

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

POLICE

GREENWICH

Control Room (NON URGENT CRIME) 8284 1212

Beat Officer – PC Rob Jobson 8284 5723

E-mail: Robert.jobson@met.police.uk

BROMLEY

Control Room (NON URGENT CRIME) 01689 891212

Beat Officer – PC Andy Johnson 8284 7555 8284 /8715

E-mail: Andrew.s.johnson@met.police.uk

IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS DIAL 999

COUNCILS

GREENWICH

Main switchboard 8854 8888

Website- www.Greenwich.gov.uk

BROMLEY

Main switchboard 8464 3333

Website -www.Bromley.gov.uk

LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Bromley

Roger Charsley 84601854 E-mail: roger.charsley@bromley.gov.uk

Charles Rideout 8466 6506 E-mail: charles.rideout@bromley.gov.uk

Greenwich

John Hills 57 Arsenal Road, Eltham SE9 1JT

Tel: Home 8319 4179 Office 8921 5049/5050 Mob 07904 926075

E-mail: john.hills@greenwich.gov.uk

MOTTINGHAM NEWS

THE VOICE OF
MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
FOUNDED 1932



AUTUMN 2005

MEMBER OF LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY RESIDENTS' FEDERATION

MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS 2005 -2006

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| Chairman | John Perkins | 7 West Park SE94RY | 8851 8644 |
| Deputy Chairman | Tim Jones | 15 Grove Park Road, SE9 4 NP | 8857 4582 |
| Membership Sec | Mrs Mackway-Jones | 54A Mottingham Rd SE9 4QR | 8857 5886 |
| Treasurer | Sally Jones | 15 Grove Park Rd SE9 4NP | 8857 4582 |
| Auditor | Martyn Hill | 53 Leysdown Road SE9 3 ND | 8857 3798 |

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Sally Babi | 41A Mottingham Road SE9 4QZ | 07947 301581 |
| Laurie/Caron Bell | 1 Mottingham Road SE9 4QQ | 8851 8939 |
| Andrew Chklar | 7 Grove Park Road SE9 4NP | 8857 9440 |
| Mr/Mrs Foster | 15 Clarence Road SE9 4SJ | 8851 2813 |
| Ross Howie | 11 Dorset Road SE9 4QY | 8857 1874 |
| Valerie Houghton | 39 Walden Avenue BR7 6EJ | 8857 8643 |
| Liz Keable | 54 Grove Park Road SE9 4QB | 8857 4183 |
| Terry Scovell | 92 Beaconsfield Road SE9 4DT | 8857 6086 |
| Margaret Southam | 40 Elmshurst Road SE9 4DN | 8851 3456 |
| Gay Walker | 18 Portland Road SE9 4TR | 8857 0931 |

MRA MEETINGS 2006

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| January 25 | Executive Committee | Dorset Road School |
| March 29 | Executive Committee | Dorset Road School |
| April 26 | A.G.M | Oddfellows Hall |
| May 24 | Executive Committee | Dorset Road School |
| July 19 | Executive Committee | Dorset Road School |
| September 27 | Executive Committee | Dorset Road School |
| November 29 | Executive Committee | Dorset Road School |

All meetings are on a Wednesday and begin at 8.00PM

THE DEVELOPERS ARE COMING!



Facing demolition – 90 and 92 Grove Park Road

Mottingham is currently under siege by property developers and speculators looking for even the smallest piece of land to build on. Most of their attention is currently focused on Grove Park Road where some residents have been offered as much as £150,000 for a piece of their back garden. Others have been offered between £70,000 and £120,000.

The developer's plan for these particular plots of land is to build two storey houses sideways on to the existing houses. Further up Grove Park Road towards the phone exchange however another developer - Carpgrove Homes – wants to demolish the existing buildings altogether and build a four storey block of flats with parking spaces for 12 cars – see picture above.

Bromley council has rejected this plan on a number of grounds including "excessive density" and the serious detrimental effect the flats would have on neighbouring properties. One of their main concerns however was setting a precedent for the rest of the area if permission was granted. Their fear is it would lead to - in their words - "an undesirable pattern for similar infilling in the area and the general lowering of development standards".

The Residents Association agrees and has opposed all the planning applications from developers for this sort of in-fill development and will continue to do so but there's a way to go yet. Developers don't give up easily when there are large amounts of money at stake – and Carpgrove has now appealed against Bromley's refusal to grant permission.

Elsewhere there have been attempts in West Park to gain permission to demolish a set of garages and building a house on the site which was rejected by Greenwich Council. A developer has also been active on the other side of West Park offering to buy people's back gardens so he can build two houses on a site at the junction with West Hallows.

There is another disturbing aspect to this issue which is causing distress to some householders who think they are going to be forced out of their home.

One of the tactics used by a firm based in Bromley is to send a letter to the householder which saying they have obtained their name from the Land Registry. They go on to say they are "in negotiation" with their neighbours to acquire their property for redevelopment. On one level this might appear to be factual and therefore perfectly reasonable – on another it could be interpreted as sinister i.e. "we know where you live and are about to do a deal with your neighbour - so get real".

We know of at least one incident where a resident who had received one of these letters felt threatened and was afraid they would have to sell up the home where they lived most of their life. They were extremely distressed and confused but were reassured after talking to a member of the Residents Association who lived nearby.

If you hear of any similar incidents to this please get in touch with a member of the Residents Association executive committee whose names are listed in this booklet.

NEW VICAR AT ST ANDREWS

A tall bearded figure has recently moved into St Andrews Rectory in Court Road. He is the Rev. Ian Welch – the new Parish Priest for St Andrews and St Albans who replaces the previous incumbent George Davies.

Ian entered the church after a career spanning nearly 20 years as a university lecturer and language teacher – including spells at the University of Connecticut in the USA and at the English Language Centre in Singapore. He also taught English at the Refugee Council in Brixton and the Eurocentre in Ecclestone Square.

He trained for the Ministry at Cuddesdon in Oxfordshire and comes to Nottingham from St Augustine's church in Grove Park where he had been curate for three years. He is particularly interested in speech and drama and one of his immediate ambitions is to encourage more families to attend church services – both at St Andrews and St Albans. Ian's own family consists of wife Sarah and daughters Ellen and Lara.

NEW HOSTS AT THE PORCUPINE



This year's Remembrance Day service outside The Porcupine

There are new faces behind the bar at Nottingham's village pub – The Porcupine. It's Ted and Tracey Hedges first pub and they are determined to restore it to being a focal point for the whole family. One of their first acts was to hang a large banner outside the pub proclaiming – NO DRUGS. Since then they have been busy introducing new activities aimed at attracting members of the local community of all ages. There is now a regular Monday club, Tuesday is quiz night and then at the weekend there is live music and karaoke. They've also opened up the old public bar as a sports bar with a strict over 21 age limit. Special events have included barbecues for Halloween and Bonfire Night and next year there are big plans for the garden with new animal cages and aviaries and a water feature. Special thanks are due to them for decorating the pub for the Remembrance Day service on November 13 which was one of the best attended for many years.

RON JULYAN



"Normal" pictures of Ron are hard to come by!

One of Nottingham's most colourful characters – Ron Julyan – died in September. Ron was known to most people "of a certain age" in Nottingham and was one of the founders of the Nottingham Festival. He had the ability to delight and infuriate people in equal proportions and – as one speaker said at his funeral in Kingsdown – it was amazing he had not had his lights punched out more often!

His unique way of stopping cars speeding down West Park where he lived was to reverse his old Morris Minor car very slowly into his drive – so slowly that a queue would build up back to Eltham College and beyond. Alternatively he would simply step into the path of a speeding car and wave his fists.

He was equally animated about people who dropped litter in the street which led to a number of verbal exchanges outside Nottingham take-aways.

Ron's view of what constituted "normal" was somewhat different from most other people's and was combined with a whimsical sense of humour and a strong sense of the ridiculous. In his front window was a notice which read "Please do not read this notice". Local people responded in kind. On one occasion he pinned a sign to his front fence which said – "Dogs – do not foul here". The following day someone had pinned another notice underneath which read – "Ron – dogs can't read"!

He was the sort of man who could attend a police committee meeting in Eltham and turn it into a discussion about the architectural merits of Well Hall Pleasaunce. He was also the only person to get himself banned from the annual flower show for reasons which are now shrouded in mystery – but probably had to do with failing to pay the entrance fee!

It is a tribute however to the very real affection people had for Ron that the church at Kingsdown proved too small for the number of people who wanted to attend his funeral and many had to stand outside and listen to the service through the open church doors. There was a good wake afterwards at number 9, West Park. He would have enjoyed that!

In his private life he was a gifted artist and potter (or ceramacist as he preferred to call it), a caring father to Caius and Alexandra, a kind friend, a good neighbour and an amusing host. Life was never boring with Ron – and we shall miss him terribly!

TIME PLEASE.....LOCAL LICENSING APPLICATIONS.

We have already commented in previous editions of the magazine about the fact that Mottingham seems to have more places to buy alcohol than most other areas of London. There are no fewer than 9 licensed outlets in the short stretch of road between the War Memorial and Court Road

Why this is, nobody is sure but one effect has been to encourage gangs of young people to the village because they see it as an easy place to get their hands on alcohol. This in turn has led once again over the Summer to police having to be called in to break up these gangs who were coming from a wide area of South London and were intimidating pedestrians and shoppers - especially in the evenings. There were also incidents of personal assault and damage to property.

Every licensed outlet in England has been having to re-apply this Summer for its licence under new Government legislation. At the same time they were able to apply to extend their hours and include extra activities. This is what has led to the debate in the papers and on TV and radio about 24 hour opening and "binge drinking".

It has also given the Association the opportunity to look at who is selling what and when in Mottingham and to object if it feels the application is not in the best interests of the residents.

Objections have therefore been lodged against the following applications on the grounds they will have a negative effect on life in the village

PRINCE OF WALES pub Mottingham Road which wants to extend its opening hours on Friday and Saturday nights. The Association is objecting because they fear the pub will become a magnet for late night drinking for local youth with all the problems that brings - especially after closing time. The pub's initial application was refused by Bromley council but the pub has now appealed against the decision.

BP GARAGE Mottingham which wants to sell food and hot drinks through the night. The garage is already a magnet for local yobs and is one of the worst petrol stations in London for drive-away crime. There have also been numerous incidents of thefts of alcohol. If the station was allowed to remain open for food and drink through the night it would become a magnet for undesirable elements.

LYAMANIS restaurant West Park is seeking a licence which would enable it to conduct indoor sporting events, live music, dancing and serve late night refreshments. This is not felt to be appropriate in a residential area.

20MPH ZONE EXTENDED

The Association has welcomed plans by Bromley council to extend the 20 MPH zone for traffic from Kimmeridge down into the village. At the moment the zone stops at Dunkery Road but Bromley wants to extend it to include all the roads down into the village centre as far as Dorset Road, Devonshire Road and The Crossway. It also wants to include busy through roads like Court Farm Road and Beaconsfield Road as well as residential streets like Avondale Road, Lulworth Road and Widecombe Road

The scheme involves devices such as mini roundabouts, road narrowing, chicanes, refuges, speed limit signs and red surfaces at key points.

The scheme was first introduced on the Kimmeridge estate in 2003 and has proved popular with local people. Any extension is therefore to be welcomed.

NOISY NEIGHBOURS

Noisy neighbours are a feature of modern life - but what do you do when you can't bear the noise any longer.

Both Greenwich and Bromley have special departments which deal with noise problems but each takes a different approach for instance to the problem of noisy parties.

Greenwich has an emergency number 8921 8921 which is manned from 8pm to 1am Sunday to Thursday and till 2am on Fridays and Saturdays.

A member of the noise team will usually ring you back for more details and may make a visit to your home but they will not generally knock on doors late at night to stop one-off parties. What they do is to write an official letter the next day to both the person complaining and the person making the noise and they say that is often enough to stop a repeat episode.

If however the noise is persistent then they can take legal action for statutory nuisance under the Environmental Protection Act and serve an abatement notice on the offender.

Bromley takes a more muscular approach to the problem with a special "party patrol" on a Saturday night which will actually knock on doors and ask for the sound to be turned down. If the occupier ignores their request, then the council can serve a notice demanding immediate action. If that is ignored the occupier faces prosecution and a possible fine of £5,000.

The Bromley emergency number is 8464 4848 and at weekends the phone is manned from 10pm Saturday to 4am Sunday

AVA CARS AND VANS

AVA vans and cars are a familiar sight around Mottingham - but they are currently locked in a battle with Greenwich council over where they park their vehicles. The company's office is on the corner of Court Road and the entrance to Mottingham Station car park. South Eastern Trains has recently installed wooden posts on the pavement opposite AVA and painted double yellow lines on the road to prevent illegal parking. Greenwich council has also taken legal action and issued an enforcement notice against the company. The company has appealed against the notice and a public inquiry was held recently at Woolwich Town Hall. At the time of going to press the result of the appeal was not known. The company describes itself as offering "car, van and prestige car hire thorough the UK".

PHONE MAST AT DUTCH HOUSE

A footnote to the story about the plan last year to erect a mobile phone mast by the War Memorial in Mottingham. Thanks to a campaign launched by the Residents Association and the action of some sharp eyed individuals who spotted workmen digging at the site, Hutchinson's "3" mobile phone company eventually gave up on the plan and said they would look elsewhere.

The "elsewhere" turns out to be the Dutch House pub on the A20 where a mast has now been erected by the car park entrance. It's worth taking a look if only to see what a narrow escape we had with the plan to site it by the War Memorial. It would have looked monstrous.

DORSET ROAD INFANT SCHOOL



Dorset Road Infant school – excellent exam results and now a waiting list!

Two years ago, Dorset Road Infant school was threatened with closure by Bromley council. After a long campaign by parents, teachers and local residents the school won a reprieve and today is thriving as never before. It has achieved some of its best ever exam results – and has a waiting list of children wanting to join. Head teacher Liz Keable gives an end of term report.

"Our school motto is "High standards on a small scale" and I am pleased to report that our small Infant School in the heart of Mottingham village is thriving."

"The extension, so long awaited, is fully open and providing much needed extra space and facilities for the disabled. The improved entrance and Reception area has a light, airy feel and creates an even more welcoming atmosphere. The Year 2 classroom now has room for a quiet corner and an art area, and allows pupils' models to remain on display.

Extra adult toilet facilities have enabled the school to extend its community activities. In the evenings for example we host meetings of the Residents Association and the Mottingham Safer Neighbourhood panel among others. Other community activities currently held at the school include STArt dance classes for children aged between two and a half and five on Thursday afternoons (2:15 to 3:00pm). Pilates (keep fit) classes for Parents and Carers on Fridays between 9am and 10am and also on Fridays Keep Fit for the Over 60s between 10:30 and 11:30am. All the classes are FREE. There are, currently, a few spare places for each activity. Please come along, at the beginning of a session, for further details or to join a class.

Academically, the school has enjoyed the best Year 2, end of Key Stage, results for many years. Every pupil achieved Level 2, or above, in Mathematics, and, all but one, reached this level in Reading and Writing too. Congratulations to all these pupils (and their teacher and support staff) for their hard work. The children have now transferred to their Junior schools well equipped to meet the challenges of a wider world.

Following the January, 2006 intake of pupils, the school will be full in Reception, and has a small waiting list. Arrangements for admission to Infant, Junior & Primary schools have changed from September, 2006. Rather than apply to individual schools, a common application form is completed, listing schools in order of preference, and is submitted to the local authority by 1st February, 2006. Contact your local school, the library or Local Authority for further details. Dorset Road Infant School welcomes applications from local families irrespective of their home Borough.

THERE IS AN OPEN DAY FOR PROSPECTIVE PUPILS ON MONDAY 16TH JANUARY, 2006.

Governors, staff, parents and pupils remain indebted to all those members of the community who have supported the school over the years, and continue to do so. With such friends, the school will continue to offer the best possible start to education for its pupils.

WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES. . . .

We are sometimes asked where your money goes – i.e. the subscriptions that you hand over each year to be a member of the Association.

The Association has 1,000 members who pay an annual subscription of £1.50p which in turn produces an income of approximately £1, 500 a year. In addition there are the proceeds of the raffle and refreshments at the AGM and the occasional donation.

On the other side of the equation are the costs of running the Association. **None of the money goes to the officers and committee members who give their time and services free.** There are however bills which include

- Hire of premises for meetings
- Magazines and newsletters
- AGM notices
- Membership cards
- Donation to the Mottingham Xmas lights
- Planning lists from the local council
- Subscriptions to the Bromley Residents Federation
- Wreath for Remembrance Day service
- Public Liability Insurance

Any surplus - last year it was £284 - goes into our bank account and is used to support the Association's aims which are to safeguard the interests of the residents of Mottingham and to maintain and improve its amenities. The account currently stands at just over £5,000 which sounds like a lot of money but could be eaten up very quickly if a major issue arises and specialist professional advice and resources are needed.

A copy of the accounts - which are audited - is given to every member who attends the AGM.

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD PANEL

The Safer Neighbourhood Panel for Mottingham and Chislehurst is now up and running and meeting monthly at various venues in the area. The inaugural meeting was held at the Evangelical Church in Court Farm Road and there have been further meetings at St Edwards Church Hall, Kimmeridge and Dorset Road Infant School. The Chairman is Laurie Bell who with his wife Caron runs a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in Mottingham and is a member of the Residents Association Executive Committee. The meetings are attended by local police and council officials as well as community representatives and the aim is to discuss mutual problems and how to resolve them. One of the first issues to be dealt with was under-age drinking. Other subjects for discussion have included graffiti and youths on motorbikes.

ROAD STEWARDS

Section one

| | | |
|---|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Section leader MRS HOLLINGUM 33, Devonshire Road | | 8857 5856 |
| Albert Road | Mrs Cheeseman | 152 Mottingham Road 8851 1747 |
| Highcombe Close | Mrs Whale | 22 Dorset Road 8325 7542 |
| Lulworth Road | Mr Harvie | 16 Lulworth Road 8325 3579 |
| Mottingham Rd | | |
| 100-154 | Mrs Cheeseman | 152 Mottingham Road 8851 1747 |
| 127-167 | Mrs Evans | 135 Mottingham Road 8857 2470 |
| 169-203A | Mrs Boyd | 171 Mottingham Road 07951 091805 |
| Porcupine Close | Sally Babi | 41a Mottingham Road 07947 301581 |
| Sidcup Road (522-620) | | VACANT |

Section two

| | | |
|--|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Section leader MR CHKLAR, 7 Grove Park Road | | 8857 9440 |
| Hinton Close | Mr/Mrs Perkins | 7 West Park 8851 8644 |
| Luxfield Road | Ms Kennedy | 34 West Park 8857 0525 |
| Sidcup Rd | | |
| 375-511 | VACANT | |
| 452-508 | Mr Chklar | 7 Grove Park Road 8857 9440 |
| West Hallowes | Ms Kennedy | 34 West Park 8857 0525 |
| West Park (odd) | Mr/Mrs Perkins | 7 West Park 8851 8644 |
| West Park (even) | Mr/Mrs Perkins | 7 West Park 8851 8644 |

Section three

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Section leader MRS COBB | | 7 Carters Hill Close | 8857 1944 |
| Beaconsfield Road | Mrs Pugh | 59 Beaconsfield Road | 8851 9678 |
| Carters Hill Close | Mrs Webber | 28 Carters Hill Close | 8851 3696 |
| Cedar Mount | Mrs Cobb | 7 Carters Hill Close | 8857 1944 |
| College View | Mrs Stevens | 1 Layzell Walk | 8857 2687 |
| Grove Park Road | | | |
| (even) | Mr Keable | 54 Grove Park Road | 8857 4183 |
| odd | Mr Barker | 78 Grove Park Road | 8857 9208 |
| Hall View | Mr Barker | ditto | ditto |
| Kippington Drive | Mrs Ewin | 3 Kippington Drive | - |
| Layzell Walk | Mrs Stevens | 1 Layzell Walk | 8857 2687 |
| Model Farm Close | Mr Wakeling | 8 Model Farm Close | 8249 0544 |
| Mottingham Gardens | Mrs Longhurst | 17 Mottingham Gardens | 8860 9349 |
| Mottingham Lane | Miss McDonald | 25 Carters Hill Close | 8857 6947 |
| Mottingham Road | | | |
| 1-95 | Mrs Stevens | 1 Layzell Walk | 8857 2687 |

Section four

| | | |
|---|----------------|------------------------------|
| Section leader CHRISTINE WOOD 19 Evelyn Rogers Court | | 8857 0536 |
| Avondale Road | Mrs McDougall | 8 Avondale Road 8851 9547 |
| Clarence Road | Mr/ Mrs Foster | 15 Clarence Road 8851 2813 |
| Court Farm Road | | |
| 1-45 | Mr/Mrs Bell | 1 Mottingham Road 8851 8939 |
| 47-103 | Mr/Mrs Huxley | 71 Court Farm Road |
| Crossway | Mr/Mrs Bell | 1 Mottingham Road 8851 8939 |
| Devonshire Road | Mrs Watterson | 4 Teign Mews 8851 9713 |
| Dorset Road | Mr/Mrs Luxford | 16 Dorset Rd 8851 8202 |
| Elmhurst Road | Mrs Keable | 54 Grove Park Road 8857 4183 |
| Evelyn Rogers Court | Mrs Swanton | 9 Model Farm Close 8851 1523 |
| Mottingham Rd | | |
| (2-56) | Mr/Mrs Luxford | 16 Dorset Road 8851 8202 |
| Portland Crescent | Mrs Shimell, | 7 Lulworth Road 8851 3495 |
| Portland Road | Mrs Shimell | ditto ditto |
| Silverdale Drive | Mr/Mrs Bell | 1 Mottingham Road 8851 8939 |
| Sycamore Close | Mrs Swanton | 9 Model Farm Close 8851 1523 |

Section five

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Section leader MRS HENDERSON | | 10 Birbetts Road | 8857 5800 |
| Bill Hamling Close | Mrs Henderson | 10 Birbetts Road | 8857 5800 |
| Birbetts Road | Mrs Henderson | ditto | ditto |
| Bowmead | Mrs Henderson | ditto | ditto |
| Chapel Farm Rd | Mr/Mrs Laurance | 47 Chapel Farm Rd | 8857 4234 |
| Lavidge Road | Mr/Mrs Laurance | ditto | ditto |
| Margaret Gardner Drive | | | |
| | Mrs Henderson | 10, Birbetts Road | 8857 5800 |
| Ministry Way | Mrs Henderson | ditto | ditto |

Section six

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Section leader MR HILL | | 53 Leysdown Road | 8857 3798 |
| Bromhedge | Mr Hill | 53 Leysdown Road | 8857 3798 |
| Court Road (even) | Mr/Mrs Jones | 260 Court Road | 8857 8712 |
| Court Road (odd) | Mr Wyborn | 240 Court Road | 8857 1524 |
| Crossmead | Mr Wyborn | ditto | ditto |
| Downleys Close | Mr Hill | 53 Leysdown Road | 8857 3798 |
| Hartsmead Road | Mr Garforth | 16 Hartsmead Road | 8851 5122 |
| Leysdown Road | Mr Hill | 53 Leysdown Road | 8857 3798 |
| Sidcup Road | | | |
| (551-655) | Mr Garforth | 16 Hartsmead Road | 8851 5122 |