

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

POLICE

GREENWICH 8853 1212 ELTHAM 8284 5625

COLDHARBOUR – NEW ELTHAM SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Sgt Christopher Hayward – 60 William Barefooot Drive, SE9 3AY
tel: 0208 721 2736 (mobile) 07768 083607

E-mail: ColdHarbour.NewEltham.snt@met.police.uk

BROMLEY

BROMLEY HQ 01689 891212

MOTTINGHAM SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Sgt Dale Openshaw - 1a High Street, Chislehurst, BR7 5AB
tel: 020 8721 2889 (mobile) 07880 781483

E-mail: ChislehurstNorth.snt@met.police.uk

IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS DIAL 999

COUNCILS

GREENWICH- main switchboard 8854 8888 Website – www.greenwich.gov.uk
Councillor's office direct line: 8921 5663

BROMLEY- main switchboard; 8464 3333 Website – www.bromley.gov.uk

LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Bromley

Roger Charsley 8460 1854 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 Mobile: 07502436016
E-mail: john.hills@greenwich.gov.uk

MOTTINGHAM NEWS

THE VOICE OF
MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
FOUNDED 1932



AUTUMN 2009

MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS 2009-2010

Chair	Liz Keable	54 Grove Park Rd. SE9 4QB	8857 4183
Deputy Chairman	Tim Jones	15 Grove Park Rd. SE9 4NP	8857 4582
Secretary	Mac 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 Rd. SE9 3ND	8857 3798

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sally Babi	41A Mottingham Rd. SE9 4QZ	07957372844
Laurie Bell	1 Mottingham Rd. SE9 4QQ	8851 8939
Robert Blanks	Hilltop, Mottingham Lane SE9 4RT	8857 8695
Astrid Chklar	7 Grove Park Rd. SE9 4NP	8857 9440
Clive Couldwell	15 Court Farm Rd. SE9 4JH	8851 0641
Jim Heath	11 Dorset Rd. SE9 4QY	8857 1874
Margaret Henderson	10 Birbetts Rd. SE9 3NG	8857 5800
Ross Howie	11 Dorset Rd. SE9 4QY	8857 1874
Dr Mayur Patel	53 Grove Park Rd. SE9 4NS	8857 7333
Margaret Southam	40 Elmhurst Rd. SE9 4DN	8851 3456
Gay Walker	18 Portland Rd. SE9 4TR	8857 0931

New Committee Members Welcome

MRA MEETINGS 2010

27th January	Executive Committee	Dorset Road School
17th March	Executive Committee	Dorset Road School
28th April	A. G. M.	Oddfellows Hall
26th May	Executive Committee	Dorset Road School
14th July	Executive Committee	Dorset Road School
29th September	Executive Committee	Dorset Road School
24th November	Executive Committee	Dorset Road School

All meetings begin at 8.00 pm

ANY MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND RAISE MATTERS OF LOCAL CONCERN

Section 4

Leader **MR BELL**, 1 Mottingham Road. 8851 8939

Avondale Road	Mrs. McDougall	8 Avondale Road	8851 9547
Clarence Road	Mrs. McDougall	8 Avondale Road	8851 9547
Court Farm Road			
1-45	Mr. Bell	1 Mottingham Road	8851 8939
47-103	Mr/Mrs. Huxley	71 Court Farm Road	
Crossway	Mr. Bell	1 Mottingham Road	8851 8939
Devonshire Road	Mrs. Watterson	4 Teign Mews, Dorset Rd.	8851 9713
Dorset Road	Ross Howie	11 Dorset Road	8857 1874
Elmhurst Road	Mrs. Keable	54 Grove Park Road	8857 4183
Evelyn Rogers Court	Mrs. Henry	11 Evelyn Rogers Court	
Mottingham Rd			
2-56	Mac Mackway-Jones	54A Mottingham Road	8857 5886
Portland Crescent	Mrs. Shimell	7 Lulworth Road	8851 3495
Portland Road	Mrs. Shimell	7 Lulworth Road	8851 3495
Silverdale Drive	Mr. Bell	1 Mottingham Road	8851 8939
Sycamore Close	Mrs. Lawrie	265 Court Road	8857 0685

Section 5

Leader **MRS HENDERSON**, 10 Birbetts Road 8857 5800

Bill Hamling Close	Mrs. Henderson	10 Birbetts Road	8857 5800
Birbetts Road	Ms. Clarke	78 Chapel Farm Rd.	8355 1236
Bowmead	Mrs. Henderson	10 Birbetts Road	8857 5800
Bromhedge	Mrs. Henderson	10 Birbetts Road	8857 5800
Chapel Farm Road	Mr/Mrs. Laurance	47 Chapel Farm Road	8857 4234
Lavidge Road	Julia Rutledge	2 Court Farm Road	8851 3454
Margaret Gardner Dr.	Mrs. Henderson	10 Birbetts Road	8857 5800
Ministry Way	Mrs. Henderson	10 Birbetts Road	8857 5800

Section 6

Leader **MRS. KEABLE** 54 Grove Park Rd. SE9 4QB 8857 4183

Court Road(even)	Mr. Miller	258 Court Road	8488 0012
Court Road(odd)	Mr. Wyborn	240 Court Road	8857 1524
Crossmead	Mr. Wyborn	240 Court Road	8857 1524
Downleys Close	Mrs. Keable	54 Grove Park Rd	8857 4183
Hartsmead Road	Mrs. Keable	54 Grove Park Rd.	8857 4183
Leysdown Road	Mrs. Keable	54 Grove Park Rd.	8857 4183

ROAD STEWARDS

Section 1

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 Road			
100-154	Mrs.Cheeseman	152 Mottingham Road	8851 1747
127-167	Ms.Cater-Smith	167 Mottingham Road	8857 2318
169-203A	Ms.Cater-Smith	167 Mottingham Road	8857 2318
Porcupine Close	Mrs. Robbie	23 Porcupine Close	8857 6367

Section 2

Leader **MAC MACKWAY-JONES** 54A Mottingham Road 8857 5886

Hinton Close	Collins/Oliver	42 West Park	8488 0052
Luxfield Road	Ralph Harrison	9 West Hallowes	8857 8736
Sidcup Road			
375.511	Dr. M. Patel	53 Grove Park Rd.	8857 7333
452-508	Dr. M. Patel	53 Grove Park Rd.	8857 7333
522-620	Vacant		
551-655	Vacant		
West Hallowes	Ralph Harrison	9 West Hallowes	8857 8736
West Park (odd)	Sandra Oliver/		
West Park (even)	Noreen Collins	42 West Park	8488 0052

Section 3

Leader **MRS COBB**, 7 Carters Hill Close 8857 1944

Beaconsfield Rd.	Mr. O'Hare	2 Court Farm Road	8851 3454
Carters Hill Close	Sheila Blanks	Hilltop, Mottingham Lane	8857 8695
Cedar Mount	Mr. O'Hare	2 Court Farm Road	8851 3454
College View	Mrs. Stevens	1 Layzell Walk	8857 2687
Grove Park Rd			
(even)	Mrs. Keable	54 Grove Park Road	8857 4183
(odd)	Mr. Barker	78 Grove Park Road	
Hall View	Mr Barker	78 Grove Park Road	
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
Mott.Gardens	Mrs.Longhurst	17 Mottingham Gardens	8860 9349
Mottingham Lane	Miss McDonald	25 Carters Hill Close	8857 6947
Mott.Rd (1-95)	Mrs.Stevens	1 Layzell Walk	8857 2687

FAREWELL.....



It is with considerable regret that we must say "Farewell and a very long and happy Retirement" to John Perkins, a valued member of the Residents Association for many years and an excellent Chairman for the past seven.

John has steered the Committee through many changes. He was instrumental in the campaign to keep Dorset Road Infant School open and led decisive action on issues as diverse as the proposed mobile phone mast, antisocial behaviour at the Porcupine and unsuitable planning applications.

Throughout his chairmanship, John has been committed to ensuring that the best interests of residents were safeguarded and that facilities in the village were developed and enhanced. His charismatic personality and journalistic skills have ensured that the voice of Mottingham has been heard.

We all wish John the very best in his new life in Suffolk. He will be sorely missed by the Committee and all who know him. As Chairman, John will be a very difficult act to follow!

..... **AND AN INTRODUCTION!**

Liz Keable returned from a well earned and relaxing retirement holiday in Australia to find herself elected Chair of Mottingham Residents' Association!

She had planned for a more restful life following ten years at Dorset Road Infants, six of them as Head. However, she is honoured to have been elected to the post. Issues which the Committee are currently taking forward include pressing for better leisure facilities for young people and a campaign to reduce the number of empty shops in the village.

Concerns raised by residents make a vital contribution to the work of the Association. Your continued interest in the village and willingness to participate in local activities and initiatives will ensure that Mottingham remains the largest Residents Association in London and continues to thrive.



MOTTINGHAM FESTIVAL 2009

The 2009 Mottingham Festival ran for two weeks from 6-21 June with an extensive programme that opened: a plant sale at the Methodist Church, the Village Sign unveiling (see separate article), a vintage car parade and a Fete on Foxes Field.



There is not space to list the whole programme so here's a selection of the huge variety of events that were held throughout the two weeks :

- a Flower Festival which ran for 3 days in St Andrew's Church Hall,
- an historic walk around Mottingham – which proved to be a huge success for the organiser, local historian John Kennett;
- story times and other activities for the younger residents;
- a well attended Gardener's Question Time at the Dorset Road Infant School, which kicked off with a quiz for the audience before they could quiz the panel!
- various music events including a concert by the Grove Park Singers accompanied by the Monday Afternoon Strings, another by the Leonore Ensemble, and a presentation by the founder and MD of Meridian Records (a CD company based in Eltham) and
- alternative Olympics at Fairy Hill Park
- open gardens and the Mottingham Horticultural Society's Summer show in the Maryfield Hall

The Festival proved to be the most successful ever, and was particularly well attended!

Mottingham Village Concert Band will be playing at the Christmas concert in the Maryfield Hall on 16 December, 8 pm. (Free admission, with a retiring collection)

The Festival Community Trust will be holding its AGM on Tuesday 19 January 2010 at St Alban's Church Hall, 7.30 pm. There will be a filmed presentation of highlights of the 2009 Festival. All are welcome.

VILLAGE SIGN UNVEILED

The last newsletter carried the design chosen by residents for the proposed new Mottingham Village Sign and reported on the official launch of the fund-raising campaign.

That campaign proved remarkably successful, with generous donations by both residents and local businesses, so much so that the original target of £2000 was well exceeded and there were sufficient funds for not one but two signs!

The first sign is located as originally planned at the junction of Court Road and Mottingham Road. The second one has been placed on one of the traffic islands near the BP Garage, so anyone approaching Mottingham Village from either direction cannot fail to see one of the signs.



The first sign was given an official unveiling on 6 June 2009, at the start of the Mottingham Festival.

The ceremony was performed by the Deputy Mayor for Bromley, Cllr Gordon Norrie with an Ode in praise of Mottingham read by its author Leslie Cheeseman

As can be seen from the photograph, also in attendance was a W G Grace lookalike (Ross Howie), the MRA Chair Liz Keable and members of the committee, Cllrs Charsley and Rideout and our local MP. Bob

Neill, plus the Head of Eltham College, Paul Henderson, and Revd Ian Welch from St Andrew's Church as well as local residents

The fund-raising proved so successful, that a small surplus accumulated which will be invested in a Community Noticeboard (see item in this Newsletter)

MOTTINGHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

This year sees the 50th Anniversary of the Mottingham Horticultural Society (MHS) which was founded in 1959 and is still thriving in an era that has seen other Horticultural Societies disbanding due to lack of interest or support. A real benefit that the MHS offers its members is discounts on seeds and other gardening products at its Trading Shed in Gardener's Close.

In March 2009, a celebratory "Spring Show" was held before the AGM and proved so popular that it is now to become a regular yearly event joining Summer Show (June) in St Mary's Hall and Autumn Show (August b/h) in Eltham College. The Spring Show is held just before the MHS's AGM in the Oddfellows Hall: the 2010 event will be on 24 March and copies of the show schedule can be picked up at the Trading Shed

Horticulture is at the forefront of many peoples' lives, be that just a simple hanging basket or window box, or an allotment. The demand for space to grow your own food has never been greater with waiting lists for allotments expanding all the time.

As well as our older members, we also want to nurture the younger elements of our societies, so in its 50th year, the MHS wants to recruit more members of all ages so that it can continue for another 50 years. The MHS therefore extends a warm invitation to all residents to become members of this thriving community

To join, or for more information, contact Jim Heath (MHS Secretary) on 0208 857 1874 or visit the Trading Shed (open Wednesday and Saturday lunch times)

DORSET ROAD SCHOOL

Jean Hiller, who succeeded Liz Keable, has just begun to enjoy her second year as Headteacher at Dorset Road Infant School and has given an update on the school's continued development and progress.

The School continues to cherish its place at the heart of Mottingham and the local community; and Jean and the staff are very grateful for the tremendous support they received from local traders that made their most recent fund raising efforts so successful. You may well have seen their country dancers on Foxes Field during Mottingham Festival.

The 'Lime Room', the modular building visible from Portland Road (what many of us call "The Beach Hut"!)) has enabled the School to support the community as well as provide valuable teaching and learning space for the children. MRA and Safer Neighbourhood Panel meetings are held in there regularly as are Friday Toddler Groups. It also hosts some of the meetings for parents of children with disabilities. The Over Sixties continue to hold their keep fit class Fridays in the hall, as does a local adult Yoga group on Tuesdays. These classes are free.

Following the second intake of children into our Reception class in January 2009, the class will be full and there is now a waiting list. Year 1 and 2 classes have few places and the School should be almost to maximum numbers in January 2010, the highest for some years. There is an Open Day for prospective parents and pupils on 18th November, with three opportunities to be shown around the school and to ask questions during the day. If your child will be starting school in 2010 / 11, please do come and visit I, and see a happy, friendly school for yourselves.

NEW TRAFFIC ISLAND FOR MOTTINGHAM

Residents will be only too well aware of the number of accidents that have occurred at the junction of Leysdown Road and Mottingham Road. Not least, exiting Leysdown Road has been a problem for drivers as vehicles parking in Mottingham Road have impaired visibility

Following numerous complaints, the local Councillors took up the issue with Greenwich Council's Highways management. The upshot is that there is agreement to instal a traffic island in Mottingham Road between Leysdown Road and Clarence Road, plus some additional double yellow lines to ensure that the carriageway is kept clear around the island.

The installation work will take about three months to carry out. This should – it is hoped! - reduce the traffic risks and the accident rates at this particular spot in Mottingham

DEVELOPMENTS DURING THE PAST YEAR

Planning applications have often been a cause for concern and the Residents Association with considerable support from the local Councillors have taken these up with the relevant Councils: a couple of successes have been the refusal of the application for a pizza takeaway at the former Phillips & Dear, and the withdrawal of the developer to turn The Royal into what many felt would have been tantamount to a nightclub. And concerted action (with the police) within both the Greenwich and Bromley halves of Mottingham to deal with under-age drinking and anti-social behaviour.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

Your Residents Association is not only one of the oldest but also one of the largest in South London and credit for this is due to the wonderful support from our road stewards.

Sadly one of our long serving stewards, Martyn Hill, has succumbed to ill health and has had to stand down. Our Chairman, Liz Keable, has offered to cover Leysdown Road, Hartsmead and Downleys Close for the time being but we urgently need volunteers to come forward, not only for these roads, but also anyone willing to put their name forward to lighten the work of stewards who cover more than one road, or perhaps share duties in large roads with the present steward/s.

If you able to assist, I would be delighted to hear from you and can explain what is involved - please ring me - "Mac" on 8857 5886. Thank you.

POLICE UPDATES

Coldharbour- New Eltham Safer Neighbourhood Team

This SNT covers Mottingham within the Greenwich Borough. The Team now has a new Sergeant and at the time of writing, is up to full complement, after some months of uncertainty. The Team now comprises: Sgt Christopher Hayward, PC Dave Caldwell, PC Lawrence-Drew Wilson, PCSO Rebecca Clifford, PCSO Lisa Kolano and PCSO Chris Daniels.

And after well over a year of searching for new premises, the Team has moved recently from the Well Hall Road Police Station to the former Greenwich Council Housing Office in the Coldharbour area, putting it in much closer touch with the neighbourhoods that it serves. The new address is **60 William Barefoot Drive, Eltham SE9 3AY**

The office does not have a 'front desk' for dealing with members of the public, but the office can still be visited. [Hours?]

Mottingham & Chislehurst North Safer Neighbourhood Team

The Team covers Mottingham within the Bromley Borough and comprises: Sgt Dale Openshaw, PC Anna Glynn, PC Les Davis, PCSO Oguz Batmaz, PCSO Nick Goodwin and PCSO Danny Wilson

They are located at: **Chislehurst Police Office, 1a High Street, Chislehurst BR7 5AB**

There is a 'front desk' open to the public BUT it needs volunteers to run it or may have to close. Anyone interested in helping out should contact the Chislehurst SNT on 07920 233850 or the Mottingham and Chislehurst North SNT on 07880 781483 to book an appointment or to enquire about volunteering.

The Team also runs a fortnightly drop-in surgery at the Mottingham Community & Learning Shop in Beaconsfield Road, on alternate Wednesdays, either 2-3pm or 4-5pm: check with the Learning Shop for times or look at www.met.police.uk/teams/bromley/mottinghamandchislehurstnorth/index.php.

Contact numbers for both teams can be found on the back cover to this Newsletter.

MOTTINGHAM WHEELCHAIR

Mottingham has a wheelchair which can be loaned to those in need of one whilst shopping or visiting in Mottingham, which was provided by Its 'custodian' is Les Huxley who can be contacted at [address and phone number]

LIBRARY FACILITIES

Everyone thinks of a library as a place that has a store of books for reference or borrowing. Traditionally, that was once the case but nowadays libraries are very different places and Mottingham Branch Library is no exception. It still has the books - and newspapers and magazines – but it also provides a great deal more:-

- there are computers for online access to the web for a wealth of information.
- additionally Computer Club is run on late Wednesday mornings for more 'mature' people, with a 6-week course focussing on word documents, email & a some internet use. However, that has proved so popular that there is a long waiting list! The Library can arrange one-to-one sessions at mutually convenient times for basic introductions to the internet and setting up e-mail accounts
- regular surgeries for the local Councillors (both Greenwich and Bromley)
- Wednesday coffee mornings with guest speakers on a wide range of subjects or backgrounds
- adult reading groups including two that meet on alternate Friday evenings
- a "Chatterbox" reading group for 8 to 10 year olds, and has recently started a teenage reading group
- and activities for under 2s, for 2-5 year olds in term times, plus half-hour Storytime sessions on Fridays and Saturdays

Bromley residents can also buy Bromley Council Garden Waste stickers, and Bromley Council food waste bags are also available.

To find out more, simply visit the Library, 31 Mottingham Road in person, call 8857 5406 or e-mail on mottingham.library@bromley.gov.uk

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

As the fund-raising campaign for the Village Sign raised a small surplus, the MRA Committee agreed that the best use for it would be to erect a Village Community Noticeboard for the purpose of informing residents in the area of monthly events occurring in Mottingham through the year. It is hoped that the noticeboard will be centrally located, possibly in the grounds in front of the Methodist Church – so it would be near to one of the Village Signs.

At the time of writing, designs for the noticeboard are being considered: it is likely to be about 1m by 0.5 m in size.

Specific events or activities in Mottingham that could be promoted using the noticeboard might be amateur dramatics, shows, school plays, carol services, day and evening classes, Mottingham-related meetings – the list can go on!

All organisations who would want to advertise their events or activities should contact Jim Heath either in writing at 11 Dorset Road, SE9 4QY or by email to jim.heath@dsl.pipex.com