

HORNSEY PENSIONERS

www.hornseypag.org.uk

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

November 2022 - Bulletin 11

**Would you like a little compatible company or help at home,
plus a small income with it?**

Speaker: Andrea Frankenthal, Founder of Hapipod- Homeshare

Time & Date: WEDNESDAY November 16th 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 especially now with refreshments. With many thanks to all our helpers last month and volunteers Mike Seed and Mia Anderson

**NB. The Members December Social Will be Held Early in The Month:
WEDNESDAY 7th DECEMBER**

Engagement Sessions in Wood Green

The Council is co-ordinating a series of engagement sessions in Wood Green and are very keen to hear from people who are affected by health issues, who are disabled or are carers. They would ideally like to hear from those who live in or around Wood Green or go there on a regular basis.



The session is at the **Winkfield Resource Centre** (33 Winkfield Road, Wood Green, N22 5RP) on **Tuesday November 15th 5-7pm**. Wood Green is your home, the place you come to spend time, shop, eat, meet friends, exercise, work or run your business. Wood Green is also the civic heart of the borough. We want to hear about your Wood Green. What do you love about Wood Green? What needs improving?

Contact: **Rachel Sanders, Project Officer Public Voice CIC**

Email: rachel.sanders@publicvoice.london — Tel: **020 3196 1900**

Web: www.publicvoice.london My working hours are: **10am-3pm, Mon-Thurs**

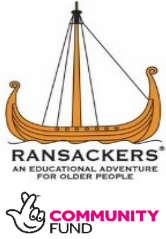
A Message from Coffee and Computers

Highlighted this week is a common scam regarding the ever rising energy bills. This scam is initiated by a text that asks you to click a link to sign up for the government funded grant or discount, but this is just a ruse to try and capture your personal info and possibly your bank account or credit card details.

The energy grants or refunds should be applied to your account automatically, so be extra cautious about clicking any links in texts or emails you receive as they are very likely to be an attempted scam.

Hornsey Pensioners Meeting, Wednesday 19th October

“We think you are never too late to learn”



Hilary Farnworth gave us the background to [The Ransackers](#), which she chairs. The name comes from the Gallic word and the idea that students would “ransack” libraries for knowledge. Between 2004-12 under the Ransacker project, 500 people aged 55+ studied for a whole 10 week term at 4 colleges. Amazingly, colleges could get funding for these courses, which were for people who hadn’t had further education and in many cases failed their 11+.

After 2012, Ransackers were plunged into austerity in adult education, only courses leading to better job prospects got funded. Everything else; leisure courses, either disappeared or became very expensive. After 2012 there was a Ransackers research project on what students had studied, what they had got out of their studies (*confidence!*) and a lottery funded grant was gained to create a course directory. See handout listed below. Also, by the New Year, they will have a selection of video interviews with older people who have studied recently and what it meant to them. So if you have studied in the last 5 years Hilary would like to hear from you!

Interactive Group Exercises

Then we were given flip charts, asked to get into groups and write answers to the 2 questions:

- **Q1** Things I did learn.
- **Q2** Things I would like to learn if available and if affordable.

Each group had lively discussions and shared their own experiences.

Answers Q1 - Mostly creative courses including art, video & film making, languages, social studies.

Answers Q2 - Mostly history, languages and IT. We had some real experts in the room who took full advantage of adult education when it was easily available. We have others who are serial students and still studying.

Lesley Chrysanthou spoke about what is available in the U3A (and about the Open University). There are over 75 interest groups run by members on a voluntary basis. Some of what people listed in the meeting are available in U3A. Some of their classes get very full, however, as it mainly runs in people’s houses, so numbers are limited. Our local branch is the Crouch End District U3A www.cedu3a.org.uk. They also run very popular and interesting monthly talks by an expert speaker. These are held at Union Church Hall on Weston Park. Lesley belongs to the Science and Technology group, the Recorder group and went to the Music Appreciation group for a couple of years. She loved it. Annual fee currently £25.

Ransackers Association, Course Directory: www.ransackersassociation.org/course-directory

Three typical searches:

- *Where can I study writing in London?*
Example: City Lit: www.citylit.ac.uk
- *What is still free?*
Example: Open Learn at the Open University: www.open.edu/openlearn
Examples: High Street History Dutch Paintings, The Industrial Revolution
- *What’s on at Mary Ward Centre?*
Site: www.marywardcentre.ac.uk/courses/
Example: Beginners Creative Writing

Your Nearest Local Living Room



In Haringey, our libraries and museum have always been safe, warm and welcoming spaces and are part of the [Haringey Warm Welcome Network](#).

Below you can find a list of other Warm Welcome spaces run by local businesses and community organisations:

- **Monday to Friday, 8.30am-2.30pm, Hornsey Central Café**
- **Hornsey Central Neighbourhood Health Centre, 151 Park Road, N8 8JD**
- **Every Tuesday from 1st November between 11am and 3pm. Moravian Church Priory Road, London, N8 7HR.** Find out more about the national Warm Welcome campaign at www.warmwelcome.uk. **If anyone would like to volunteer please let me know.**

Wall of Kindness Scheme

Everyone welcome

Pay it Forward

Respond to a person's kindness to oneself by being kind to someone else. In some spaces within the Haringey Warm Welcome Network, you may be able to pick up a food or drink item for free whilst keeping warm. If you see a 'Warm Welcome' sign in a shop, or window, residents have the option to pay for an extra cup of coffee, a pastry, or perhaps a sandwich for someone that may need it, and this voucher is placed on the 'Wall of Kindness'.

Anyone is welcome to take from the 'Wall of Kindness'. Just pick up a voucher, take it to the counter, and the item on it is yours for free. Just remember to pay forward. This generosity in an act of kindness to someone else. It could be as simple as a smile, or an offer of help to someone else who might need it.

Hornsey Food Bank Donation Appeal



We are an independent, community led food bank supporting over 800 people every week. Over the past year, the number of people we have supported has doubled. With the financial crisis, the number attending the food bank will continue to increase weekly.

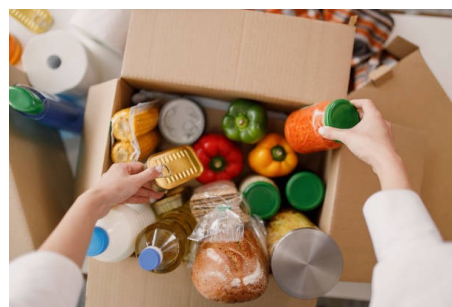
Every household will be receiving an extra £400 towards their fuel bills paid in instalments from October 2022 to March 2023 (from the government's Energy Bills Support Scheme). If you are in a position where this additional support is not fully needed, please consider a one off or monthly donation to the food bank to help those with greater need.

Please Donate Here: <http://localgiving.org/hornsey-food-bank>

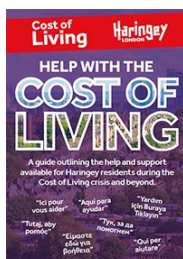
Hornsey Food Bank, Middle Lane Methodist Church, Lightfoot Road, N8 7JN

The food bank operates **10.30am – 1.00pm every Thursday.**

Donations **9.30 to 10.30** including fresh food.



Haringey, Here to Help



As the cost of living continues to rise, we want to make sure all Haringey residents get help and support available to them. On our [Haringey Here to Help](#) pages you will find information about the services available to help you through this difficult time and beyond.

Read the Haringey cost of living support guide (PDF, 8.5MB) or telephone **Finance Support helpline 020 8489 4431**

My Family Story

By Member, Jenny Wells



When looking into my family tree, I found out that my cousin had lived in a Topsfield cottage off Back Lane, Crouch End with her parents, Edith and Henry Foster until she married and relocated with their jobs to Bletchley. As far as I know, Edith and Henry lived in their cottage until they passed away.

This brought back memories of when I stayed there for a while as a child, when my Mum had to go into hospital for a hysterectomy. My sister and myself had our lovely long plaits cut off by the barber, I think so that it was easier for my aunt to manage.

My own family lived in our caravan in Essex (see below). From what I have gathered, it was probably another affordable relocation scheme. We lived there from when I was about 6 (1960) to 10, when the site we were on was closing down.

The cottage was different to me, with its flushing toilet though outside, it had electricity and running water.

In the caravan we had gas mantle lights and a tiny cooker powered by Calor Gas, a small water tank that was filled with hose from a tap nearby and a toilet that had to be carried across the field to be emptied. We were surrounded by farmland and woods.



We usually saw relatives when we came up to Holloway to visit on the train, but I think my cousin came to collect us by car this time and drove us to Topsfield Cottages, which was strange. Holloway was where we were born, lived and returned to.

When speaking to another cousin of mine, it turned out that Henry Foster was actually the driver on *The Flying Scotsman Train* and went with it to America for the 2 ½ years it was out there, and was awarded *The Key to the City* but she couldn't remember which one!

She was the one who got me started on looking into the family history. At her funeral in July 2022, it became apparent that there was a documentary on TV about *The Flying Scotsman Train* when it visited the USA between 1969 and 1973 and there was Uncle Henry driving the train and blowing the whistle, unfortunately they said that they had got his name wrong in the programme! See below



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

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