MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS’ ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS 2003 - 2004

Chairman Mr J. Perkins. 7 West Park, SE9 4RY. 8851 8644
Deputy Chairman Mr T. Jones. 15 Grove Park Road, SE9 4NP. 8857 4582
Minutes Secretary Mrs Mackway-Jones 54A Mottingham Road SE9 4QR. 8857 5886
Hon. Treasurer Mrs S. Jones. 15 Grove Park Road, SE9 4NP. 8857 4582
Hon. Auditor Mr M. Hill. 53 Leysdown Road, SE9 3ND. 8857 3798

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Mr A. Chklar. 7 Grove Park Road, SE9 4NP. 8857 9440
Mrs J. Cobb. 7 Carters Hill Close, SE9 4RS. 8857 1944
Mr & Mrs Foster. 15 Clarence Road, SE9 4SJ. 8851 2813
Mr R. Howie. 11 Dorset Road, SE9 4QY. 8857 1874
Mr D. Jones. 260 Court Road, SE9 4TY. 8857 8712
Mrs. L. Lockwood. 23 Court Farm Road, SE9 4JL. 8325 3695
Mrs B. Mackway-Jones. 54A Mottingham Road SE9 4QR. 8857 5886
Mr P. Noble. 32 Mottingham Road, SE9 4QW. 8851 0608
Mr T. Scovell. 92 Beaconsfield Road, SE9 4DT. 8857 6086
Mrs. M. Southam. 40 Elmhurst Road, SE9 4DN. 851 0456
Mrs G. Walker. 16 Portland Road. 8857 0301
Mr S. Yates. 12 Avondale Road, SE9 4SN. 8325 3005

REPRESENTATIVES

Bromley Residents’ Federation
Environment
Membership Secretary
Planning - Bromley
- Greenwich
Newsletter Editor
Mottingham Community Forum
Ettham Sector Working Group
Bromley Police

Mrs. Lockwood & Mrs. Mackway-Jones.
Mrs. Mackway-Jones.
Mr. A. Chklar.
Mr. T. Jones.
Mr. D. Jones.
Mrs. M. Southam & Mrs L. Lockwood.
Mr. J. Perkins.
Mr. T. Scovell.

MOTTINGHAM NEWS
THE VOICE OF
MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS’ ASSOCIATION
FOUNDED 1932

YOUR
LAST CHANCE
TO SAVE
DORSET ROAD
SCHOOL

Please come to the
PUBLIC MEETING
CALLED BY THE
OFFICE OF THE SCHOOLS ADJUDICATOR

on
WEDNESDAY, 3RD DECEMBER at 7.00pm
at
MOTTINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, RAVENSWORTH ROAD

The decision of the SCHOOLS ADJUDICATOR is FINAL so it is important that as many people as possible attend to show how the residents of Mottingham feel about Bromley Council’s plan to close DORSET ROAD SCHOOL!

SAVE OUR SCHOOL

Print: Ray Andrews - 020-8857 1351
MR. F. WINPENNY

Earlier this year we were sorry to hear of the death of our President Frederick "Pat" Winpenny. He attended the AGM on April 23rd but was taken ill and died two weeks later. He had served the Association faithfully for many years and was latterly responsible for reviewing the planning applications in the Bromley part of our area, including the controversial plans for Eltham College, of which he was an Old Boy. We are grateful for his life and will miss his services to the Association.

EDITORIAL

This is a strange time to be receiving the first Newsletter of the year, but it was decided by the Executive Committee that a brief summary of our activities should be printed on the back of the new style membership cards, which would, it was hoped, make the information more readily available and at the same time ease the work of the Road Stewards, who would in the past have had to carry a packet of Newsletters as well as their road lists and membership cards as they did their rounds.

The face of Mottingham continues to change. Over the past few years we have lost Scotts Garage (and also, thankfully, the huge transporters that used to demolish the beacon by the zebra crossing and totally block Dorset Road while they discharged their cargo of new Renault cars), Gilbert's Honda garage, a hardware shop, all bus services in Grove Park Road, a bank where most of the staff recognised you when you walked in and a nearby police station in Chislehurst. Add your own items to the list. Older residents will even remember when there was a doctor's surgery in West Park and a dentist.

What have we acquired in exchange? New houses in Dorset Road, some of which were purchased in the expectation of having a handy school just opposite, parking restrictions in the residential roads near the station (thumbs up to that), more off-licence outlets, a betting shop occupying two premises, two establishments selling motor cycles and three hair-dressing salons. Admittedly there are also two small supermarkets, but they cannot compete with Sainsbury's or Tesco's for prices or range of goods. Talking of off-licences, do you realise that there are now four premises where you can buy alcoholic drinks and that two more are in the pipeline?

Change is inevitable, and can be for the good, but looking at the balance sheet above the impression is not a very happy one for people who expect their local community to supply the basic needs of suburban living.

...... Not to mention litter, graffiti, litter, speeding cars, litter, vandalism, and of course litter.

A DISCLAIMER

Steve Yates is a member of the Labour Party which recently issued a publicity leaflet mentioning his membership of this Association's Executive Committee. Whilst Steve is indeed a member of our committee, we would like to point out that the Association is strictly non-political and this item was published by the Labour Party without our knowledge or consent. We would like to stress that we do not endorse the particular campaigns or policies of any candidate or party.
CHAIRMAN’S MESSAGE

The best news we could have this Christmas is that Dorset Road Infant School has been rescued from closure and will continue to serve the local community as it has done for over 100 years. Unfortunately at the time of going to press all we can tell you is that the fate of the school now lies with an organisation called the Office of the Schools Adjudicator (OSA). It will be their job to decide whether to support Bromley Council, which wants the school closed down, or whether to support parents, governors and local residents who all want it kept open.

OSA has called a meeting at 7.00 pm on Wednesday, December 3rd at Mottingham Primary School in Ravensworth Road. It is important as many people attend this meeting as possible to show the Adjudicator how local residents feel about this issue.

The final outcome won’t be known till the New Year. The school is one of only two public buildings in Mottingham village - the other being the Library. Although Bromley has been at pains to say there are no plans for that to go the same way as the school many local residents remain unconvinced. This is after all the same Bromley Council which consulted local people about Dorset Road and then completely ignored the outcome and pressed on regardless! The best advice we can give is to continue to support the library and use it as much as possible. Librarian, Pam Fuller, is constantly striving to offer a wider choice and her latest offering is free internet lessons - see elsewhere in the magazine.

Finally there will be a Christmas tree and lights again this year. Mottingham Traders are being led by Steve Brown of Sebron Autostores who is doing all the organising and raising the funds and would love to hear from you. If you’d like to give a hand or make a contribution Steve can be contacted at his shop at 85-87 Mottingham Road or by phone on 8857 8777

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

BP GARAGE

As most of you will have noticed the BP garage by the War Memorial in Mottingham is currently being re-built. It will eventually re-open as one of BP’s Connect style outlets which as well as selling petrol will also include a café and off-licence

BOOZE CAPITAL OF SE LONDON

Is Mottingham now the booze capital of South East London? At the last count there were four shops selling alcohol in the Mottingham Road - Court Road parade. We learn a fifth shop is now in the process of applying for a licence and just to complete the picture the new BP garage has announced it too will be selling alcohol when it re-opens in the New Year. Add in the Porcupine pub and in 2004 we’ll have no fewer than SEVEN places to buy alcohol in the space of 100 yards. Does Mottingham really need that concentration of drink outlets and is it going to create problems for the future?

TRAFFIC LIGHTS NOT WORKING?

At the back of this Newsletter you will find a list of useful telephone numbers for contacting Bromley or Greenwich councils, but there is now a number for problems on main roads, which are not the responsibility of the councils. Faults on Red Routes, or a faulty traffic signal anywhere in London can be reported direct to Transport for London. The number to call is 0845 305 1234.

NEW BOYS IN BLUE

There are some new faces among the Met police serving the Eltham area. Eltham sector has a new head - Inspector Gareth Davies - who replaces Inspector Mick Hunt. There’s a new beat officer for Middle Park - Dave Towers - and a new beat officer for the Bromley side of Mottingham - Andy Johnson, who replaces Jim Duncan.

Police are continuing their crackdown on illegal motorcycles which is a particular problem in the area. Under the Police Reform Act they can now seize illegal motorbikes and six have been confiscated in Eltham in recent months. Some of the problem has now been pushed into Mottingham where youngsters riding bikes without plates or helmets are becoming a common sight.

Community Support Officers may soon appear on the streets of Mottingham. They are now familiar figures in Eltham Town Centre and there are plans to start moving them further afield. Although their powers are limited, people have said they nevertheless find their presence on the streets reassuring.

Footnote - the policeman appointed to keep a fatherly eye on the new recruits is called - Sgt. Uncle !

TRAIN TIMES

A new train time table came into operation on September 28th. Off-peak trains now leave Mottingham for Charing Cross via Lewisham at 17 and 47 minutes past each hour. The Cannon Street services via St Johns and New Cross leave at 4 and 34 minutes past.

Trains for Victoria leave Eltham station at 10 and 40 minutes past the hour.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Service</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St Andrew’s, Court Road</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>Christingle Service 4.00pm</td>
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<td>December 21</td>
<td>Carol Service 6.30pm.</td>
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<td>Christmas Eve</td>
<td>Carol's Around The Crib 5.00pm</td>
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<td>Christmas Day</td>
<td>Midnight Service 11.30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
<td>8.30am Holy Communion.</td>
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<td>Christmas Day</td>
<td>9.30am Carol Service.</td>
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<td>St. Alban’s, William Barefoot Drive</td>
<td>December 20</td>
<td>Carol Service 7.00pm followed by Mince pies &amp; Wine</td>
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<td>Christmas Eve</td>
<td>All Age Childrens’ Crib Service 5.00pm.</td>
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<td>Christmas Day</td>
<td>Midnight Mass 11.30pm.</td>
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<td>Our Lady Help of Christians, Mottingham Road</td>
<td>Christmas Eve</td>
<td>Family Service 6.30pm.</td>
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<td>Christmas Day</td>
<td>Midnight Mass 11.45pm.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
<td>9.00am &amp; 11.15am.</td>
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<td>Mottingham Methodist Church</td>
<td>Christmas Eve</td>
<td>11.30pm - Footscray Road, New Eltham</td>
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<td>Christmas Day</td>
<td>10.30am - Footscray Road, New Eltham</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
<td>11.00 Prince Imperial Way, Chislehurst</td>
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<td>St Edwards Church, St Keverne Road</td>
<td>December 21</td>
<td>Carol Service at 6pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Christmas Eve</td>
<td>Midnight Service 11.30pm.</td>
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DORSET ROAD INFANT SCHOOL IS SUCCESSFULLY FIGHTING CLOSURE

Since the Spring Newsletter Bromley Council have tried and failed to implement their plan to close Dorset Road School. A series of council meetings earlier in the year confirmed Bromley's intention to continue with a proposal to close. This was despite support for the school from members of all parties on the council, including continuing welcome assistance from our own councillors Charles Rideout and Roger Charsley.

During the process a debate on the issue by the full council, which had been promised for over a year, was somehow lost from the timetable. At the same time there was a reshuffle of members of the council executive, including a change in the portfolio holder for education. At times there was a certain amount of confusion about the nature and timing of the decision the administration had made.

Nevertheless the decision to press on had been made. This set in motion a statutory consultation which took place in June and July. The school is enormously grateful to the many hundreds of you who sent letters or signed the petition. The council received almost 900 letters in support of the school, and 1200 people signed the petition.

The next step was a meeting of a 'School Organisation Committee' in September. This committee, made up of representatives of bodies with an interest in education in Bromley, needed to approve the closure proposal unanimously for it to go ahead. In the event the committee was split. There were two votes for closure (Bromley Council and the Church of England) and two votes against closure (the Schools Group, made up of school governors from across the borough, and the Roman Catholic Church).

As a result of the School Organisation Committee vote, the process moves on to the next stage. A government appointed adjudicator will visit Mottingham in early December. Her visit will include a PUBLIC MEETING AT 7.00pm ON WEDNESDAY 3rd DECEMBER AT MOTTINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL IN RAVENSWORTH ROAD. Please do try to come along and support us. The statutory consultation has shown how we can make a difference to the outcome. Thank you all once again for your support for our school.

Tim Jones, Deputy Chair of Governors

DANGEROUS CROSSING

Mottingham continues to harbour a dangerous zebra crossing opposite the Methodist Church. The main threat comes from vehicles speeding down Mottingham Road, usually from the Chislehurst direction. Your Association has made repeated representations to Bromley Council for measures to be taken, but so far the need has not been officially recognised. All the following proposals have particular drawbacks:

1. Install lights to control the entire junction. (This would require co-operation from Greenwich in whose area the Court Road lights would stand).
2. Move the crossing to the other side of the entrance to Court Road, where the orange beacons might just be a little more easily visible.
3. Install pelican lights on the existing crossing (But this would mix awkwardly with the Court Road zebra crossing and could cause even longer traffic queues than we have at present).

RECYCLING

It hasn’t reached Mottingham yet - but it is coming! Greenwich residents will shortly be having new wheele bins with blue lids to keep alongside our present green ones. They won’t add to the beauty of the scenery where householders are obliged to keep their bins in the front garden, but the new bins will take all recyclable material - paper, cans, plastic and glass, and collection will be fortnightly as is done at present with the paper boxes. The materials can all be taken for sorting to a wonderful new installation called MRF (whatever that stands for) and then recycled.

Prevention is better than cure, but there are still some people around, it seems, who have yet to learn what rubbish bins are for. Greenwich now has a scheme called “Cleansweep”, so if you live in Greenwich and have a serious problem with litter, small fly-tipping, abandoned cars or graffiti, a call on 020 8921 4661 should bring someone to the rescue.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Local gardeners who are members of the Horticultural Society will have learnt by now that the trading shed has moved, although apparently one or two benighted souls have turned up at the old site in Court Farm Road. The new site is in the aptly named Gardener’s Close off Nunington Close - drive up Beaconsfield Road and turn left when you come to a speed restriction “table”, then right into Gardeners’ Close. Not so convenient if you don’t have a car or don’t live in Beaconsfield Road, but the service is as good as ever. The Trading Secretary Terry Harvey will order anything he doesn’t have in stock (Tel 8325 3579)

THE STREAM THROUGH MOTTINGHAM VILLAGE

Further to the Mottingham stream enquiry in the last MFA Newsletter, as a young lad during the late 1940’s, I and my friends every spring would search the stream for frog-spawn. The stream literally bubbled out of the ground opposite the Catholic Church on the corner of Leysdown Road and Mottingham Road and ran through a field (as it was then), the land was used as a retirement home for Kent coal pit ponies.

The stream was no more than 2 foot wide, it ran towards Court Road following the route of what is now Porcupine Close. On reaching Court Road it went into a small iron grating and disappeared. In the early 50’s, shops and houses were built onto the field and the stream was diverted and encased into concrete piping. I have noticed in recent years that water leaks out of the grass verge near the Catholic church, perhaps the pipes are now blocked with silt.

My mother was born in Mottingham and I recall her saying that as a child she remembered the stream ran behind the Farriers forge that stood in the middle of the high street across the back of the old village school that she had attended, then eventually onto the Quaggy River via a pathway (now blocked off) that ran alongside the BP garage.

Ray Andrew

[Diagram of the stream flow]
CONTACT DETAILS

Emergencies
Crime-stoppers 0800 555 111
Victim Support 8854 1113

ELTHAM AREA

Police:
Crime & Incident reporting (24 hours) 8853 1212
Eltham Sector Office Answerphone 8284 5723 or 8284 5653
Eltham Station Office (24 hours) 8284 5625
Eltham Fax Number 8828 5690
Youth Crime Reduction Officers 8284 5780
Ben Jasper (Home Beat Officer) 8284 5723
Eltham Police Station - 20 Well Hall Road, SE9 6SF.

General:
Fly-tipping 0800 80 70 60
Graffiti hotline 8921 6881
Noisy car alarms (LBG Environmental Health) 8854 8888
LBG Switchboard 8854 8888
- Road/pavement damage Ext. 5466
- Street lighting Ext. 5480
Abandoned cars 8921 5703
Refuse disposal 8921 4663 or 8921 4636
Trading Standards 8921 8382

BROMLEY AREA

Police:
Inspector Laney 8284 8703
Sector Office 8284 8786
Andy Johnson (Home Beat Officer) Mobile: 07941 987 198
Neighbourhood Watch (PC Ken Acott) 8284 8849
Crime Help Desk 8284 8052
Crime prevention Advice 8284 8972
General Enquiries (Next step down from 999 calls) 8313 1212
Chislehurst Police Office 8284 7555

General:
LB Switchboard 8464 3333
Rubbish dumping & Graffiti Removal 8313 4830
Noise problems (Mon-Fri 9.30am to 5.00pm) 8313 4830
(Other times) 8464 4848
Dumped vehicles 8313 4236
Parking Shop 8313 4516
Park security 8658 1593
* * (Out of hours emergencies) 8464 4848

COUNCILLORS FOR MOTTINGHAM - SURGERIES

Coldharbour & New Eltham Ward (Greenwich)

New Eltham Library
Southwood Road
London SE9
Cllr Dorothy Mepsted
122 Bexley Road
London SE9 2PG
8850 0849
1st and 3rd Saturdays
in the month
10.30 - 11.30am

Pop-In Parlour
The Mound
William Barefoot Drive
London SE9
Cllr John Hills
28 Brenley Gardens
London SE9 6LF
8850 2519
1st and 3rd Saturdays
in the month
10.30 - 11.30am

Pop-In Parlour
The Mound
William Barefoot Drive
London SE9
Cllr Chris Taylor
145 Crookstone Road
London SE9 1YG
8331 2667
fax: 8331 2667
mobile: 0798 465 2358
e-mail: cllr.taylor@hotmail.com
2nd and 4th Saturdays
in the month
10.30 - 11.30am

Our Lady Help of Christians
Church Hall
Leysdown Road
London SE9
One of the above Councillors
Last Friday in the month
7.00 - 8.00pm

Mottingham & Chislehurst North Ward (Bromley)

Community & Learning Shop
1 - 2 Cranley Parade
Kimmeridge Road
Cllr Charles Rideout
16 Mavelstone Close
Bromley BR1 2PJ
8466 8506
email: charles.rideout@bromley.gov.uk
Every 2nd Thursday
9.30 - 11.30am

Community Learning Shop
1 - 2 Cranley Parade
Kimmeridge Road
Cllr Roger Charsley
23 Alexandra Crescent
Bromley BR1 4ET
8460 1854
email: roger.charsley@bromley.gov.uk
Every 2nd Thursday
9.30 - 11.30am
FREE INTERNET LESSONS

Morttingham Library is offering free lessons on how to use the Internet. The sessions last for an hour and are held every Monday between 11.00am and 2.00pm. They’re very popular so you’ll need to ring Librarian Pam Fuller on 8857 5406 to book in advance.

The Library also offers free Internet access and Microsoft Office facilities. Oh and you can still borrow books as well!

ROAD STEWARDS

SECTION ONE  LEADER - (Vacant)
Albert Road  Mrs Cheeseman  152 Mottingham Road  8851 1747
Highcombe Close Mrs Hollingum  33 Devonshire Road  8857 5856
Lulworth Road Mr Harvie  16 Lulworth Road  8325 3579
Mottingham Road 100-203 Mrs Cheeseman  152 Mottingham Road  8851 1747
Porcupine Close Mrs Washbrook  63 Chapel Farm Road  8857 8122
Sidcup Road 522-620 (Vacant)

SECTION TWO  LEADER - MR CHKLAR - 7 Grove Park Road  8857 9440
Hinton Close Mr Julyan  9 West Park  8857 4328
Luxfield Road Ms Kennedy  34 West Park  8857 0525
Sidcup Road 375 - 511 Mr Leakey  475 Sidcup Road  8851 4845
Sidcup Road 452 - 508 Mr Chtklar  7 Grove Park Road  88579440
West Hallowes Ms Kennedy  34 West Park  8857 0525
West Park (odd) Mr Julyan  9 West Park  8857 4328
West Park (even) Mr & Mrs Perkins  7 West Park  8851 8644

SECTION THREE  LEADER - MRS COBB - 7 Carters Hill Close  8857 1944
Beaconsfield Rd Mrs Pugh  59 Beaconsfield Rd  8851 9678
Carters Hill Close Mrs Webber  26 Carters Hill Close  8851 3696
Cedar Mount Mrs Cobb  7 Carters Hill Close  8857 1944
Grove Park Rd. (even) Mr Keable  54 Grove Park Road  8857 4183
Grove Park Rd. (odd) Mr Barker  78 Grove Park Road  8857 9208
Hall View Mr Barker  78 Grove Park Road  8857 9208
Model Farm Close Mr Wakeling  8 Model Farm Close  8249 0544
Mottingham Gardens Mrs Donoghue  16 Mottingham Gardens  8857 3257
Mottingham Lane Mrs McDonald  25 Court Farm Road  8857 6947

SECTION FOUR  LEADER - MRS LOCKWOOD - 23 Court Farm Road  8325 3695
Avondale Road Mrs Ware  3 Avondale Road  8857 8730
Clarence Road Mr & Mrs Foster  15 Clarence Road  8851 2813
College View Mrs Stevens  1 Layzell Walk  8857 2687
Court Farm Road Mrs Lockwood  23 Court Farm Road  8325 3695
Crossway Mrs Lockwood  23 Court Farm Road  8325 3695
Devonshire Road Mrs Roberts  4 Mottingham Road  8857 3849
Dorset Road Mr & Mrs Luxford  16 Dorset Road  8851 8202
Elmhurst Road Mr Keable  54 Grove Park Road  8857 4183
Evelyn Court Mrs Swanton  9 Model Farm Close  8851 1523
Kippington Drive (Vacant)
Layzell Walk Mrs Stevens  1 Layzell Walk  8857 2657
Mottingham Road 1-95 Mrs Stevens  1 Layzell Walk  8857 2657
Mottingham Road 2-58 (Vacant)
Portland Crescent (Vacant)
Portland Road Mr & Mrs Foster  15 Clarence Road  8851 2813
Silverdale Drive Mrs Lockwood  23 Court Farm Road  8325 3695
Sycamore Close Mrs Hollingum  33 Devonshire Road  8857 5856

SECTION FIVE  LEADER - MR D. JONES - 260 Court Road  8857 8712
Bill Hamling Close Mrs Henderson  10 Birbetts Road  8857 5800
Birbetts Road Mrs Henderson  10 Birbetts Road  8857 5800
Bowmead Mrs Henderson  10 Birbetts Road  8857 5800
Bromhedge Mrs Johnson  23 Hartmead Road  8857 3604
Chapel Farm Rd (even) Mr & Mrs Laurence  47 Chapel Farm  8857 4234
Chapel Farm Rd (odd) Mrs Johnson  23 Hartmead Road  8857 3604
Court Road (even) Mrs Jones  260 Court Road  8857 8712
Court Road (odd) Mr Wyborn  240 Court Road  8857 1524
Crossmead Mr Wyborn  240 Court Road  8857 1524
Downleys Close Mr Hill  53 Leysdown Road  8857 3798
Hartsmead Road Mr Hill  53 Leysdown Road  8857 3798
Lavidge Road Mr & Mrs Laurence  47 Chapel Farm  8857 4234
Leysdown Road Mr Hill  53 Leysdown Road  8857 3798
Margaret Gardner Drive Mrs Henderson  10 Birbetts Road  8857 5800
Ministry Way Mrs Henderson  10 Birbetts Road  8857 5800
Sidcup Road 551-655 Mr Garforth  16 Hartsmead  8851 5122