

HORNSEY PENSIONERS

www.hornseypag.org.uk

Hornsey Pensioners Action Group serves pensioners within Hornsey & Wood Green
and other neighbouring parliamentary constituencies

May 2022 - Bulletin 5

The War Against The BBC



Speaker: Patrick Barwise, Co-Author of *War Against the BBC* (2021) and
Emeritus Professor at London Business School

Time & Date: WEDNESDAY May 18th 2022

1.30pm Start

Venue: Hornsey Parish Church Hall,
Cranley Gardens, N10 3AH

Entrance on Cranley Gardens through car park. Doors open from 1pm.

*All help by members welcome. With many thanks to all our helpers last month and volunteer,
Mike Seed.*

HPAG Public Meetings & Notices

Except for December, our social meetings
are always on the **3rd Wednesday of the
month** so **15th June, 20th July, 17th
August** for a possible outing.

***Please pay your 2022 subscription this
month to continue your membership as
it is not fair on those who have already
paid to bear the running costs.***

More family stories urgently needed!!

The National Pensioners Convention

The National Pensioners Convention is very busy
negotiating and campaigning on our behalf.

See: www.npcuk.org

Also, local members attend meetings, write
letters etc. - especially for issues like social care
and transport. If you experience any problem that
our group should follow up, please contact the
committee. A fuller list of our activities are
attached/enclosed and will also be distributed on
May 18th 2022.

Janet Shapiro

Report On Our Last Meeting On 20th April 2022

Defending the Natural World from Destruction - Everyone can make a difference. The
speaker was Athen Ayren, Greenpeace Volunteer for over 20 years. [Greenpeace](http://www.greenpeace.org) started in
1971 and are an international organisation. Pamela Jefferys, a longstanding HPAG Committee
Member and Campaigner, was a firm supporter until her death at the age of nearly 95.



Continuation of Report On Last Month's Meeting



In the UK, [Greenpeace](#) campaign in three main areas:

1. **CLIMATE EMERGENCY:**
Finance (some banks fund fossil fuel extraction),
Oil (Shell continues to drill in the Arctic, BP in the North Sea),
Transport.
2. **OCEANS:** Fishing, Plastic.
3. **FORESTS:** Soya agriculture, Rainforests.

Current campaigns include energy sources and prices and pesticides harmful to bees. Further details and petitions can be found on the GPUK website.

The next big campaign will be **PLASTICS** which are largely made from fossil fuels - oil and gas. Burning these releases carbon dioxide which is one of the gases causing climate change. Plastic pollution is found in every ecosystem on the planet - from Mt Everest, the highest, to Marianna Trench, the deepest. Globally, 370 million tonnes are created annually, 11 million tonnes entering the oceans every year. This is set to triple by 2040. Supermarkets are producing around 900,000 tonnes of plastic packaging every year. Single-use bags, plastic bottles, food containers and food wrappers are the four most widespread items polluting the seas, making up almost half of human-made waste. Only a small percentage has ever been recycled (9%), most ends up in landfill or being burnt. 100s of species are at risk of extinction.

It kills up to 1 million seabirds, 100,000 sea mammals and marine turtles, and countless fish each year, due to entanglement, ingestion and pollution. This also seriously impacts on the lives of humans, CO2 being released at every stage of the plastic cycle - extraction, transport, manufacturing, disposal. Plastic can be recycled only a limited number of times, so it is down cycled and more plastic is then made. Half of waste claimed to be recycled is exported to countries where it is dumped or burned.

The meeting was shown a brief film, **WASTEMINSTER 2021**, to highlight the problem. It was a pastiche of Messrs. Johnson and Gove saying the 'right' things while London is engulfed in plastic, pertinent to the amount made in the UK per day. This film is available [online](#).

In May, Greenpeace are running a piece of national research - **The Big Plastic Count**. Sign up online. You will receive information and a tally sheet. Get counting for 1 week. Upload your findings. Receive your plastic footprint and advice on how to reduce it.

How else may we help?

Use your voice to question supermarkets, councillors, MPs. Use reusable coffee cups and water bottles. Buy loose vegetables and fruit. Use canvas shopping bags. Spread the word - family, friends, neighbours. Keep learning - books, YouTube, podcasts social media. Walk or cycle, take the train. Reduce waste - reuse, recycle. Sign petitions. Volunteer - Political lobbying - Non-violent direct action - Festivals - Speaking.

There followed a lively and engaged question time with contributions and discussion from the floor in which some of the 9 Council candidates, whom Janet organised to come and meet our members, contributed.

The main message is '**You must be the change you wish to see in the world**'.

Free Lunchtime Concerts at St James Church, Muswell Hill Broadway

The free concerts take place on the first Saturday of each month at 12 noon for an hour.



- * **7th May 2022** Verne Trio
 - * **4th June 2022** Sanae Honda, Violin and Friends
 - * **9th July 2022** Dilara Kaplan, Piano
- See: <https://st-james.org.uk/whats-on/events/lunchtime-concerts>

Message From Haringey Council

Energy Rebate Payment – how and when you will receive the payment. Eligible households in Council Tax properties bands A to D will be paid £150 to help with the rising cost of energy. You don't need to pay this money back. Unless you pay your Council Tax by Direct Debit, we will send you a voucher for £150 you can cash at any UK Post Office. We will send the vouchers out during April and May. If you do pay your Council Tax by Direct Debit, we will credit your bank account with £150 during April and May. You don't need to do anything else or contact us.

Wood Green Health Hub Consultation

Whittington Health NHS Trust has launched a consultation on the creation of a central Haringey health hub in Wood Green. They currently have 2 adult health hubs but the provision for centrally located residents is spread across multiple locations that are unsuitable for patients and service users. In these proposals, these services would move to a modern, fit-for-purpose, central Wood Green location.

Whittington Health are working with Haringey Council, North Central London Clinical Commissioning Group and other NHS partners to explore what other services could be included. Haringey residents, patients/service users and stakeholders are all invited to share their thoughts. The consultation is open until Wednesday 18th May.

If you have any questions you can contact the team at engagement.whitthealth@nhs.net or call and leave your name and number on **020 7288 5674**.



Coffin Club UK is a not-for-profit movement which provides funeral advice and information to help you take control of your end of life decisions.

Location: The Transmitter Room, Alexandra Palace (East Wing), London, N22 7AY

Programme: All are free to attend with donations welcome on the day. But please do book by [EventBrite](#) or phone **Jane Morgan, Director** on **0793 093 9998** so they know how many cakes to make!

- ◇ **Tues 10th May, 10.00 – 1.00 - Funeral choices and budget**
- ◇ **Saturday 14th May, 11.00 – 4.00 - Ceremonies and coffins, 11.00 – 4.00.**
- ◇ **Tuesday 24th May, 10.00 – 1.00 - End of life considerations**
- ◇ **Tuesday 31st May, 10.00- 1.00 - Let's talk**

Scams

It has come to our attention that a number of our residents have been targeted as part of the energy rebate scam. Residents are contacted by the scam callers and are being asked to share their bank details in order to receive £150 payment. We urge our residents to **NOT** give their bank details to anyone claiming to be from the council. **They will never contact you to ask for your bank details by phone, text**

Harington Scheme Charity's Spring Sale and Open Day



HARINGTON
learning to grow, growing to learn

**Saturday & Sunday 7-8th
May, 10am - 1pm
55a Cholmeley Park**

Highgate, London N6 5EH

Harington aims to provide young people who have learning difficulties or disabilities with life skills and vocational training that will enable them to participate more fully in living and working in the community.

Stories Of Our 2 Volunteers, Who We Are So Lucky To Have Helping Us



I am Mia; I am born and raised in North West London. After completing my Master's Degree in English, I was struggling for a while to secure employment and had a long-term aim to join the Publishing industry. During this period, I wanted to do something productive with my time that would also give a little boost to my CV. This is when I came across the opportunity to volunteer to help produce the HPAG Newsletter.

Last month (April) marks 2 years with the Action Group, which has certainly flown by. I have been happy to continue my monthly good deed to help bring the news and wonderful stories of the Group's members together in a newsletter.

Coincidentally, Ann and I share a surname. Even more interestingly, both surnames come from a Jamaican heritage. My heritage being Jamaican/English and Ann's via marriage. However, we've yet to find a familial connection.

I did eventually manage to secure a job, with a lovely team of people. I am now an Editorial Assistant in academic publishing and forever have ambitions of achieving a long and successful career, learning and growing along the way.

Mia Anderson

I'm originally from Bebington on the Wirral, my parents were hippies. My Dad left home at 15, he walked to Scotland to work for travellers and slept under a caravan for 2 years. My Mother was a nurse. My bloodline is an interesting one; my Dad's side goes back to the Mediterranean and my Grandad on my Mum's side (*see photo*), his mother was from Karachi, India at the time but now Pakistan. And my Mum's Mum was from Ireland.

I, myself, have been a Flagship Store Manager in different cities. I was also a former IT Engineer, working for the government and other high-security contracts.

I was a keen footballer, at one time I played for 3 teams! Saturday League etc; also a musician, I've played at the Cavern in Liverpool and other venues, though not for a while now. I've also been in a few films and music videos, and was in one last Sunday, set for release in October.

I like to lead a varied and interesting life. I've always wanted to volunteer but never had the time. I am now at a stage where I'm happy working part-time for a bit, so I looked up a bit of voluntary work and here I am. I also volunteer at Oxfam Music Store in Ealing. I am thinking of moving into record store management.



Mike Seed

(Our audio-visual equipment organiser at our monthly meetings)

Edited by Ann Anderson and Janet Shapiro. Produced by Mia Anderson

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