

# Havering-atte-Bower



*Nicky Gates - Chairman  
Jenny Gwinn - Treasurer  
Heather Sherry - Secretary  
Terry Chilvers*

*Maggy Farley  
Michael Heap  
Mark Smoothy  
Rev Dave Marshall (co-opted)*

## **HABCOS**

*Havering-atte-Bower Conservation Society*

**September 2012**

## Havering-atte-Bower Conservation Society

### **HORSEMAN SUNDAY**



**ON THE VILLAGE GREEN**

**SUNDAY 14th OCTOBER 2012**

Service at 12.30pm

At the end of the service refreshments will be served.

Havering-atte-Bower Conservation Society and St John's Church

Invite you to



## **CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT ON THE VILLAGE GREEN**

**Sunday 9th December 2012 at 6.30pm**

At the end of the service, mulled wine & mince pies will be served

## **HABCOS AGM**

**Wednesday 21st November at 7.30pm**

**To be held in the Pepperell Centre, St Francis Hospice.**

Cheese, wine, tea and coffee will be provided.

After the formalities, this year we plan to allow time to mingle and talk informally.

## **AGM Elections**

If you are a resident of Havering-atte-Bower and are interested in becoming a member of the Committee please complete the form enclosed and return to Nicky Gates by 15th November. In order to continue with our work, a full and active committee is essential. Richard Dann, who was elected as a committee member last year, was never able to take up the role. He has now moved away from the village and we wish him and his family well. Even if all the existing members remain on the committee, we now need a new member.

## **Jubilee Event - June 2012**

Friday 1st June

After months of planning and preparation the weekend of the Queen's Jubilee finally dawned. Committee members and volunteers arrived early on Friday morning to begin setting up for the evening event and the fayre the next day. We began to erect three marquees of various sizes and, with much discussion and many views on which way they should be facing, the work began. While we were putting up our marquees, the professionals arrived to erect the large marquee we had hired. You could immediately tell who the professionals were as there was no arguing about which post went where, no picking up the frame and walking it to another position and they didn't need to enlist the help of one of our younger helpers, Robert Eager, to read the instructions as both Heather and I had not brought our glasses! After much huffing and puffing and some light hearted banter, the marquees were finally in place and our balloon artist, Angela, quickly got to work decorating them with the help of Julie Chilvers and Sylvia Littlewood.

The next job was to set up the bar and barbecue and collect all the prizes, drink and food that had been stored in various houses for the last few months. The church had kindly agreed to let us use their hall for storage and tea and coffee was in constant supply from the verger, Terry. Later in the afternoon, Bernie kindly drove to Marshalls school to collect the table and chairs, the Pimms bar was set up and we were ready for the evening event.

Tickets had been in high demand in the week leading up to the event and we had sold out by the weekend before. However, the council allowed us to extend the number of people who could attend so last minute tickets were sold with people collecting them throughout the day.



Finally the evening had arrived and everyone who came made a tremendous effort to dress for the occasion with some fantastic costumes. The evening was a wonderful success and a really great occasion for the village. It was good to see so many people who had been living in the village for most of their lives, along with new families to the village and friends; the atmosphere was wonderful and everyone we spoke to said what a great time they had.

The evening would not have taken place without the help of all those who worked hard all day setting up and also during the evening on the Bar, the lovely ladies on the Pimms bar and BBQ (men of course!). Thank you to all those who gave their support without which the Friday evening event would not have been able to take place.



*Sylvia and Terry Littlewood, land girl and airman*

### Saturday 2nd June

Having pulled the short straw and being elected to sleep on the Green overnight, Terry Chilvers, Colin and I arose early in the morning to face the job of clearing up glasses, drinks, cans etc from the evening before. We had only just woken when Terry Littlewood arrived keen and fresh to begin working again, having spent all the day before setting up marquees. Terry then proceeded to phone all his neighbours getting them out of bed and telling them to get up to the Green to help. Being good neighbours, they did as they were told and arrived bleary eyed to help set up for the fayre. The rest of the Committee arrived and, with the help from volunteers from the village, we all worked like troopers to get the Village Green ready in time for the fayre to begin. The day was another success for the Village with many visitors arriving by car, once again proving the need to close some of the roads so the car park at Bedfords could be used. Rhian and her friend on the Pimms bar proved to be very popular (we sold 30 litres of Pimms over the 2 days!!) and Bob, John and Terry behind the BBQ did a sterling job keeping everyone well fed and watered. Colin, with his skills as compère, held the events together in the main ring where the children's race and tug of war were popular with spectators. With lots of support from volunteers who gave up their time to work on the stalls all day, the event was a tremendous success. The Hospice also had their open day and we linked together with the same 40s/50s theme throughout so their visitors could fully enjoy both events.

Finally, with the help of those who stayed to clear up, the Village Green looked as good as new by the end of the day and passers-by would have been forgiven for thinking that no events had taken place.

We had many prizes donated by local companies and I would like to thank them for their support. The companies were: Raymond Lee, Fragrance Florist, Samantha's Flowers, The Card Shop Tahitia, City Pavilion Bowling, Pink Piggy Balloons, T Cribb, Chic Boutique, Dainty Delliah Baby Boutique, Hobbycraft, Entertainer, Kidspace, Namco Funscape Bowling, Bodyshop Lush, Nandos and Pizza Express, The Royal Oak Pub and Simply Asia.

Thanks also to the companies who supported us with sponsorship as named in the programme and finally a massive thank you to all those who volunteered their time and assistance on both days without which the events would not have been able to go ahead. HABCOS are very proud of what we achieved as a Village and this is only possible with the support of residents. Our aim for the day was to have a successful and enjoyable day but we had the added bonus of making a profit of just over £3600 for the two events, so thank you to all of you for your support.

Nicky Gates

## London Borough of Havering Historic Forum

This meets three times a year and is a focus for all those with an interest in the history of the Borough. I go whenever I can as there is always something of interest. Everyone resident in the borough is invited. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 18th October, at a venue yet to be decided, from 1 to 5pm. On this occasion I have been invited to speak about the work of Habcos since its inception. I was happy to be volunteered as I feel very proud about what this village has achieved during the last five years and hope other communities in the borough might be encouraged to follow suit. Ed

## London Open House

London Open House will be held this year on September 22nd and 23rd. The Bower House will be open on Saturday from 10.00 a.m. to 4 p.m. To visit The Round House on the Sunday, you will need to visit the London Open House website. If you find the tours all full, please email me and I will see if you can be fitted in. Ed

## Research into the origins and history of the village green

Maggy Farley is trying to piece this together from both the written records and people's memories. She would welcome any information you can provide. This can be formal historic material or memories of events or people who lived and worked there. Any old photographs will also be appreciated. If you come to the AGM, that would be a good opportunity to speak with her. Alternatively contact her by email [maggyfarley@hotmail.com](mailto:maggyfarley@hotmail.com) or write to her at Merivale, The Green, Havering-atte-Bower, RM4 1PL.



## Village pond

For some time, we have been considering how our pond should be as, too often, it does not have enough water and it fails to support the flora or fauna it could. The only water supply is from the roadside gutter so inevitably it contains hydrocarbons. These could be removed using an interceptor. The pond base is supposed to be clay-lined but it is not sufficiently impervious so the water leaks away. If any amongst you has some knowledge of the subject, your input would be appreciated.

## Horseriding on the roads

Without the necessary bridlepaths to enable riders to avoid the roads, there will always be some conflict. We have heard of a number of occasions, particularly in North Road, where drivers have become impatient in a potentially dangerous way. We ask all riders to be as considerate as it is possible to be in providing opportunities for drivers to pass and we would ask all drivers to be as understanding as possible of the difficulties in riding safely without holding up the traffic to a degree. In particular, not all drivers realise that riding two abreast is the safest and advised way to go even if it appears to hold up traffic more. Riding in single file leads to drivers thinking they can squeeze through the gap. Because horses are not absolutely predictable, this is a prime cause of accidents.



## Dead cats

In the last few weeks, I have received two reports of cats being found at the side of the road. Sadly the reports came too late and were lacking in useful information, so I could not email round to advise. When we lost one some months ago, I emailed around and we were very grateful when someone reported where the dead cat was. If you do lose a pet or find one, please let me know and I will gladly email all those I can. Ed

## Contacts

If you would like to be added either to my email list or would like to receive all the Neighbourhood Watch updates, please email me. If you are not on email, you may still receive the NHW information by text, so please text me in that case. Ed



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