

HARROW PEOPLE

March 2023 issue ● www.harrow.gov.uk

INSIDE

- Social Dough
- Flagship Actions
- Harrow heritage



RIGHT BIN. RIGHT THING.

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What goes where? harrow.gov.uk/binguide



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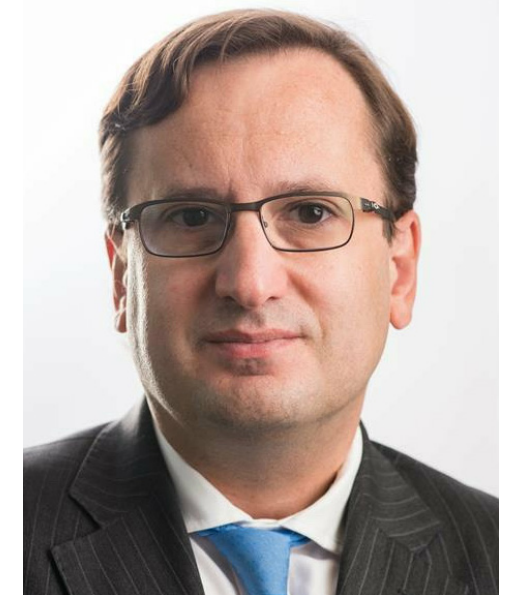
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endorsement.

www.harrow.gov.uk



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Facebook page www.facebook.com/lbharrow



Cllr Paul Osborn
Leader of Harrow Council

I want to restore pride in
Harrow and inside you
can see how we plan to
do that.

We're focusing on the
things that people care
about most. Improving
the council's customer
services, protecting
Harrow from inappropriate
developments, fixing
potholes, building
affordable homes,
cracking down on those
who commit antisocial
behaviour – these are just
a few of the things we've
committed to.

We want a borough that
is clean and safe and one
where those most in need
are supported.

Ultimately we believe in
putting residents first,
which is why all the things
we're doing either give
you a superior service,
a greater say or a better
quality of life.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH...?

... FREE PARKING

One million hours of free parking have now been enjoyed by residents and shoppers since the scheme was introduced last summer, providing a much-needed boost to local businesses.

The easiest way to claim your free hour is by the PayByPhone smartphone app. You can also use the text/phone service or, if you need to use cash, pay at any shop displaying the PayPoint sign. Find out more on our website.



... TENNIS

Work began onsite in March for the refurbishment of Harrow's 36 tennis courts. We've now received £587,000 from the Lawn Tennis Association to bring the public courts in the 13 parks up to a good standard – including 11 that are currently unplayable. It's more than originally anticipated due to increased construction costs.

For more details check harrow.gov.uk/tennisconsultation



... ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR



We want to know about those anti-social acts that most concern you or affect your quality of life.

Dog fouling, spitting in public, smoking in play areas and driving on verges are just some of the areas where we can apply special sanctions. We want to tackle low-level problems and restore pride in Harrow.

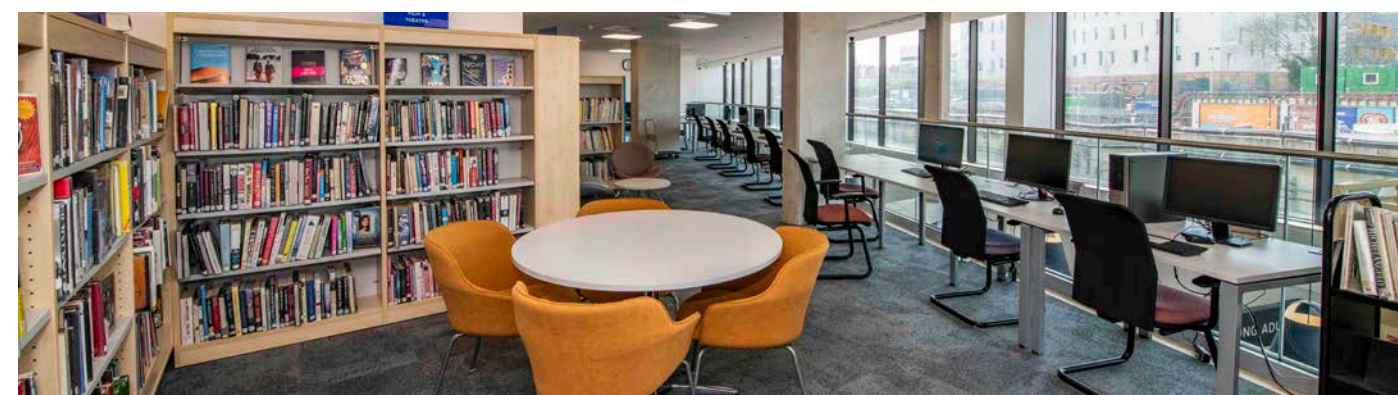
Go to talk.harrow.gov.uk to have your say.

... SAFE SPACES

We want women and girls to feel safe in Harrow. In October we launched a survey for women and girls to share information about where they may feel vulnerable or have experienced threatening behaviour.

The survey is still open, and we encourage residents of any gender to share their views.

Take part at harrowsaferspaces.commonplace.is – the map-based tool allows you to drop a pin on the location you want to comment on and answer questions relating to that location.



... CIVIC CENTRE

We've really gone to town – leaving the Civic Centre and opening two new sites for in-person customer services in the heart of Harrow. Greenhill Library off College Road is no longer just a beautiful space for leisure and learning –

you can now also get help there to access council services online.

Next door is the new home for the Register Office and a short walk away at 6 Gayton Road a new reception for urgent social care and housing issues is now open. Whatever council service you need, start with our fantastic and ever-evolving website.

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Protecting the suburbs

VIEWS SOUGHT ON TALL BUILDINGS GUIDANCE

One of the commitments in the council's new Corporate Plan is to protect the character of our suburbs from unsuitable developments.

We know the height of buildings is a big concern for many residents, so we have launched a consultation on tightening up guidance around the construction of tall buildings in Harrow.

We want to provide guidance for planners and developers on what people in Harrow consider suitable for their area.

Setting out what building heights are appropriate can help protect our suburbs' low-density Metroland character.

If adopted, it would give planners more power to stop unsuitable developments and the council

would like to hear everyone's views on the proposed guidance.

The consultation is one of the first to feature on the council's new platform MyHarrow Talk – the site offers a more effective way for the council to listen to the views of Harrow residents, another of our key commitments.

■ Visit talk.harrow.gov.uk to have your say before Monday 17 April.



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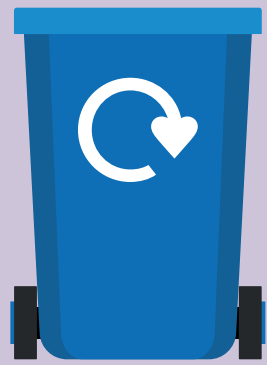
12-13 Station Parade
Belmont Circle
Kenton Lane
Harrow
HA3 8SB

www.harrow.messagecompany.co.uk | harrow@messagecompany.co.uk | 0203 649 6000

Restoring pride in Harrow

Where does the money go?

From schools to housing, street cleaning to customer services, we want to ensure that you know where your money goes. Here are some of the major spending areas that your Council Tax helps support:



£19.1m
Waste and recycling



£11.4m
Housing

£37.2m

Services
supporting
children and
families



£152.9m

Schools, Special Educational
Needs and early years
provision



£107.3m

Services supporting
older adults and
people with disabilities

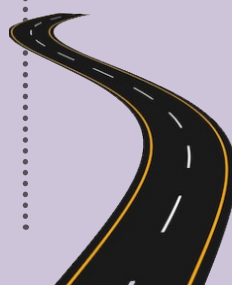
£11.7m

Public health
services



£48.4m

Highways,
transport,
environmental
health, culture
and libraries



HOW WE WILL INVEST IN YOUR PRIORITIES

Last month Harrow Council made decisions about how it will spend its budget to support residents and their families.

Leader of Harrow Council, Cllr Paul Osborn, said: "Our budget offers a sensible balance that ensures we invest in priorities that are important to you while managing our finances responsibly, maximising every pound of public money we spend and minimising the impact of increased costs on taxpayers."

"Our vision and priorities for the year ahead will build on what we have already achieved and continue to put residents at the heart of everything we do."

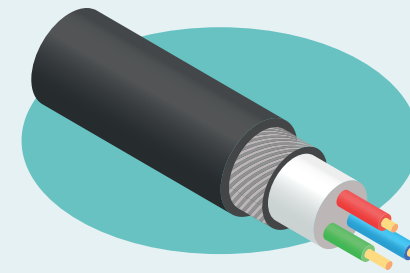
"We want to restore pride in Harrow. We want Harrow to be a place that everyone is proud to call home. Where new people are confident to settle, put down roots and grow their family and where people thrive."

"To help everyone understand what we want to achieve for Harrow and how we plan to do this we have three priorities. These priorities will be used to make decisions at the council and to drive the services we deliver."

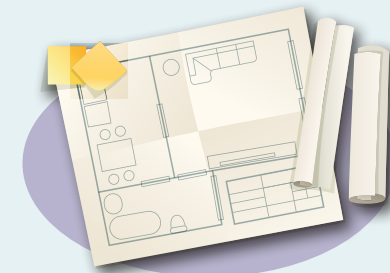
Over the next three pages we set out those priorities and explain how we will put them into action.

A COUNCIL THAT PUTS RESIDENTS FIRST

We will make it easier to contact the Council and access services, responding quickly and effectively. We'll make sure we deliver on our promises and improve communications and listen to residents. Here's how we'll do it:

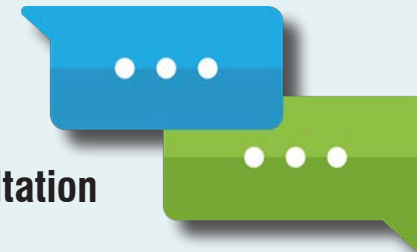


Install full
fibre internet
to all council
homes

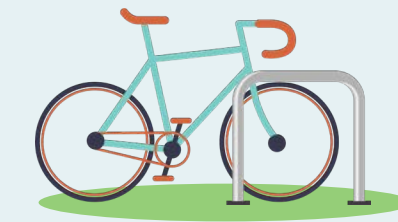


Launch a
new planning
website making
it easier to apply
and comment

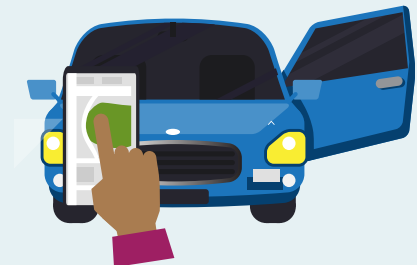
Launch the
My Harrow
Talk consultation
platform



Adopt planning
protections to
preserve the
character of
our suburbs



Create safe
and secure
cycle parking
at Harrow on
the Hill station



Rollout the
first car
club parking
spaces

Respond
to 90% of
complaints in
15 working
days



Improve our
website to
create a more
personalised
service

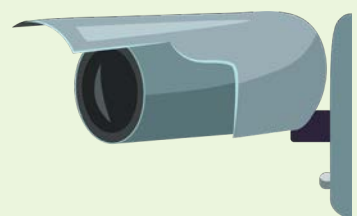


A BOROUGH THAT IS CLEAN AND SAFE

We will improve our public spaces and crack down on those who make Harrow dirty and unsafe. We'll invest in our parks and public spaces and encourage sustainable ways to travel in the borough. Here's how we'll do it:



Deliver 89 affordable new homes on the Grange Farm Estate



Install CCTV cameras in fly-tipping hot spots

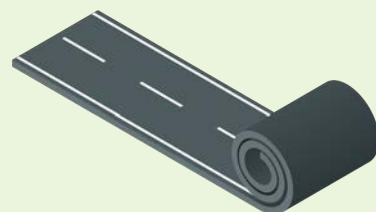
Maintain our 6 Green Flag parks and add 3 more



Bring 36 tennis courts back into good condition

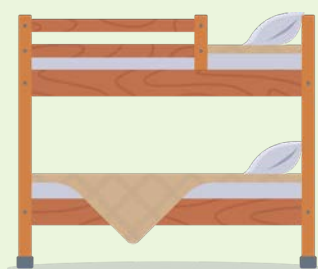


Double the number of electric car charging points in 12 months



Resurface more than 60 roads and paths over the next 12 months

Crackdown on illegal beds in sheds



Hold Weeks of Action against antisocial behaviour and fly-tipping



A BOROUGH THAT SUPPORTS THOSE IN NEED

We will celebrate Harrow's diversity and provide better job and training opportunities for all. We'll improve our community resources for the most in need, helping residents live well for longer. Here's how we'll do it:



Deliver another year of free school meals during holidays

Launch a skills and employment programme for vulnerable young people



Upgrade children's centres into family centres*

Turn neighbourhood resource centres into true wellbeing hubs*



At least double the number of Council apprenticeships

Begin building affordable homes on Milton Road



Create a new adult social care and mental health service

Open our customer centre at Gayton Road



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‘An honour’: Cllr Janet Mote is sworn in as First Citizen at a Mayor-Making ceremony in May 2022



The Queen's Jubilee was a highlight, with the Mayor attending numerous celebrations including here at The Firs



The Mayor led tributes to Her Late Majesty The Queen and read the Proclamation of Accession of King Charles III



In the final months of her Mayoralty, Mayor of Harrow Cllr Janet Mote reflects on a remarkable year.

“This has been my dream job as I love the borough and meeting the people who live in Harrow,” she said.

“I have enjoyed every event I attended this year and there have been hundreds! A highlight has been attending all the religious and



Meeting cadets at the Remembrance Sunday Parade

community events in Harrow which make you realise how diverse and exciting the borough is.”

The Mayor's chosen charities are Harrow Young Carers and Northwick Park Hospital Dialysis and Renal Centre, which cared for her late husband and former councillor Chris Mote.

To find out more about the charities and donate, visit harrow.gov.uk/mayor



At the JVB Bollywood fundraising evening at the Navnat Centre; right, winning third place in the New Year's Day Parade. Pictured with Cllr Jean Lammiman, former councillor John Hinkley and the Mayoress



With the Mayor of Harrow's twin town Douai, at the Fêtes de Gayant (the festival of Giants); above beacon lighting for the Queen's Jubilee



With the Mayor of Harrow's twin town Douai, at the Fêtes de Gayant (the festival of Giants); above beacon lighting for the Queen's Jubilee

A pizza the action

Lots of people re-evaluated their lives during lockdown, but for Pinner-raised Kara Boddy it was less pandemic, more “deep-pan dough-mic”.

For Kara and fiancé Claud Baker ditched their joint plans for careers as building surveyors to set up The Social Dough Company, which began as a mobile food truck out of an old horse trailer and opened their first premises in Love Lane, Pinner last December.

Their restaurant now employs one full-time and 12 part-time members of staff, all young people local to Pinner who walk to work.

Kara, who still works as a building surveyor, said: “We were passionate about creating a fun safe space for people to come and work, where they could not only make friends, but also be trained and gain valuable skills and knowledge about the workplace.

“For most of our team, it is the first job they have had. They are all super hardworking and reliable.”

Their regular food truck schedule of weekly sites – dubbed “socially doughstancing” – has largely been put on hold as the duo focus their energy on building on the restaurant’s success.

People can order takeaway from the restaurant now but they still use the truck for private and corporate events.

And they’re also keen to use the truck to help the community. “We have partnered with local foodbanks and homeless shelters



and once a month we try and go to one of the locations to cook pizzas for those experiencing hunger and or homelessness in the local area,” said Kara.

We have really enjoyed running this project and found it very rewarding to be able to give back to the community in this way!”

And as for the future? Well there’s a wedding to plan as well as focusing all their energy on keeping the people of Pinner happy and well fed! And will the wedding reception be pizza-based?

“No, we spend so much time surrounded by and talking about pizza, it will be nice to have a day off and eat something different!”



Claud Baker and fiancée Kara Boddy set up The Social Dough Company during lockdown and now have permanent premises in Pinner





Affected by MS?

The Harrow MS Group is here to help.

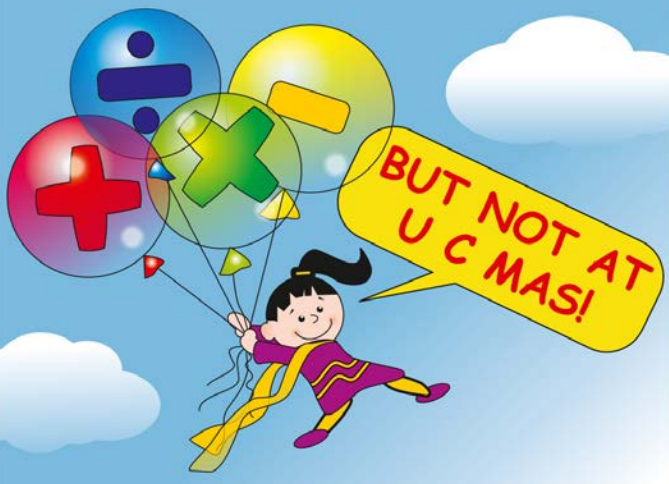
Together

We provide support, signposts to relevant information, grants, social events & our newsletter.

Contact us: E: harrow@mssociety.org.uk
T: **07535 186520** (Mon-Fri 10am-2pm)

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LEARN HARROW



In the first feature showcasing Harrow's rich heritage through its collections and archives, we go behind closed doors to find out more...

Visit Harrow Museum and you will see only some of its 120,000 artefacts and stories on display – but anyone can request to view and research the vast collection that ranges from Roman pottery to teddy bears.

"The collection has formed since the 1980s at the beginnings of the museum and has grown to reflect Harrow's diverse communities, including material from a passenger on the Empire Windrush, protest banners from Black Lives Matter demonstrations, diyas from Diwali celebrations and a training certificate from a nurse at Harrow Cottage Hospital," says curator Stacey Anne Bagdi.

Among the items with local connections are a Kodak camera, paintbrushes from Hamilton Brush Works Co, cartoons from Whitefriars Glass Limited and paints from Winsor & Newton.

The Museum collections are owned by Harrow Museums Trust but are managed by Harrow Council. Stacey, who has been managing the collection since



Curator Stacey Anne Bagdi with items from the Whitefriars Glass Collection

2019, said: "My role is to increase access to the museum collections through exhibitions, outreach projects and cataloguing our collection online. I also curate events to engage audiences with our collections. I'm lucky to have a number of volunteers to support me in inventory, research and cataloguing.

"This year we're looking forward to some exciting projects and exhibitions. We have just launched our latest free exhibition, From Beacon to Folly: Excavating St Dominic's Sixth

Form College. This exhibition features some fascinating finds from the recent archaeological excavations at the college, curated by students."

Stacey is passionate about the collections and working among some of Harrow's treasures and the local community. "My favourite collection is our Whitefriars Glass Collection," she says. "I just love the colours."

■ Visit www.headstonemanor.org to find out more, or email collections@headstonemanor.org



Volunteers Tricia and Esther, support with inventory, research and cataloguing. Below left, the temporary exhibition room at the Museum showing 'From Beacon to Folly'; below right, the museum collection stores where the majority of the collection of 120,000 items are kept



With the closure of Harrow Civic Centre, the Museum's Collection Team and the Harrow Local History Collection and Archives have been working with Council colleagues to ensure the long term preservation of heritage items from the building. Specialist conservation professionals and heritage advisors have been consulted from the beginning and throughout the moving process. The team has been undertaking digital preservation projects to provide the public greater access to Harrow's heritage which will be viewable to the community when completed.

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Homes for Ukraine

Juliet at home
with Doina

'I would want someone to help me'

One year on from the invasion of Ukraine, there's an ongoing need for sponsors able to give refugees a place to stay.

160 families in Harrow have done just that, with each offering a home for six months in return for a monthly thank-you payment from the Government of up to £500.

Most of the people that currently need help are already well-adjusted to life in the UK.

Sponsors are not expected to provide meals or offer emotional

support. We spoke to Juliet, a Harrow resident, who shared her experience of the Homes for Ukraine scheme.

Juliet told us what motivated her to get involved. "Can you imagine what it would be like to have tanks rolling down Oxford Street? You can easily imagine yourself in that position – I would want someone to help me."

Vlad and his partner Doina came to stay with Juliet after their initial placement ended.

"They're a normal, lovely, caring young couple – it's great to

know I've done something to help people in greater need than I am."

Juliet says the process to join the scheme was easy and that she's received a lot of support. The Romanian and Eastern European Hub, Two Generations and Voluntary Action Harrow have been central to the project's success in Harrow.

The council would like to thank them all for their work.

Find out more about the scheme email community. development@harrow.gov.uk

WHAT'S ON

HARROW ARTS CENTRE

harrowarts.com

Robert Habermann Presents 'His Way – The Songs of Frank Sinatra'

2 April | 3pm | £15

■ Award-winning singer Robert Habermann tells the remarkable story of Ol' Blue Eyes, Frank Sinatra. From band singer, to 1940s pop idol – his fall from popularity in the late 40s, swinging his way through the 50s, and recording some of 20th century's most popular songs and albums. This show explores the life and songs of a true world icon.

Easter Pantomime: Alice in Wonderland

4 April | 2pm | £14 (all ages)

■ Join Alice on a magical wander through Wonderland as she meets a whole host of crazy characters straight out of the Lewis Carroll classic. Pop songs, puppets and magic illusions bring this Easter family pantomime to life.



Tote Bag Customisation Workshop

6 April | 10am – 12pm | £10

■ Professional street artist and illustrator Roo leads this creative and relaxed art session to customise your own tote bag to keep. Suitable for ages 7+.

HEADSTONE MANOR & MUSEUM

headstonemanor.org

Vanakkam: Celebrating Tamil Heritage in Harrow

Until 30 April | Local History Room

■ Headstone Manor & Museum continues its celebrations of Tamil heritage with this exhibition and project co-curated with Harrow Tamil School Association. This small exhibition highlights the rich and diverse history of the Tamil community in Harrow through objects and personal stories.

■ Headstone Manor & Museum continues its celebrations of Tamil heritage with this exhibition and project co-curated with Harrow Tamil School Association. This small exhibition highlights the rich and diverse history of the Tamil community in Harrow through objects and personal stories.



Magical Mini Garden Workshop

16 April | 11am; 12.15pm; 1.45pm | £3 | The Granary

■ We all know gnomes love gardening, but what would their tiny gardens look like? Let your imagination go wild making flowers, trees and ponds in this mini garden workshop.

Gnome Trail

1 – 16 April | During museum opening hours | Free | all ages | Manor House & Grounds

■ Can you find the pesky gnomes hidden around Headstone Manor? Find all the gnomes on this fun trail for all ages, solve their puzzle and win a prize.

HEATH ROBINSON MUSEUM

heathrobinsonmuseum.org

Easter Chick Trail

8 April | 11am – 3pm | £4

■ Join a fun Easter trail in the park, answer quiz questions along the way to win a prize. Suitable for ages 3 to 10. Booking required.

HARROW LEISURE CENTRE

everyoneactive.com

No Strings Badminton

Mondays and Wednesdays | 10am – 2pm

■ Grab a racket and join the nation's largest badminton programme. Book online or via the app.

TT Kidz

Mondays | 4pm–5pm; 5pm – 6pm | £40

■ Learn to play table tennis on this eight-week course including games, activities and challenges. Suitable for ages 7 to 11 and 11 to 15 years. Call 020 8428 7931 for details.

Womens Aqua

Tuesdays and Thursdays | 8pm – 9pm

■ A fun and invigorating instructor-led all-over body workout in the water designed to effectively burn calories with minimal impact. Book online or via the app.

HARROW LIBRARIES

harrow.gov.uk/libraries

Conversation Café

Drop-in session every Tuesday | 10am – 12pm | Greenhill Library

■ Opportunity for our community's

CORONATION EVENTS

Celebrate the King's Coronation

■ This May the Coronation of King Charles III will be marked with a three-day bank holiday weekend from Saturday 6 May to Monday 8 May. Street parties are just some of the celebrations taking place in Harrow. Applications close on 31 March. Find out more at www.harrow.gov.uk/coronation

Windsor Castle at Harrow Libraries

4 – 5 April

■ Discover the history of Windsor Castle and its development from wooden fortress to a stone palace at Harrow Libraries. View objects from the castle collections, including some child-sized armour to imagine what it was like to be trained as a knight. Booking essential at www.harrow.gov.uk/libraries



Photo: Royal Collection Trust / His Majesty King Charles III 2023

Crown making craft activity

29 April, at Pinner, Stanmore and Roxeth libraries

■ Celebrate the coronation in style with this crown-making craft activity for little princes and princesses aged 5 to 9. Booking essential at www.harrow.gov.uk/libraries

The Coronation Big Lunch

■ Get inspiration for your street parties by ordering your Coronation Big Lunch pack at www.CoronationBigLunch.com

Lighting up the nation

Sunday 7 May, evening

■ The Mayor of Harrow invites you to our beacon lighting ceremony at Hatch End Playing Fields. Check harrow.gov.uk/coronation for details nearer the time.

Coronation Celebration Day at Headstone Manor & Museum

8 May, 12pm – 5pm, £2

■ Join the celebrations with this full day of fun for the family. Expect live performances, workshops for all ages, craft and food stalls and a whole host of royal-themed fun. Book your tickets online and receive a free Union Jack flag on entry. Visit headstonemanor.org for details.

unpaid carers and the people they care for to meet Harrow's Adult Social Care team and partner organisations for a chat and to get advice about the support on offer.

Money Management Course

Wealdstone Library | Tuesdays from 18 April | 10.30am – 1pm; Greenhill Library | Wednesdays from 19 April | 10.30am – 1pm

■ This free course helps you manage savings, borrowing, planning your finances, and avoiding scams. Run in a small friendly group with one-to-one tutor time. Everyone who finishes a short workbook will receive a full NCFE certificate Level 1 Award in Money Management and this can be used on your CV. Register at www.learnharrow.ac.uk



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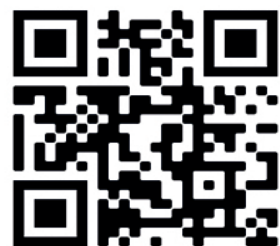
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After a long winter and a period that has been isolating for many, what could be better than an activity that's great for your physical and mental health, is sociable, free and requires no special equipment.

Harrow Health Walks are part of the England's largest network of wellbeing walk schemes run by the Ramblers. They help thousands of people across the country to lead a more active lifestyle.

The walks have varying levels of difficulty and are led by qualified leaders. You can take part at your own pace.

Frances Saunders started walking with the group in 2018 when she retired, before becoming a regular walk leader. "It was very enjoyable walking with them and meeting lots of lovely people," she says.



"Occasionally if leaders were away, I helped as a backstop and then completed the volunteer walk leader training in 2019".

At that time, the walk had up to 40 walkers each week. Frances explains that, following the pandemic, numbers fell but are starting to pick back up again and new leaders are always needed.

"There is a borough-wide shortage, as some retired," Frances explains. She urges anyone who wants to know more about what is involved in

leading to ask. Free training is provided. There's no need to book or bring anything. "Though walking boots or sturdy shoes are recommended," Frances adds.

Cllr Pritesh Patel, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Adult Services, joined the group on one of their walks this month and said: "We have many beautiful and peaceful places to explore in Harrow and now is the perfect time to go out and see them while getting fit at the same time."

Find out more at www.harrow.gov.uk/walk

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