Committee and Volunteering

The smooth running of the Association—including event planning, project management, and general site maintenance—relies entirely on the time and dedication of our committee members and fellow plot holders. A big thank you to everyone who helps make it all happen—your efforts are truly appreciated by all.

If you're interested in helping out, please consider joining the committee or volunteering. The more people get involved, the more we can accomplish together.

Communications

We were delighted to welcome **Wendy Nayar** to our committee. Her engaging and informative updates have become a much-anticipated part of our communication. On behalf of everyone, thank you Wendy—we look forward to more of your brilliant updates!

Pathways

It's been a challenging year working with Pathways due to numerous staff changes, which caused ongoing communication issues and administrative delays. As a result, we still don't have a complete list of plot holders who have renewed since October 1st.

We've been collaborating with the new Pathways managers, **Brett Simpson** and **Eoin Connelly**, to sort things out. Pathways is now outsourcing its accounting and allotment administration to focus more on its housing operations.

Both the **Northfields Allotments Association** and our **HAA** are in discussions with Pathways to take over the management of membership records. Since HAA manages the allotments, it makes sense for us to handle this directly.

We appreciate the support and cooperation we've received from the new Pathways team during this transition—thank you!

Asset of Community Value (ACV)

We've continued the previous committee's work to secure ACV status for our site. Our application has been sent by Ealing Council to Pathways for comments, and we expect a decision soon.

Once granted, this status will protect our site for the future. It prevents the site from being sold without first giving the Association the opportunity to purchase it. ACV status lasts five years and can be renewed.

Thank you to **Ann Tierney** and **Wendy Nayar** for their hard work on this detailed and time-consuming application.

Events & Charity

Searchlight Trading Hut Project
Our year kicked off with a massive volunteer effort to clear and improve the Searchlight Trading Hut. This project, which began in January 2024, is still ongoing but has already made a huge difference. Thanks to everyone who helped—we're now able to use the hut for this meeting and other horticultural needs!

Plant Sale
In May, we held a successful Plant Sale at the Trading Hut, organized by **Vinka Reeves (Plot 43)** and supported by generous donations from plot holders. We raised **£502**, all of which went to improving the Trading Hut. Thank you to everyone who donated and helped grow the plants!

Charity Outreach
Surplus fruit and vegetables collected in August and October were donated to local charities, including **Ealing Soup Kitchen**, **Age UK**, local churches, and **Hanwell Homeless Concern**. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this worthwhile cause.

Summer BBQ
Our traditional summer BBQ took place on a sunny July Saturday and was a wonderful day of food, fun, and community. Special thanks to one of our own plot holders, a professional chef, who made the event extra special!

Ealing Soup Kitchen Support
Our members also volunteered to cook and collect donations for the Ealing Soup Kitchen—a fantastic example of our allotment community giving back.

Macmillan Coffee Morning
We hosted a successful Macmillan Coffee Morning at the Trading Hut, attracting support from both the allotment and local communities. Together, we raised over **£1,000 in cash** and nearly **£700 in gift aid donations**. Thank you to everyone who baked, donated, and attended!

Cultivate Ealing Awards

Haslemere Allotments won **Third Prize** in the Large Sites category of the Cultivate Ealing competition!

Judges' comments:
A lovely site with a great feeling of openness. Neat paths, colourful plots, a wonderful communal greenhouse, and high cultivation standards. The site is clearly well used and well cared for.

Plot Awards:

- **Michael Horn (Plot 5a)** – *Highly Commended*
- **Cornelia Perquin (Plot 7a)** – *3rd Place, Small Plot Category*
  Congratulations to all our prize-winning plot holders!

Annual Show

The Ealing and Hanwell Allotment Association (EHAA) hosted its Annual Show featuring vegetables, fruit, flowers, plants, arrangements, and home-baked goods. It's the highlight of our gardening year. Congratulations to all who entered and especially the winners!