

MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS 1995-96

President	Mr T Hodges	42 Grove Park Rd	857 6913
Chairman	Mr D Edgar	32 West Park	851 3788
Deputy Chairman	Mr F Winpenny	12 Grove Park Rd	857 1417
Hon. Secretary	Mrs M Dartnell	16 Elmhurst Rd	857 2065
Hon. Treasurer	Mr D Edgar	32 West Park	857 3788
Hon. Auditor	Mr L Huxley	71 Court Farm Rd.	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr B Barker	78 Grove Park Rd	851 9208
Mr T Bass	25 Dorset Rd	857 6373
Mrs J Cobb	7 Carters Hill Cl.	857 1944
Mrs B Day	19 Highcombe Cl.	851 1024
Mr D Drucquer	9 Birbetts Rd	857 6051
Mr G Howard	20 West Park	857 3366
Mrs Mackway-Jones	54a Mottingham Rd	
Mr P Norman	33 Highcombe Cl.	857 6347
Mr P Noble	32 Mottingham Rd	851 0608
Mrs I Swanton	9 Model Farm Cl.	851 1523
Mrs C Witchlow	13 Carters Hill Cl.	851 9131
Mr S Yates	12 Avondale Rd	857 9025

COUNCILLORS

D Richards JP (Tarn Ward)	10 West Hallowses	857 5299
E Dyer (Mottingham Ward)	8 Cherry walk	
	Hayes Kent	462 8635
R Yeldham (Mottingham Ward)	111 Blandford Road	658 5455
	Beckenham Kent.	

COOPTED

Insp. Horak (Greenwich)	Eltham Police Station	284 5625
PC. Magee	Eltham Police Station	284 5625
Insp. Botting (Bromley)	Chislehurst Police Station	284 8200
PC K Hartley	Chislehurst Police Station	284 8225

COMMITTEES

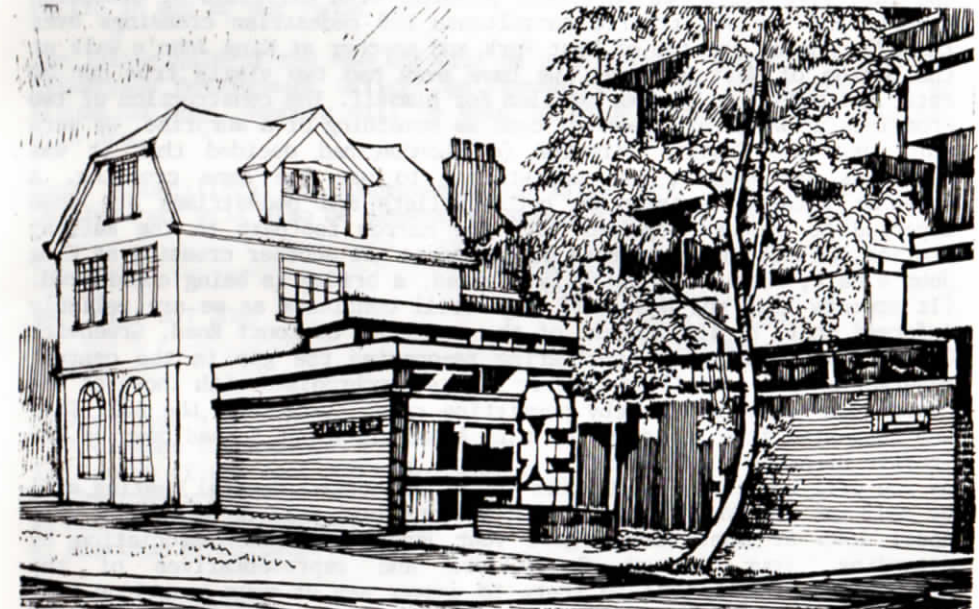
Bromley Residents' Federation	Mrs Mackway-Jones & Mr D Edgar
Environment	Mr S Yates
Membership Coordinator	Mrs J Cobb
Planning [Bromley]	Mr T Bass
Planning [Greenwich]	Mr G Howard
Newsletter	Mrs C Witchlow
Greenwich/Police Community Consultative Group	Mr D Edgar & Mr T Hodges
Major Developments Standing Committee	Messr Drucquer, Edgar & Winpenny

MOTTINGHAM NEWS

THE VOICE OF

MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED 1932



Mottingham Library

Ken Wilsons 79

SPRING 1996

AFFILIATED TO: LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY RESIDENTS' FEDERATION

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

I regret to advise the death on 23rd January 1996 of Graham Jenkins. Graham was, for many years, a member of this Association's Executive Committee, and for ten years was the Association's Chairman and mainstay. Until his death he was Chairman of Mottingham Horticultural Society, a position he had also held for many years. It was typical of Graham that very few of his many friends and acquaintances knew of the terminal illness which he, with the support of his wife Rosemary, bore with great fortitude. Our condolences go out to Rosemary in her sad loss.

The many residents who regularly cross the A20 to get to and from the Railway Station will have been as surprised as I was at the sudden appearance of a forest of traffic lights at the top of West Park. For the last five years, we have been pleading with officials of Greenwich Council and various traffic consultants for pedestrian crossings over the A20, one at the top of West Park and another at King John's Walk at the bottom of West Hallows. We have even had two visits from our MP Peter Bottomley, to see our problem for himself. The construction of two crossings at West Park however, came as something of a surprise. We were told that the Traffic Director for London had decided that it was dangerous for cyclist and pedestrians to use the same crossing. A somewhat strange decision as both cyclists and pedestrians are then expected to proceed together down the narrow footpath to the Railway Station. We can now concentrate on trying to get another crossing at King John's Walk, where I am verbally advised, a bridge is being considered. (It appears that the West Park saga still continues as we are reliably informed that, at the request of the residents of Court Road, Greenwich Council are once again considering re-opening the gap in the central reservation and installing traffic lights synchronised with those at the Court Road junction, thereby permitting right turns onto the A20. This was suggested five years ago by this Association but turned down by the Traffic Director for London.

As you will see elsewhere in this issue, our Annual General Meeting will be held in the Oddfellows Hall in Beaconsfield Road on Wednesday 24th April 1996 at 8pm. Please give your support to the Association by attending. Your Borough Councillors and representatives of the Metropolitan Police will be there to answer any of your questions, and if you wish to serve on the Executive Committee or as a Road Steward please volunteer. You will not be pressurised to do so, but if you do volunteer, I can promise you a very interesting and rewarding experience. As evidence of this, it is not unusual for **all** of the existing members of the Executive Committee to put their names forward for re-election!

Many residents of West Park, West Hallows and Luxfield Road were disappointed by the Department of the Environment's decision to ignore their objections and allow the appeal by Happy Homes for outline planning permission for a development in the gardens between West Park and Luxfield Road. Greenwich Council turned down the application for planning permission last year and it transpired that the owners of the properties involved were not aware that an appeal had been lodged

DAVE EDGAR

MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION will be held on Wednesday, 24th April 1996 at 8pm in:

The Oddfellows Hall,
Beaconsfield Road,
Mottingham, SE9.

There will be a business meeting to report the activities of the past year together with the election of officers.

During the interval refreshments will be served and there will be a raffle in aid of our funds.

The latter half of the meeting will be a talk by Mr Piers Simey, Active Lifestyles Development Officer on Community Use of the facilities at Eltham College. Members will be able to raise items of local interest with him.

Local Councillors and representatives from the Police (Eltham and Chislehurst) will also be present to answer residents' questions.

M. Dartnell

Hon. Secretary,
16 Elmhurst Road,
Mottingham.

Tel. 0181 857 2065

AGENDA

1. President's Opening Remarks.
2. Apologies for Absence.
3. Minutes of the last AGM - 3rd May 1995.
4. Chairman's Report.
5. Hon. Treasurer's Report.
6. Election of Officers.

- (a) President
- (b) Hon. Secretary
- (c) Hon. Treasurer
- (d) Hon. Auditor
- (e) Executive Committee

7. Membership Subscription
8. Membership Secretary's Report

INTERVAL

Talk on the Community use of facilities at Eltham College by Mr Piers Simey, Active Lifestyles Development Officer.

Question and Answer Forum

MEETING IN RESPECT OF THE PRINCE OF WALES PUBLIC HOUSE

Following on from representations made by many members of our Association, our Home Beat Officer, WCP Karen Hartley, organised a meeting on the 29th January 1996 in respect of the various complaints made concerning the Prince of Wales Public House.

WPC Hartley set up the meeting with the relevant Police representatives together with interested parties i.e. local residents and the Licensee, Mr Greene.

Certain positive actions were agreed and in the case of the neon lights, promptly acted upon by Mr Greene, as these were removed the next day.

WPC Hartley is to be congratulated on a very positive meeting, after all the hard work entailed in organising it.

Our thanks are also extended to Mr Greene, the Licensee, who has been very co-operative in listening to the views put forward by local residents and the effort he has made to mitigate the impact on people living adjacent to his premises.

DORSET ROAD INFANTS SCHOOL

Planning permission has been granted to Dorset Road Infants School to incorporate the pathway, which runs alongside their playground, into the School premises

An approach has been made to Councillor Erny Dyer asking him to propose that, should the School cease to exist, the pathway shall revert to its original use. This he has agreed to do.

RAVENSBOURNE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE TRUST

The Bromley Resident's Federation of whom Mottingham Residents' Association is a member are arranging a meeting on 15th May 1996 with the Ravensbourne NHS Trust when they will detail their work and accept questions from the floor. Ravensbourne Trust provide **ALL** National Health care in the community throughout the Borough of Bromley, such as clinics, external nursing, special childrens' needs, school health, dental and chiropody, mental health etc.,etc.

If any Mottingham (Bromley) resident has a relevant question or enquiry they wish to put to the Trust, please send details to Mrs Jones, 54A Mottingham Road, SE9 4QR - **LETTERS ONLY - NO CALLS**

Extract from - Introduction in Mottingham Week programme, June 1973 by the Rev. Chris Byers.

" I live in Mottingham -- No -- **Mottingham**M for Mother.
.....Where is that exactly?

Well, it's near Eltham and Chislehurst - you pass it on the A20"

AT LEAST SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE !!!!

MOTTINGHAM'S BRIGHT PROSPECTS

Councillor Derek Richards JP writes:

Greenwich Council has approved in principle, the development at Coldharbour (Mottingham) Sports Centre of a high quality Sports Centre. There is to be a Leisure Complex at the western end by Chapel Farm Road, to be managed for the Council by Greenwich Leisure Ltd, and at the eastern end a community open space for sporting uses and additional casual access.

The Council became responsible for the site in 1990 after ILEA was abolished, but there has been continued vandalism and the changing rooms, toilets and outbuildings are now virtually derelict. Nevertheless security measures and minimum maintenance are costly. Substantial refurbishment is essential to restore the site to full educational and community use

Applications will be made in April 1996 for National Lottery, Sports Council, Football Trust and other grants to cover the cost of some £1½ million. Should funds be forthcoming, tenders will be sought by July 1996, work should start by September/October 1996 and the Leisure Complex should be opened by March 1997 - just a year hence.

Internal facilities will include a multi- purpose dance/activity studio, meeting and training facilities, fitness gym and training equipment, changing rooms for indoor and outdoor activities, refreshment and relaxation areas and creche, children's and toddlers' play facilities.

Outside there will be two good grass football pitches. 8 - 10 netball or tennis courts, a full sized floodlit synthetic sport pitch, with car parking, fencing, external lighting and security measures

This is an exciting prospect for Mottingham and, if it is managed by Greenwich Leisure Limited which has gained nationwide renown as it goes from strength to strength, we can be confident that it will be a great success. I shall probably take my ample girth there for reduction.

The Council's Principal Engineer, Development and Traffic, has written to confirm that the footpath joining the A20 Sidcup Road and Mottingham Railway Station "is a public highway and the Council is responsible for its maintenance" "The problem of horses using this footway is noted" he continues, "and I will investigate further to see what can be done to alleviate it"

The Council's Cleansing Department are responsible for sweeping and cleansing this footpath. "I understand that this footpath is swept weekly"

Mottingham, at the south of the London Borough of Greenwich rejoices that Greenwich has gained the prize of staging the Millennium Exhibition. There will be Borough - wide regeneration, a 10,000 boost in jobs and multi-million pounds of business opportunities and a greatly improved and expanded innovative transport system.

Tourists and visitors will flock into Greenwich and so will job seekers who will need accommodation and they will be welcomed. Not so, however for the criminal fraternity and the confidence tricksters, from whom Heaven preserve us.

SOUTH-EASTERN PASSENGER RAIL FRANCHISING.

A member of our Executive Committee recently attended a consultation meeting regarding the timetables proposed for the Passenger Service Requirement (PSR) on the Sidcup Line for submission to the Office of Franchising. He reported the following discrepancies:-

Mondays to Saturdays. The current off-peak timetable provides a third Sidcup/London Bridge/Cannon Street service on an hourly basis. This has been omitted with the result that Mottingham would be served by only two trains per hour off-peak.

The maximum journey time, according to the current timetables, is 34 minutes to London Bridge, whereas the proposed timings are 42 minutes, (which is the present journey time to Charing Cross).

Throughout the proposed timetables, the journey times are worse than those in the current timetable.

We have written to the Office of Franchising pointing out these discrepancies in an endeavour to ensure that after privatisation, our rail services will be no worse (and hopefully better) than at present.

MOTTINGHAM SPORTS FIELD.

The Association is continually pressing Bromley Council to improve conditions on the Sports Field and are grateful to them for replanting more trees at the lower end, after the heartbreaking destruction of 18 saplings by vandals last year.

We are doing all we can to get some action taken by the Council to clear the blockages in the river bed at the top of the field and so stop the continual flooding of the football pitches and all the way down to Grove Park Road. Perhaps a few letters of complaint to the Council by individual residents would assist!

The poop-a-scoop bins have now been in place for well over a year, but unfortunately there are still some dog owners who still don't clean up after their pets. Whilst on the subject of poop-bins, these should only be used for that purpose, and not for other forms of refuse, or even a mail order catalogue!! Perhaps one day Bromley Council will listen to our continual pleas for waste bins along Court Farm Road.

Why is it that some motorists are hell-bent on destroying what few grass verges we have left in Mottingham? We would point out that this contravenes local bye-laws and culprits can be fined. In fact, there is NOWHERE in the Parish of Mottingham where a motorist can park ANY part of a car on ANY part of a footpath without being liable for a heavy fine.

POLICE NEWS.

To be the victim of crime is terrifying and traumatic, but also many people allow the fear of crime to spoil their lives. There are steps that YOU can take to ease some of these fears.

Contact the Crime Prevention Officer at your local Police Station who will be only too pleased to visit your home free of charge and advise you on security.

Have a chain fitted on your door - AND ALWAYS USE IT!!

NEVER allow anyone into your home with seeing proof of identity. Carry your cheque book, money and credit cards in different pockets. Complete an "Unattended Premises" form at your local Police Station when going away.

If it is going to be dark before getting home, a small table lamp plugged into a timer switch can be a big deterrent to a burglar

Have STRONG fittings and good padlocks put on sheds and garages where gardening equipment and bicycles are kept - perhaps fit sensor lights.

Above all - keep a record of EVERY item in your home and sheds which carry a serial number - and property mark them. Your property mark is your postcode plus the number of your house i.e. SE94QS56. Take photographs of jewellery, and ultra-violet pens are available from the Police for marking delicate valuables.

Finally.... BURGLAR ALARMS are a wonderful deterrent, but they **MUST** cut out after 20 minutes. Councils have the powers to enter premises and disconnect alarms if they receive complaints of incessant ringing.

DID YOU KNOW

Mottingham has a very rare wayside grave. T. C. Haworth had a mausoleum built in 1875 in defiance of the Parish Church, Eltham (this was before St Andrews was built and Mottingham Parish created), and his entire family were laid to rest there. It was destroyed when a bomb dropped in Clarence Road during the last war, and replaced by flat gravestones. The graves are at the lower end of Beaconfield Road, close to the junction with Portland Road, in what was then a country lane.

Thomas Chester Haworth was a surveyor and laid out Eltham's first public drainage system. He even published his own newspaper "The Eltham Journal".

The first to be buried was one of his sons in 1875. Thomas Haworth followed other members of the family. He was interred in 1877, aged 72. His wife, Mary, finally joined him in 1895 when she died as a result of fatal burns in a fire at her home at 20 Devonshire Road.

Why did Thomas Haworth build this mausoleum in the first place? It reportedly stemmed from a long standing quarrel between him and the Church Warden. He wanted the distribution of monies collected from the sale of topsoil from Eltham Common to be made in the form of coal in the winter to the poor, whereas the Parish guardians claimed it was their right to distribute any income from the Common land. It is also believed the Haworth family were outraged at seeing so many graves disturbed when the present Eltham Parish Church was rebuilt some 120/130 years ago.

EDITORIAL NOTE - Opinions expressed in articles submitted to "Mottingham News" are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent the views of the Editor or the Executive Committee of the Mottingham Residents' Association.