

Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association



WINTER NEWSLETTER

Message from Paul Sparks, Chairman of the Association: " I am very proud of the great volunteers we have that organise our community events such as the " Big Lunch" together with running our much-used Surgery Car Service. We know that loneliness and isolation is a growing problem and not just with the elderly, so in response we have just launched a Good Neighbour Scheme, more details can be found in this Newsletter.

Looking ahead to next year, we face several challenges including the major building project at Uckfield College and the potential for disruption and inconvenience to local residents, finding a long-term solution for the verges in Downsvie Crescent together with the ongoing issue of maintaining our numerous footpaths and twittens. Please feel free to let me or one of our Committee have your views on these or any other local issues.

I wish you all a happy and healthy 2019 living in our lovely part of Uckfield'.

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Surgery Car Service

Need help getting to your GP appointment at Buxted, Bird in Eye, the Meads or Uckfield Hospital?

If you live on Manor Park, Hempstead Fields, Manor House Court, Shaftesbury Court or Streatfeild House then you qualify for this service

01825 578006

Good Neighbour Scheme launched

National Kindness Day saw the launch of the Association's Good Neighbour Scheme.

Now people living on Manor Park and Hempstead Fields or in Streatfeild House, Manor House Court or Shaftesbury Court can turn to the Residents' Association if they need a helping hand.

It is not necessary to be an Association member to benefit from this service which offers help with odd jobs around the house and form filling. Our volunteers are also happy to just pop in for a cuppa and a chat with those feeling a bit lonely.

Once we have gained some experience we hope to be able to extend the range of assistance we offer.

There is no charge made for what our volunteers do and we are looking forward to lending a hand to our residents be they young or old.

We know that Good Neighbour schemes in other communities have benefited people of all ages including those feeling isolated and alone and others that are a little frail and need a simple thing done like changing a light bulb or help with filling in a form.

If you or someone you know might benefit from using this scheme then please then call us on **01825 578017**.

Please note, we will accept referrals from third parties but only if the call is being made with the knowledge and consent of the person concerned

Jeffreys Way – no longer such a mystery



Those of us not born and bred on Manor Park have always found Jeffreys Way a bit of a mystery! The house numbering was obviously designed by someone with a wicked sense of humour particularly the houses on the green where Jeffreys Way meets Tower Ride.

This problem was highlighted by a member at the AGM which prompted the Association to request Wealden District Council to install additional signage. This set the wheels in motion and a month or two later several shiny new signs were in place. Many thanks to Graham Kean of WDC for his help with this.



Lest We Forget Bench

To commemorate the centenary of the end of World War One and those that have died in conflicts since then, the Association has installed a 'Lest We Forget' bench seat in Southview Drive.

It was decided to install the bench adjacent to the bus stop outside Streatfeild House as this was thought to be an ideal location. It will be at the entrance to the two estates and also serve as a permanent reminder to young people of the sacrifices made by our armed forces as they walk to and from the nearby Uckfield College and Manor Primary.

It will also of course benefit our residents as they wait for a bus to take them into the town.

There was a short simple ceremony to open the bench, with Chairman Paul Sparks saying a few words and then the ribbon was cut by Georgina Gamble the mother of young Dan Gamble, 2 PARA, who lost his life on active service in Helmand Province in 2008.



The Chairman of Wealden District Council, Chris Hardy, watches as Georgina Gamble cuts the ribbon



None of this would have been possible without the generosity of CPJ Field Funeral Directors which made a generous donation towards the costs and

Uckfield Town Council which awarded a grant covering nearly 50% of the cost. Also, Wealden District Council kindly gave permission to place the bench on its land. A big thankyou to those organisations and to Ric Mears of Mearsy's Services for installing it for us.



Remembrance at Sussex Horse Rescue Trust



This summer the Association supported a special event at The Sussex Horse Rescue Trust.

This commemorated the fallen horses of World War One and the soldiers that cared for them - stories of courage and friendship.

Visitors were able to discover more about the war horses through living history, talks, veterinary demonstrations, interactive

craft activity and the music of the time.

This included WW1 displays and children's activities provided by the Association such as 'paint a poppy on a pebble' and a replica WW1 Advance Dressing Station.



The Association also enlisted the support of Peter Oliver Homes which made a generous donation towards the newly established Remembrance Garden at Sussex Horse Rescue.

Other News

At the time of going to press the defibrillator at the Browns Lane shops has still not been replaced. Uckfield Lions are dealing with this, the delay is due to the insurance claim not being settled.

Repair to the verge in Downsview Crescent is still awaited too, we continue to liaise with ESCC on this.

We intend to install a Planter at the Browns Lane entrance to the estates but we are having difficulty in obtaining the recycled timber required – watch that space!

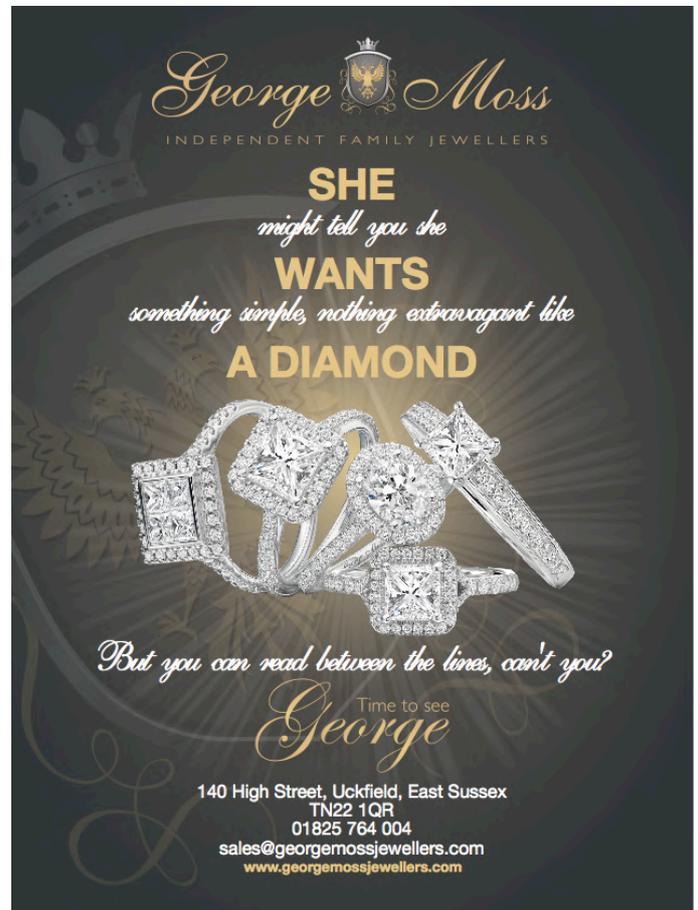


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A Sensory Garden – what's that?

A sensory garden has plants and garden materials which appeal to all five senses. It can offer a rich and therapeutic experience, for example those with dementia.

The Association is looking to see whether it can work with a partner organisation to provide one on our patch.

More about this in our next newsletter.

How to contact us:

Post: 2 Woodlands Close, TN22 1TS
Email: mphfres@gmail.com
Facebook: @ManorParkResAssoc
Good Neighbour: 01825 578017
Surgery Car: 01825 578006

Duke and Duchess of Sussex thank Manor Primary pupils

The Association's Big Lunch art competition saw Year 5 pupils at the Manor Primary given the opportunity to let their imagination run wild and design a special home for the newly married Duke and Duchess of Sussex.

The Association sent copies of the winning entries to Kensington Palace and received a reply saying that the Duke and Duchess found them '*fantastic and imaginative*'.

The winners who received their prizes at the Big Lunch in June were:

Dolomite – 1st prize Ferne Ruane, 2nd prize Leon Lucas-Scott, 3rd prize Tia Longhurst

Amber - 1st prize Thomas Montgomery, 2nd prize Owen Inman, 3rd prize William Leeves

Peter Oliver Homes sponsored the competition.