A new standing for Greenford War Memorial

The cobbled surround of Greenford’s war memorial has been replaced this year as one of the ward forum’s project ideas supported by local people.

To ensure the new surface remains in keeping with the original memorial, the council worked with the Royal British Legion and chose to replace it with Portland stone. The surface is now level, making it safer for local dignitaries to lay their wreaths of remembrance on Armistice Day. The project cost £4,500 and was completed in time for the memorial service on Sunday 11 November, 2012.

The Royal British Legion were delighted with the improvements and commented: “It has made a great difference for the safety of those taking part in the poignant ceremony at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month every year, and it also enhances the memorial itself.”

Local people have always been at the heart of this piece of Greenford’s heritage, which stands 13 feet tall by the side of Greenford Hall. The £150 needed in 1921 to fund the project was raised by residents of Greenford, and it was built by Hanwell resident, Frederick Pushman.

It was first unveiled on Sunday 12 June 1921, with the friends and families of the 19 young men who are commemorated at the site. Also present were Lord and Lady Lawrence, Lady Mosley (the mother of the local MP who was unable to attend), and Fane D. Salis, Chairman of Middlesex County Council.
This summer, the Greenford Broadway Ward Community First Panel was set up to recommend funding for new and existing community groups to tackle local priorities. The panel is made up of representatives from resident associations, community groups, traders, local residents, along with Councillor Tim Murtagh as the chair. The panel has been allocated £33,910 for local projects as part of a government funded £80m Community First initiative, which runs until March 2015. The initiative brings the ward’s communities together to identify their strengths and local priorities, plan for the future and become more resilient.

One of the needs identified as a local priority at Greenford Broadway’s ward forum was the need for more activities to engage teenagers and young people. In response to this, the panel approved two local projects, which were accepted by Community First. Each of these projects received £2,500.

**Engaging young people**
The first project offered summer activities for young people and was further funded by £806 contributed by the ward forum, along with £2,000 raised at the Greenford and Northolt Youth Charity Fund Concert in April and £1,000 from the Community Space Challenge. The summer activities were run in Grand Union Village.

The fifty young people that took part learnt about the environment and were encouraged to think of ways to improve the area. Their ideas will be used to develop future services. The activities provided a safe place for the young people, and supervision, and they were therefore at less risk of becoming involved in anti-social behaviour or dangerous activities. The sessions also gave parents a break over the six week summer holiday period, and encouraged them to support the development of longer term play and youth work activities in the area.

To find out more about the local priorities set by the panel or apply for funds for your project, visit this website: [http://greenfordbroadwaywar.wix.com/communities-first-panel](http://greenfordbroadwaywar.wix.com/communities-first-panel)

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**Getting hooked**

The second project to receive support from the panel was the Get Hooked on Fishing open days and taster sessions for young people, which were held at Northala Fields in August and September this year.

Angling coaches set up equipment and worked with local people to offer basic angling techniques. At least 30 to 40 people came along each day to try their hand at fishing. The 1-hour bookable sessions will start up again in March, when the weather gets warmer and the fish become more active.

Get Hooked on Fishing is working in partnership with the Angling Trust to run training sessions for selected young people who are interested to become angling coaches.

For more information about the taster sessions or becoming an angling coach, contact James Thornhill, project manager at Get Hooked on Fishing, Northala Fields, on 07837 980 210 or email james.thornhill@ghof.org.uk
Northala Fields

Over the summer, Northala Fields hosted a number of Olympic and Paralympic games events.

In November, the Fields were also host to an event to encourage responsible dog ownership. A team from the Dog’s Trust was on hand to microchip dogs free of charge, and provided advice on behaviour and obedience training.
What is a ward forum?

Ward forums are your chance to bring matters that affect you to the attention of the council. The forums are also an opportunity for the council to consult on projects and policies affecting local people.

Since ward forums started in 2008, they have delivered a range of improvements around the borough. Examples are:

- Community support – grants for community activities and events
- Environmental improvements – tree planting and renovations to local monuments
- Facilities for young people – new equipment in play areas, Scout hut improvements
- Traffic and highways – traffic calming, cycling schemes
- Parks and open spaces – fencing, litter bins and flower beds
- Community safety – alley gating, additional street lighting

Ward Forums are now an important part of the council’s dialogue with residents.

Over this summer the Rectory Park Youth and Community Centre was temporarily moved and is now successfully back in occupation. For bookings call 0208 825 7934 or 07909 586969.

You asked for signs to Age Concern in Smith’s Farm; we’ve put them up.

You asked us to help Mahila Sabha provide exercise and social sessions for older people; we’ve given them £2,000.

Network Housing Group has been granted planning approval for the regeneration of the Rectory Park estate.

From November, they will be building 160 new homes in the initial two phases. These are mix of flats and houses for social rent and private sale. The first phase of 92 homes iis expected to complete in 2014, the remainder in 2016.

The shopping parade on Ruislip Road - between Ferrymead Avenue and Rosedene Avenue - will be repaved, with new litter bins, cycle stands and a tree installed. Work will start in the new year. ‘Stop and shop’ bays are also being considered.

Safer Neighbourhoods Team
Greenford Broadway
www.met.police.uk/teams/ealing
Tel: 020 8721 2916
In an emergency always dial 999. In a non emergency call 101.

Envirocrime
Tel: 020 8825 6000 Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm Report it online at www.ealing.gov.uk Email: customers@ealing.gov.uk for litter, abandoned vehicles flytipping, graffitti removal, and flyposting.

COUNCILLORS’ SURgeries
(Except August):
First Saturday of month, 10-11am, Rectory Park Community Centre, Rectory Park, Greenhill Gardens, Northolt UB5 6SG;
second Friday of month 6-7pm, Committee room, Greenford Hall, Ruislip Road, Greenford UB6 9QN;
third Saturday of month, 10-11am, Age Concern, Hotspur Road, Northolt UB5 6TN;
fourth Friday of month, 6-7pm, Grand Union Village, Weaver House, Higham Mews, Northolt. UB5 6FP.