New footpath is a walk in the woods

A new footpath has been created leading from Chatsworth Woods south to Corringway, for walkers through Hanger Lane’s woodland areas.

The paths through the pocket woods were completed before Christmas to provide a tranquil alternative to walking alongside the busy A406 North Circular Road.

In addition, more than 8,000 bluebells, 5,000 daffodil buds and 1,000 other plants and trees have also been planted in the woods. This has given an underused area a new lease of life for local people, whilst benefiting local flora and fauna.

The work to create a green corridor in this woodland area has been carried out alongside work to improve the adjacent Hanger Hill Park. The park’s improvements are part of a £83,000 project, financed by planning gain obligations from local developments agreed between the council and developers, and a £20,000 contribution from Hanger Hill’s Ward Forum that was matched by the council’s Parks Service.

The project in the park, which started in the winter of 2010 and is approaching completion, has recently seen four items of exercise equipment installed near the playground, and the refurbishment of the historic shelter first constructed in the 1930s. The existing pond in the park has been enlarged to make it more attractive to wildlife. Following the pond overflowing during a period of heavy rainfall over the winter, more work will be completed by the council’s Parks Service to prevent further overspill to the surrounding area.

Future Ward Forum Meeting
Thursday 7 March 2013, 7.30pm-9.30pm, The Brentham Club, Meadvale Road  Ealing W5 1NP
Postboxes get first class makeover

Postboxes in the home towns and cities of gold medal winning Olympic and Paralympic champions were not the only boxes to get a new coat of paint last year.

All of the 30 boxes in Hanger Hill Ward have been stripped, primed and repainted in their distinctive red colour.

Last year, Hanger Hill ward councillors informed Royal Mail about the poor state of the entire set of postboxes in the ward. The boxes, which are supposed to be refurbished every three years, had been neglected for a long period.

Initially, a financial contribution from Hanger Hill’s Ward Forum budget was suggested to enable the restoration work. Royal Mail declined this offer, but agreed to carry out the renewals. But, after an inspection of the work found that only a couple of boxes had been painted, councillors took their complaints to Royal Mail’s Chief Executive Officer. This prompted a visit from senior Royal Mail officers to Hanger Hill.

During the restoration of the postboxes it was discovered that 28 of the 30 boxes in the Ward had royal ciphers, signifying the reigning monarch of when the box was installed. A cipher consists of the initials of the monarch’s name. Around the ward there are 22 postboxes decorated with the cipher of King George V, two boxes each for Queen Victoria and King Edward, and two single boxes marked for King George VI and the present Queen Elizabeth II.

It is hoped that now a precedent has been set, this will help kick start an ongoing refurbishment of other postboxes around Ealing.

Traditional street signs in Brentham Garden Suburb

Twenty new traditional style street signs are being installed throughout the Brentham Garden Suburb this month, with the possibility of more to follow in the future.

The cast iron signs will replace existing signs that have fallen into disrepair in the area between Fowlers Walk in the east and Holyoake Walk in the west.

In 1969, the Brentham Garden Suburb was designated a conservation area. The following year residents, formed The Brentham Society to encourage the preservation of the suburb.

The society, which has carried out repairs to the local street signs for some years approached the ward forums of Hanger Hill and Cleveland to ask for new signs that are in keeping with the conservation area.

The forums agreed and Hanger Hill provided £3,000, Cleveland £2,000 with an additional £3,000 from The Brentham Society itself to construct and install the new signs in selected locations.

Richard Costella, chair of the Brentham Society, said: “We are pleased to work with Ealing Council to get these signs in place. My thanks go to the councillors and the officers who have put in the work to do so.”
Adopt a tree...

Are you able to adopt a tree near to your house and water it at least twice a week?

This request follows the news that there is no guarantee that Ealing Council’s contractors will be watering the 142 new street trees, which have begun to be planted around the ward.

Sixty of the trees are being funded from Hanger Hill’s Ward Forum budget, to celebrate the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee, with the rest financed by the council’s tree section and planning gain investment from local developments.

Some of the trees are to be planted in Queens Drive with alternative species to horse chestnut trees, which are currently suffering the effects of disease. Madeley Road, Hillcrest Road, Sandall Road and Park View Road will also be extensively replanted.

A tree-rich environment is an important means of helping to reduce air pollution in an area with a high-level of vehicle traffic along Western Avenue, the A406 North Circular Road and around Hanger Lane Gyratory.

Hanger Hill’s Orchard

Eighteen fruit trees have been planted in the orchard, located in Hanger Hill Park. This brings the total amount of trees in the orchard to 29.

There are now more varieties of apple trees including: Bramley Seedling, Cox’s Orange Pippin, James Grieve, Elstar, Jonagold. An assortment of pear trees such as: Beurre Hardy, Conference and Doyenne du Comice and two more plum trees are to be added.

Within a couple of years, residents should expect to enjoy the spring blossom and the autumn fruit.

Ward budget ideas for 2013/14

Hanger Hill Ward has an annual budget of £37,500 to spend on projects that help improve the quality of life in the area.

In the past year, the budget has been spent on improving the street scene around the majority of the ward. Some of the improvements have included renewing heritage street lamp columns.

Now attention is turning towards restoring and repainting electricity boxes, cable boxes and metal fences. Many of these items of street furniture are rusted with peeling paint.

Further information on how your ward allocates its annual budget can be found on the council website, www.ealing.gov.uk/wardforum.
What is a ward forum?

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

Many topical issues affecting Hanger Hill ward have been discussed. These items include:

- Environmental concerns – major building developments and waste & recycling matters
- Education – the creation or expansion of local schools
- Transport – traffic calming schemes and Controlled Parking Zones
- Development of local parks and green open spaces
- Community safety – local neighbourhood policing including neighbourhood watch schemes

Further information on meeting dates and agendas can be found on the council web site, www.ealing.gov.uk/wardforum or by contacting your neighbourhood co-ordinator.

West Twyford Residents’ Association (WTRA) has erected a community noticeboard giving information on essential services.

The board outside 65 Twyford Abbey Road, will display advice from Hanger Hill’s police safer neighbourhoods team and some council services. Details of the ward councillors with dates and times of their surgeries will be included.

WTRA Chairman, Paul Stevens said: “This noticeboard is a welcome addition to the West Twyford community as a whole. Residents will now be better informed about local events, matters of interest, issues of concern and the work of the WTRA.”

Anyone wishing to display a notice should contact the secretary of the WTRA, Rosie Stevens on telephone number 020 8965 4102.

Safer Neighbourhood Team
Hanger Hill
www.met.police.uk/teams/ealing
Tel: 020 020 8721 2947
In an emergency always dial 999. In a non emergency call 0300 1212.

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.

In order to help the council achieve its savings target, this will be the last printed newsletter to be delivered directly to your door.

In future, Hanger Hill’s neighbourhood news will be available to read as an electronic newsletter or online on the council’s web site at www.ealing.gov.uk/wardforums.

To receive the next edition of the Hanger Hill e-newsletter please email mywardmatters@ealing.gov.uk with ‘Hanger Hill e-newsletters’ in the subject line.

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