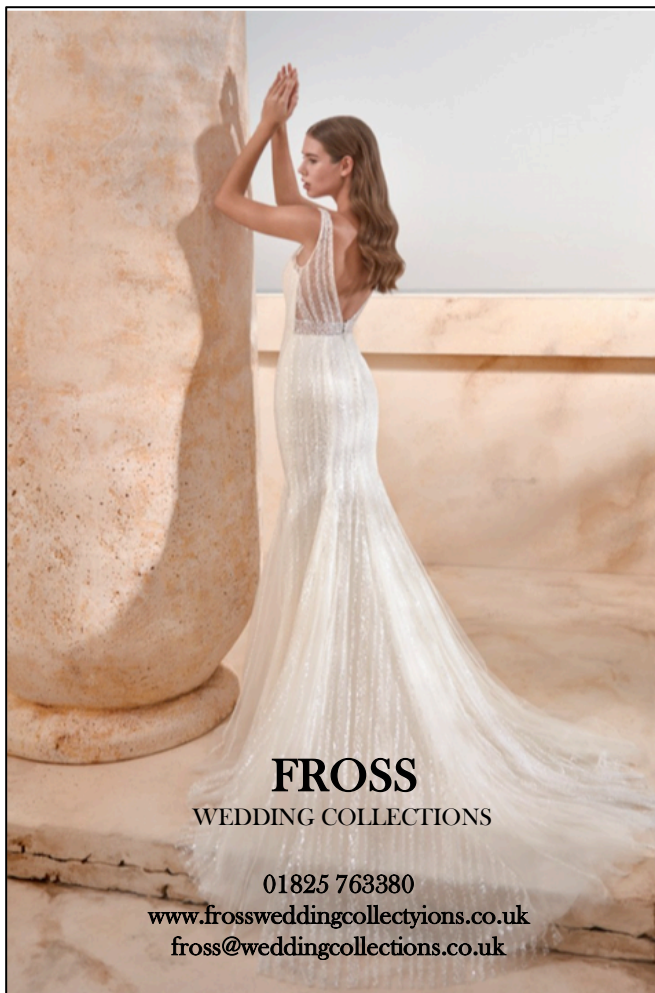
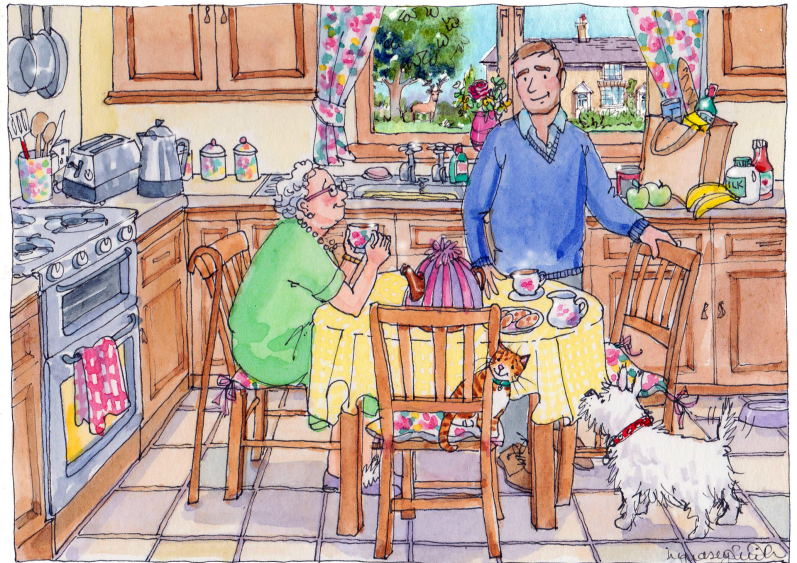
- Manor Park and Hempstead Fields
- Shaftesbury Court
- Manor House Court
- Grants Hill Court

Call **01825 578017** to arrange a visit.

Please leave a short message if we are not there to take your call.

This is a Residents' Association initiative, supported by Action in Rural Sussex.

By the way, the artwork for our lovely postcard was created by East Sussex artist Lyndsey Smith [www.lyndseysmith.co.uk](http://www.lyndseysmith.co.uk) – did you spot the Georgian style house and the deer through the kitchen window?



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*Time to see*  
*George*

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