

HARROW HERITAGE TRUST

Caring for the built and natural environment

Message from the Trustees



Harrow Heritage Trust hit another milestone this year as we achieved our 40th AGM. That means we have 40 years of caring for the built and natural environment of Harrow. All members can look back and be proud of what the charity has been able to achieve.

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- Harrow Rivers Group installs Passive pollution monitors
- HNCF Update - in brief
- Financial statement
- Children's activity page!

During our AGM the Chair, Marilyn Ashton reported on information which will affect Harrow and its built environment. Please read below for this message.

"The 2012 Local Plan is out of date and so the Council has been writing a new one, which has been examined by the Inspector. Some minor modifications have been made, and it is hoped the new plan will be adopted by the start of next year.

The Local Plan must be in conformity with the current London plan and the National Planning Policy Framework. The Government has set some massive housing targets and is interested in re-designating some parts of the Green Belt as Grey Belt. This is something the Council is very much against.

In addition, the Council is going to adopt Article 4 Directions, subject to the Secretary of State agreeing to it. This will mean HMOs in single family dwelling houses for up to 6 people will then need planning permission for a change of use."

Please read on to find out the results of the AGM and Executive Board Meetin.

HARROW HERITAGE TRUST

Charity No. 1072773

Trustees

Executive Committee

President (*ex officio*): The Worshipful The Mayor, Councillor Anjana Patel

Honorary Officers

Chair: Marilyn Ashton

Vice-Chair: Janet Mote

Treasurer: Leslie Bolsover

Secretary: **Vacant**

Membership Secretary: **Vacant**

Local Authority Members

Cllr Janet Mote

Cllr June Baxter

Cllr Dan Anderson

Executive Committee Members

Stephen Bolsover (Harrow Nature Conservation Forum)

Margaret Huitson (Harrow Nature Conservation Forum)

Paul Catherall (Harrow Hill Trust)

John Orchard (Heritage Grants)

Meena Gosrani (Hatch End Association)

Vacant (Stanmore Society & Brown Plaques)

Robin Youle (Pinner Association)

Minutes Secretary: Nik Jackson

Heritage Grants

Chair: John Orchard

Grant progress:

The committee has received and approved applications for grant assistance for restoration works to Goodengate, Stanmore Hill, Stanmore and to The Billiard Room, Mount Park Road, Harrow on the Hill, both Grade II Listed Buildings.

Essential roof repair works have been satisfactorily completed at Goodengate and the grant has been disbursed.

Restoration to the historic fenestration at The Billiard Room is currently being carried out and the grant will be disbursed only upon the satisfactory completion of the work.



GOODENGATE,
STANMORE HILL, STANMORE.



THE BILLIARD ROOM, MOUNT PARK ROAD,
HARROW ON THE HILL.

Grant enquiries:

Grade II listed entrance piers to
Canons Park Estate -
Restoration of stone coping and
urn on top of north pier and
refurbishment of south pier.

An application form for a grant
award has been received.

Harrow Rivers Group

Chair: Angelique Soon

Passive monitoring boxes

As reported in the last HHT Newsletter, the Harrow Rivers Group used grant money from the Crane Valley Partnership to construct Passive monitoring boxes for Harrow rivers which will monitor and alert us to pollution incidents. Two of these boxes, CVP 9 and 10, are now in place on Yeading Brook West on the Roxbourne Park site. Furthermore, a meeting was held with Leslie Bolsover, who is the volunteer warden at Newton Farm Ecology Park, to look for possible locations adjacent to the Newton Farm site. These would help monitor pollution in the Yeading Brook East.

For those interested in what this data looks like in real time, the output from the two installed boxes can be viewed by scanning the QR code below. Click on the 'recent activity' tab to see the Passive monitoring boxes in action!



Scan to be taken to the Passive monitoring box output portal.



Warden Peter, Lindsey and Angelique during emplacement of Passive monitoring boxes in Roxbourne Park

Community Reporting

The river community reporting was fairly quiet over the summer. There is, however, an update from Ben Morris of CURB (Clean Up the River Brent) about a road run off study being conducted in conjunction with Imperial College. The study's main findings so far are that caffeine, which is being used as an indicator for sewage, has been found in all samples and that car tyre wear chemicals were found in every sample as well. More time is needed to analyse results and decide which sites will go on for further more detailed sampling, which will hopefully start this autumn.

The community Report log can be viewed using the QR code below, recent reports since the last HHT meeting are on pages 9, 10, 11.

Only Rain Down the Drain

An initial "Only Rain Down the Drain" meeting was held on the 15th August with a basic plan developed from suggestions. "Only Rain Down the Drain" campaigns are designed to highlight how pollutants, including litter and chemical pollutants such as left over paint and engine oil, can enter waterways via drains. The suggestions from the initial meeting include involving more interested parties in the planning stages. Unfortunately, the deadline for applying for a Crane Valley Community Fund grant passed before a complete plan could be developed but this should not affect the general planning of this project for the future.



Scan the QR code to read the Rivers
Community Report log



Could this be our Logo?

Membership

Membership numbers are static at 54 of which 28 are Lifetime Members. The position of Membership Secretary remains unfilled. Please contact info@harrowheritagetrust.org.uk if you would like to become our Membership Secretary.

Harrow Nature Conservation Forum

Chair: Stephen Bolsover

All our sites continue to look good thanks to the hard work of our wardens and volunteers.

In August a collaborative effort at Roxbourne Rough brought volunteers from HNCF and Roxbourne Park to clear vegetation from Bolton's Pande in Roxbourne Rough. A muddy and successful time was had by all; the pond has now started to refill and should fill completely over the winter ready to support a good population of dragonflies, mayflies and other pond life next summer.



The clean up crew posing for a pic in the pond.



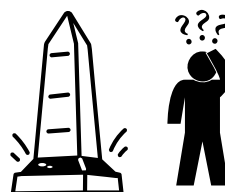
Before (above) and after (below) the removal of some of the heavy vegetation.

Harrow Council has initiated a scheme called "Bringing our buildings back to life" with the aim of renting out buildings in parks and open spaces to groups whose activities benefit the public. Three buildings included are the ruined toilet block at Stanmore Common, the old scout hut on Stanmore Little Common and the Old Dairy at Wood Farm. The Old Dairy is very useful to us as a place to run small group courses. It is also a dry place where we store our collection of nature objects that we tour to scout groups and fairs, and until recently the place where we stored power tools and recharged their batteries, now removed due to security issues. As we will effectively lose access to the Old Dairy, Jennifer has talked of providing a secure container, with electric power and a water supply, somewhere close to the Old Dairy for us to use in place of the building. We'll have to see how this pans out.

Lastly, one of Harrow's least known bits of heritage is in the Council owned parcel of land called Glenthorne, between Bentley Priory nature reserve and Common Road. It is a brick obelisk. I visited the structure on 6th September 2025 with John Gorman of Hertfordshire Renovation. He was impressed with the obelisk; he said that it was high quality work and very unusual. It was Georgian, probably built in the period 1780 to 1830. To be this good it was likely designed by an architect rather than simply built by a builder. The main column is built of bricks that have been fired to shape, with a slant on the external face, so that the pillar gets narrower as it goes up. I am hoping to apply to the Heritage Lottery Fund for funds to carry out stabilization works on the obelisk and to get research done to find out more about it.



The mysterious obelisk standing in the Glenthorne section of Bentley Priory.



Harrow Heritage Trust end of March 2025 financial report

The Trust's funds totaled £188,966 at the end of the financial year March 2025. Four funds totaling £151,568 were designated as restricted to the uses described. These are Heritage Grants (£31,110), Public Works of Art (£18,396), Work with Young People (£2,352) and Headstone Manor (£99,710): commitments or expenditure plans exist for parts of these. There is also an Unrestricted General fund of £37,396 which includes the activities of Harrow Nature Conservation Forum, Harrow Rivers, and the Brown Plaques committee as well as admin and one-off charitable donations. Our end of March 2025 Financial Statement appears on the back page.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name

Harrow Heritage Trust

No (if any)

1072773

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from

Period start date

01/04/2024

To

Period end date

31/03/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Subscriptions, Donations and other income	6,074			6,074	11,939
Local authority grants	4,390			4,390	-
Other grants	7,981			7,981	26,026
Deposit interest	1,211	7,226		8,437	6,425
					-
					-
					-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	19,656	7,226		26,882	44,390
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	19,656	7,226	-	26,882	44,390
A3 Payments					
General fund					
Admin expenditure	2,053			2,053	1,952
Direct charitable expenditure	2,925			2,925	904
Harrow Nature Conservation Forum	14,211			14,211	26,458
Work with Young People	-	791		791	
Public Works of Art	-	52		52	
Headstone Manor	-	-		-	350
Heritage Grants	-	2,000		2,000	-
					-
Sub total	19,189	2,843		22,032	29,664
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	19,189	2,843	-	22,032	29,664
Net of receipts/(payments)	467	4,383		4,850	14,726
A5 Transfers between funds					
	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	36,937	147,185		184,116	169,390
Cash funds this year end	37,398	151,568		188,966	184,116