

**WEALDSTONE URBAN DISTRICT
ELECTION RESULTS, 1894-1918**

WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1894	652	59.4	William A. Jepson	200	51.7
			James Smither	190	49.1
			Charles Tyler	167	43.2
			Frederick Judge	162	41.9
			Fred Gullett	145	37.5
			Joseph T. Draper	144	37.2
			Edwin J. Powell	137	35.4
			Matthew Dymock	133	34.4
			Robert Balk	115	29.7
			Frederick King	107	27.6
			George Lander	104	26.9
			George R. Rogers	103	26.6
			Henry W. Job	91	23.5
			Miss Edith B. Joyner	87	22.5
			John C. Woodhead	87	22.5
			James Winter	80	20.7
			Henry Drury	78	20.2
			Richard D. Rixon	74	19.1
			George E. Farnhill	72	18.6
			Thomas Smerdon	70	18.1
Walter H. Collins	60	15.5			
John E.A. Durham	22	5.7			

Note: The *Harrow Observer* of 27 June 1902 incorrectly reported that the number of electors at this election was "just over 800." Turnout has been calculated on the basis that the reported number voting (387) is correct. The *Harrow and Wealdstone Press* recorded imprecisely that "taking all things into consideration, Wealdstone polled well, between 400 and 500 recording their vote out of a register of 600-odd."

The *Harrow and Wealdstone Press* has been preferred as the source for the voting figures of the successful candidates. The result reported by the *Harrow Gazette* differed in three cases: Smither, Judge and Powell were recorded as receiving 200, 168 and 133 votes, respectively.

An organisation called the 'Ratepayers' Defence Association' endorsed twelve candidates: Jepson, Smither, Gullett, Draper, Powell, Dymock, King, Lander, Rogers, Job, Winter and Collins.

Balk and Woodhead received the endorsement of a public meeting of workmen.

The *Middlesex and Buckinghamshire Advertiser* reported on polling day as follows: "The poll was taken on Monday last at the Wealdstone Board Schools, Mr. Nexworthy, solicitor, being the Returning Officer. Considering the unpleasant weather, there was a very good attendance of voters. The poll was declared about 11 pm."

[Disqualification of Gullett]

1896 (13/4)	504	40.7	Harold Senier	135	65.9
			Richard D. Rixon	47	22.9
			Henry W. Job	<u>23</u>	<u>11.2</u>
				88	43.0

Note: Gullett was disqualified under the terms of the Local Government Act 1894, section 46, sub-section 7, for his failure, throughout a period of six consecutive months, to attend any meetings of the Council or its committees.

[Resignations of Tyler, Judge, Lander and Senier]

WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1897 (24/4)	530	36.8	Richard D. Rixon	88	45.1
			Henry W. Job	87	44.6
			Thomas L. Johnson	76	39.0
			Thomas Smerdon	73	37.4
			John C. Woodhead	69	35.4
			Clarence R. Crispin	60	30.8
			James B. Wright	41	21.0

Note: The resignations of Lander and Senier (due to health and business reasons, respectively) were received by the Clerk to the Council in February 1897. Tyler and Judge were both residents of the portion of Greenhill transferred from Wealdstone UD to Harrow-on-the-Hill UD in October 1895. The Clerk was instructed to write to Tyler and Judge asking that they too consider resigning from the Council, so as to avoid the possible expense of a further by-election.

1898	527	50.5	Robert Balk	158	59.4
			John Robinson	140	52.6
			James Smither	132	49.6
			William A. Jepson	128	48.1
			John R. Newman	109	41.0
			Joseph T. Draper	100	37.6
			David Woodhall	95	35.7
			Edwin J. Powell	93	35.0
			Henry W. Job	92	34.6
			Richard D. Rixon	89	33.5
			Thomas Smerdon	75	28.2
			James B. Wright	75	28.2
			George R. Rogers	72	27.1
			James Gray	43	16.2

Note: The *Harrow and Wembley Observer* reported that a total of 526 ballot papers were supplied to the Presiding Officer, thereby implying that this figure, differing by one from that in the *Register of Electors*, was the number of people entitled to vote at the election. The total ballot papers issued was reported to be 266, from which the turnout above has been calculated.

Smither, Jepson, Newman, Draper, Woodhall, Powell, Rixon and Wright issued a joint election address.

[Resignation of Job on appointment to a disqualifying office]

1899 (8/7)	587	20.6	George A. Champliss	64	52.9
			John Myers	<u>57</u>	<u>47.1</u>
				7	5.8

Note: A third candidate for this election, John C. Woodhead, withdrew after the close of nominations but within the allowable period.

Job resigned from the Council upon his appointment as Wealdstone Urban District's Collector of General Domestic Rate. His salary was £45.

[Resignation of Robinson. Disqualification of Smerdon]

WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1900 (25/6)	693		Matthew Dymock William R. Farrar	Unopp. Unopp.	
<p><u>Note:</u> Smerdon was disqualified under the terms of the Local Government Act 1894, section 46, sub-section 7, for his failure, throughout a period of six consecutive months, to attend any meetings of the Council or its committees.</p> <p>The date given above was the nomination day. Two further candidates for this election, William Hindes and Joseph E. Lilley, withdrew after the close of nominations but within the allowable period. (Lilley had been nominated without his consent.)</p>					
1901	798	48.5	Frederick W. Wale	211	54.5
			Robert Balk	191	49.4
			Albert Dodd	169	43.7
			John R. Newman	160	41.3
			William A. Jepson	157	40.6
			Arthur J. Gilbert	156	40.3
			Thomas Humphrey	151	39.0
			Edwin J. Powell	147	38.0
			Matthew Dymock	139	35.9
			Joseph T. Draper	124	32.0
			William May	111	28.7
			David Woodhall	109	28.2
			James B. Wright	90	23.3
			George A. Champrniss	84	21.7
			William R. Farrar	62	16.0

Note: Dodd, Gilbert and Humphrey were the nominees of the Wealdstone Tradesmans' Association. Jepson, Powell, Dymock, Draper, Woodhall, Wright and Farrar sought election on a joint 'ticket'.

[Resignations of Jepson, Gilbert and Powell. Disqualification of Dymock]

1902 (21/6)	897	32.4	Dr. Reginald Bluett	168	57.7
			James How	128	44.0
			Arthur Aldred	119	40.9
			Charles Twinn	111	38.1
			William J. Clench	77	26.5
			Charles E. Brady	75	25.8

Note: Dymock was disqualified under the terms of the Local Government Act 1894, section 46, sub-section 7, for his failure, throughout a period of six consecutive months, to attend any meetings of the Council or its committees.

How was the nominee of the Wealdstone Tradesmans' Association.

WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1904	1,172	52.1	Henry Drury	311	51.0
			Robert Balk	308	50.5
			Frederick W. Wale	267	43.8
			John McK. Thompson	255	41.8
			Charles Twinn	201	33.0
			William May	186	30.5
			James How	181	29.7
			Arthur Aldred	173	28.4
			Henry E. Groves	170	27.9
			Alfred E. Green	167	27.4
			Alexander S. Meikle	166	27.2
			Henry W. Job	154	25.2
			John Musson	137	22.5
			William G. Fuller	133	21.8
			Frederick G. Cork	78	12.8
			Edward G. Alleyn	73	12.0
George A. Champniss	59	9.7			

Note: An eighteenth candidate for this election, Edward Felton, withdrew after the close of nominations but within the allowable period.

How, Green and Musson were the candidates of the Wealdstone Tradesman's Association. There is uncertainty surrounding Musson's name. The spelling in the 1904 *Register of Electors* is 'Mussen'; the version used above was the spelling in the list of nominations printed by the *Harrow Observer* and also in the election address of the Association's candidates published in the classified advertisement sections of the local press.

Groves was the nominee of the local branch of the Independent Labour Party.

[Disqualification of Thompson and Aldred]

1905 (29/4)	1,149	36.2	Mark Wenham	199	47.8
			William G. Fuller	155	37.3
			Frederick G. Cork	154	37.0
			William H. Taylor	83	20.0
			John Robinson	58	13.9

Note: Thompson and Aldred were disqualified under the terms of the Local Government Act 1894, section 46, sub-section 7, for their failure, throughout a period of six consecutive months, to attend any meetings of the Council or its committees.

The *Harrow Gazette* incorrectly reported that the number of electors at this election was 1,125. Turnout has been calculated on the basis that the reported number voting (416) is correct. The number of spoilt ballot papers at this election was 11.

[One seat vacant — Death of May]

WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1907	1,633	51.5	Mark Wenham	445	52.9
			Henry Drury	393	46.7
			Robert Balk	390	46.4
			Charles Twinn	383	45.5
			Frederick W. Wale	354	42.1
			Charles S. Ellis	333	39.6
			Harold J. Blyth	323	38.4
			James How	316	37.6
			George E. Farnhill	307	36.5
			Alfred E. Green	298	35.4
			Alexander S. Meikle	296	35.2
			Frederick Dymock	269	32.0
			William G. Fuller	268	31.9
			Henry W. Job	243	28.9
			Henry E. Groves	236	28.1
			George F. Keys	187	22.2

Note: Two further candidates for this election, Frederick Almond and William J. Whittle, withdrew after the close of nominations but within the allowable period.

Twinn, Ellis and Blyth contested the election on a joint 'ticket'.

Farnhill, Dymock, Groves and Keys contested the election on a joint 'ticket'. The *Harrow Observer* endorsed Farnhill as one of the twelve candidates they wished to see elected; Dymock, Groves and Keys were not endorsed and were described as "Socialistic elements".

Unusually, the *Harrow Gazette* printed details of the turnout for each of the four ballot boxes, as follows:

<u>Box</u>	<u>Electors</u>	<u>Voted</u>
1	385	191 (49.6%)
2	426	219 (51.4%)
3	369	187 (50.7%)
4	453	242 (53.4%)

In addition, there was 1 tendered ballot paper issued for Box 1. The total number of spoilt ballot papers at this election was 2.

[Death of Drury]

1908 (10/10)	1,892	28.1	Edward Roberts	406	76.4
			Herbert E. Harwood	87	16.4
			Henry W. Job	<u>38</u>	<u>7.2</u>
				319	60.0

WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1910	2,165	59.3	John Favell	767	59.8
			Edward Roberts	730	56.9
			Griffith O. Davies	652	50.8
			Robert Balk	561	43.7
			Peter N. McFarlane	481	37.5
			Alfred E. Green	452	35.2
			George E. Farnhill	446	34.8
			Charles S. Ellis	423	33.0
			Arthur B. Crundall	393	30.6
			Frederick W. Wale	386	30.1
			Charles Twinn	381	29.7
			Alexander S. Meikle	369	28.8
			James How	369	28.8
			George Clarke	363	28.3
			John H. Searcy	333	26.0
			William H. Taylor	293	22.8
			Edwin C. Strawbridge	275	21.4
			David Woodhall	264	20.6
			Charles A. Woodland	264	20.6
			James Taylor	261	20.3
			Sidney C. Collins	257	20.0
			William G. Fuller	241	18.8
			Arthur H. Winfield	203	15.8
Herbert E. Harwood	192	15.0			
William Cayford	189	14.7			
Alfred Beeston	57	4.4			

Note: Three further candidates for this election, Ernest W. Meller, Alfred I. Taylor and Charles J. Twinn, withdrew after the close of nominations but within the allowable period.

Meikle and How tied for the twelfth elected place, each polling 369 votes. Meikle was declared elected after they drew lots.

Green, How and Clarke were the nominees of the Wealdstone Tradesmans' Association.

Davies, McFarlane, Farnhill, Crundall, Searcy and Woodland were the nominees of an organisation called the 'New Wealdstone Party'.

Strawbridge and J. Taylor were also unsuccessful candidates in the Harrow Weald Parish Council election held on the same day as the Wealdstone poll.

Farnhill was disqualified in June 1912 under the terms of the Local Government Act 1894, section 46, sub-section 7, for his failure, throughout a period of six consecutive months, to attend any meetings of the Council or its committees. The vacancy was not filled.

[Resignation of Roberts]

1911 (8/4)	2,262	41.9	George Clarke	553	58.6
			James How	<u>390</u>	<u>41.4</u>
				163	17.2

[One seat vacant — Disqualification of Farnhill]

WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1913	2,432	44.2	Frederick W. Wale	596	54.4
			George Clarke	582	54.1
			Robert Balk	564	52.5
			Robert J. Hurford	533	49.6
			John H. Searcy	500	46.5
			Charles Carrington	463	43.1
			Griffith O. Davies	460	42.8
			Charles Twinn	422	39.3
			Herbert E. Harwood	418	38.9
			William H. Taylor	416	38.7
			Alexander S. Meikle	382	35.5
			James How	372	34.6
			Alfred I. Taylor	367	34.1
			William G. Beal	332	30.9

Note: A fifteenth candidate for this election, a William J. Evershed, withdrew after the close of nominations but within the allowable period.

Note: The 1916 election was postponed because of the First World War. All twelve members continued as Councillors until the 1919 election, unless a casual vacancy was caused by death, resignation or disqualification. The following vacancies occurred on Wealdstone UDC during this period and were filled by co-option:

[Resignation of Searcy]

1917 (20/2)	Arthur W. Blessley	Co-opt.
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[Resignation of Carrington]

1917 (19/6)	Walter R. Everett Philip Porter Alfred I. Taylor David Woodhall	Co-opt.
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Note: Sitting councillors considered the names of four people for co-option to replace Carrington. The *Minutes* of the Council record that after full discussion it was resolved, unanimously, that Everett be chosen to fill the vacancy. However, the *Harrow Observer* reported that it was only after a "long debate" that Everett was chosen. The paper used an alternative spelling ("Everitt") of his surname.

[Resignation of Meikle]

1917 (18/12)	John S. Hastings George A. Lock Alfred I. Taylor David Woodhall	Co-opt.
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Note: Sitting councillors considered the names of four people for co-option to replace Meikle. The *Minutes* of the Council record that after full discussion it was resolved, unanimously, that Hastings be chosen to fill the vacancy. However, the *Harrow Observer* reported that a vote was taken on the matter and that Hastings was elected by a majority of three.

WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
[Resignations of Hurford and Blessley]					
1918 (16/4)			Rowland Parker Alfred I. Taylor John H. Baker Henry M. Bullen George A. Lock Alfred P. Mitchell Philip Porter David Woodhall James E. Wyatt	Co-opt. Co-opt.	

Note: Sitting councillors considered the names of nine people for co-option to replace Hurford and Blessley. The *Minutes* of the Council record that after full discussion it was resolved, unanimously, that Parker and Taylor be chosen to fill the vacancies. However, the *Harrow Observer* reported that this decision was reached only after a ballot had been taken.

[Resignation of Everett]

1918 (17/9)			Edward J. Hewett Frederick C. Pike Philip Porter David Woodhall	Co-opt.	
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Note: The *Minutes* of the Council record that sitting councillors considered the names of four people, shown above, for co-option to replace Everett. The *Minutes* also record that after full discussion it was resolved, unanimously, that Hewett be chosen to fill the vacancy.

The *Harrow Observer* records a more complex discussion as having taken place. Hewett, Porter and Woodhall were proposed and seconded by sitting councillors; James E. Wyatt was proposed by Cllr. Harwood but there was no seconder. Pike was the secretary of the local branch of the NFDSS and wrote a letter to the Council stating that soldiers who had fought for their country should be represented on the Council, and suggested the names of William C. Froome, Henry C. Tidder and himself. Alfred P. Mitchell, secretary of the Harrow and Wealdstone District Trades Council, wrote a letter to the Council stating that the working classes should be represented on the Council, and suggested the names of William Marshment, "J.W. Bentley" (likely to be Walter J. Bentley), Henry M. Bullen and himself.

There is uncertainty surrounding Hewett's name. The *Minutes* of the Council, the *Harrow Observer* and a *Kelly's Directory* for 1918 show the version above; the 1913 *Register of Electors* gives the alternative spelling 'Hewitt'.