



Northwood Branch Pinner and Hatch End Branch

February 2010



THE PINNER VILLAGE SHOW – OUR BIG OPPORTUNITY!

On Saturday September 11th, 2010, the Rotary Club will stage the Pinner Village Show in the Memorial Gardens. This is an annual event in the village, but for the first time the WEA will be represented there by the Harrow, Pinner and Northwood Branches.

This provides a tremendous opportunity for every class to show its face to the world and to recruit new members. If your class struggled to attract enough members in 2009 you have this chance to remedy matters in 2010.

The Theatre Class at Hatch End has begun preparing a display board, and will be there on the day with handbills and signing on forms. We expect the three other theatre classes in the area will wish to join the Hatch End group at the show in order to attract new members to their classes as well.

Every class will be listed in the visual displays, but the individual classes will produce their own displays special to the class, and should be there recruiting members on the day.

Every class will probably wish to have its own handbill. We will co-ordinate the design and layout, and print them, from the classes' draft of words and illustrations. Think in terms of a single sided A5 leaflet.

WEA London Region is providing publicity materials. We also need additional useful materials that will help to make an attractive display, so please look out for unconsidered trifles that might be useful. We do need a talented person who can take overall responsibility for organising and co-ordinating the display. Is that you?

Meanwhile your newsletter editor is doing the co-ordination. All enquiries and offers of help (which will be very thankfully accepted!) to:

Mike Bradley, 020 8868 3118, mike.bradley@live.co.uk

Your Committee

The committees of the Pinner and Hatch End and of the Northwood branches have decided to amalgamate. So we now have two Branches run by one committee. This allows us to make do with slightly fewer people: chairman and secretary jobs are shared, but we still have two classes' organisers.

The gain is economy, but the loss is extra work for some of us and the danger that the two branches will be forced to reduce the number of classes that they run.

The long-term aim is to separate the two committees when we are able.

The WEA courses that you attend cannot exist without voluntary effort. You still have a committee of volunteers but none of us is going to last forever and we must have replacements. If no one volunteers then the classes die. Which would be a shame.

It's in your hands.

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Welcome to the first ever joint Northwood and Pinner and Hatch End newsletter. The headaches of producing it start right at the top, deciding which name comes first. I opted for alphabetical order. This little dilemma is repeated every time the separate branch activities are mentioned. I only hope that I have picked my way carefully enough to avoid affronting you!

Welcome to you all, in whichever Branch you are a tutor or a learner!

Coming shortly

Before Easter, on February 27th, Leslie Pitcher is presenting a study day, **The Art of the Medici** at the Memorial Hall, Chorleywood, very few places left. Apply quickly to Liz Childerhouse if you are interested. Telephone: 01923 720069

On Saturday, 13th March, Brian Adams presents a study day, **Industrial Archaeology in Hertfordshire**, at the Bushey Centre, High Street, Bushey. Enquiries to Pat or Tony Green: 020 8428 3759.

On Monday, 22nd March, a six-meeting course, **Countryside Photography**, begins at the Bushey Museum & Art Gallery. Enquiries to Pat or Tony Green, as above.

Post-Easter classes

In previous years a range of four or five post-Easter classes has been offered in Pinner; not this year however, because London Region has specified a minimum class size of 18.

For computer classes, however, the minimum is 12, and the Madeline Edmead class will continue, as it already has more than 18 students. The subject matter will be architecture, examined through the medium of London squares.

There will be other activities and other classes may be run and we'll let you know about these.

If you joined a class in 2009-10 but not in the current year then you may be surprised to receive this newsletter. We've decided to keep you up to date on our activities, in the hope that you may attend another class in the not too distant future.

How did the 2009-2010 programme fare?

Every year brings unexpected successes and failures. At Hatch End the short Art courses had a success with Turner and a failure to attract students with Pop Art. Hindsight might suggest these results were predictable, but foresight lacks that certainty.

Get to Know Your Rocks, attracted 26 members, as did *Victorian Art and Architecture* at North Harrow. The success of both these classes was not really predictable, even for hindsight!

All the other classes in the autumn programme obtained at least the necessary number of twelve students, although it was a close run thing for the Hatch End *Appreciating Theatre* class.

Of the classes starting in January, *Origins of English* has attracted 30 students and *An Encounter with Greek Philosophy* has 22. *Geological Wonders of Britain* has 15 students, and the *Computing* classes have been filled.

It has been a good year in terms of numbers attending. But, because we depend mainly on the libraries for recruitment there are people who know nothing of our activities. We'll be making greater efforts to publicise our work to them in 2010. There will also be greater use of online advertising and we will take part in the Pinner Village Show.

Committee of the two branches, 2010

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Heather Trease - 01895 630819
Mike Paddy - 01895 637389
Meg Savage - 01895 635379
Joan Willats - 020 8868 4096
Jennie Youle - 020 8866 0809

Classes' organisers: Sandra Cheetham and Joan Partridge

You may prefer to receive this newsletter as an email. If so, please contact the editor at mike.bradley@live.co.uk.