

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

POLICE

GREENWICH 020 8853 1212 **ELTHAM** 020 8284 5625
COLDHARBOUR NEW ELTHAM SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM
Sgt. Christopher Hayward, 60 William Barefoot Drive, SE9 3AY
Tel: 020 7161 9521 – Mobile: 07768 083607
Email: New Eltham.snt@met.police.uk

BROMLEY HQ 01689 891212
MOTTINGHAM MOTTINGHAM SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM
Sgt. Simon Pamment, 1a High Street, Chislehurst, BR7 5AB
Tel: 020 8721 2889 – Mobile: 07880 781483
Email: ChislehurstNorth.snt@met.police.uk

IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS DIAL 999

COUNCILS

GREENWICH - Main Switchboard 020 8854 8888
www.greenwich.gov.uk
Councillor's office (Direct Line) 020 8921 5563
BROMLEY – Main Switchboard 020 8854 3333
www.bromley.gov.uk

LOCAL COUNCILLORS

BROMLEY

Roger Charsley 020 8460 1854
Email: roger.charsley@bromley.gov.uk
Charles Rideout 020 8446 6506
Email: Charles.rideout@bromley.gov.uk

GREENWICH

John Hills
57 Arsenal Road, Eltham, SE9 1JT
Tel: (Home) 020 8319 4179
(Office) 020 8921 5049/5050
(Mobile): 07502 436016
Email: john.hills@greenwich.gov.uk

MOTTINGHAM NEWS

THE VOICE OF
MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
FOUNDED 1932



Website: www.yourmra.org

2012/2013

MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION OFFICERS 2012-2013

Chair	Liz Keable, 54 Grove Park Road, SE9 4QB	8857 4183
Deputy	Laurie Bell, 1 Mottingham Road, SE9 4QQ	8851 8939
Chairman		
Secretary	Robert Blanks, Hilltop, Mottingham Lane, SE9 4RT	8857 8695
Treasurer	Krishna Patel, 49 Elmhurst Road, SE9 4DW	8249 1178
Auditor	Bernard Hawes, Mulberry, Mottingham Lane, SE9 4RW	8857 5020

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sally Bettesworth	41A Mottingham Road, SE9 4QZ	07957 372844
Astrid Chklar	3a Court Farm Road, SE9 4JH	3638 4476
Clive Couldwell	15 Court Farm Road, SE9 4NP	8851 0641
Ross Howe	11 Dorset Road, SE9 4QY	8857 1874
Margaret Henderson	10 Birbetts Road, SE9 3NG	8857 5800
Dr. Mayur Patel	53 Grove Park Road, SE9 4NS	8857 7333
Lynn Seymour	23 Carters Hill Close, SE9 4RS	07838 859388
Margaret Southam	40 Elmhurst Road, SE9 4DN	8851 3456
Margaret Batley	"Keruing", Mottingham Lane, SE9 4RX	8851 8804
Jane Cornish	38 West Park, SE9 4RH	8333 7824

New Committee Members Welcome

MRA MEETINGS 2013 – All meetings begin at 8:00pm

23 rd January 2013	Executive Committee	Dorset Road School
27 th March 2013	Executive Committee	Dorset Road School
25 th April 2013	A.G.M (Thursday)	St Andrews Church Hall
22 nd May 2013	Executive Committee	Dorset Road School
17 th July 2013	Executive Committee	Dorset Road School
25 th September 2013	Executive Committee	Dorset Road School
27 th November 2013	Executive Committee	Dorset Road School

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

OBITUARY

Betty Patricia Mackway-Johes, known by most of us as 'Mac'

Mac passed away peacefully on Saturday, 24th March, 2012 following her brave fight against cancer. She lived in the Village for more than 50 years. Initially she and her husband ran a fancy goods shop where the Industrial cleaning shop is now. Later, when her son was young, Mac worked at Dorset Road Infant School.

Mac always took an active role in local affairs supporting local shops in efforts to improve the Village. She joined the Residents' Association Executive Committee in 1982 and worked tirelessly for residents for 30 years. Mac held every post in the organisation except that of Treasurer.

Mac was immensely proud when she received a Mayor of Bromley Award for her services to Mottingham in 2008. In 2010, Mac accepted the Presidency of the MRA. She had been offered the honorary post many times over the previous 6 years but had always declined on the basis that she enjoyed the hard work and didn't want to retire yet! She need not have worried; Mac was fully involved in activities right up until the end of her life. She is still very much missed by everyone who knew her.



Mac, accompanying the
Mayor of Bromley, Cllr.
Mrs. Pauline Tunnicliffe,

MOTTINGHAM WHEELCHAIR (Manual), or Walking Frame, Quad Walking Stick, 3 Wheel Shopping Rollator

These aids are available, for short periods, to anyone who lives in the Mottingham area. There is no charge for their use, but borrowers must accept that they use them without any recourse to the lenders in respect of any injury or damage that may arise from their use.



Contact Joan or Les at 71 Court Farm Road or ring 020 8857 3671

A Real Life Hero. The Rev. Edward Noel Mellish V. C. M. C.

If you can risk life and limb to cross the road to look closely at our war memorial in the Village, you will see that when it was dedicated on 26th March 1920, the clergyman who officiated at that ceremony was Rev. Noel Mellish, vicar of St. Marks, Lewisham. However, the really interesting thing about this clergyman is the fact that the letters V.C. (Victoria Cross) appear after his name. As you know this is the highest military honour and one would have to do something pretty remarkable to qualify.

So what did Noel Mellish do? Well a little research shows that he was quite remarkable in a number of respects. He was born in 1880 in North London, was educated at Saffron Walden Grammar School and left school to enlist in the Artists Rifles. In 1900, age 20 he went to South Africa and served with Baden Powell against the Boers. Even then he was noted for his bravery having managed to break through Boer lines to deliver a vital message for assistance. After the war, and after a short spell in England he returned to South Africa to work in the diamond mines and helped out at the local church.

He returned to England and studied at Kings College, London, taking Holy Orders in 1912, becoming a curate at St. Pauls Church in Deptford. When war broke out in 1914 Noel Mellish promptly joined the Army Chaplains Department, serving from 1915 to 1919. His brother, 2nd Lt. Richard Mellish was killed at the Battle of Loos. Early in 1916 Noel was serving in the Ypres salient in intense fighting and it was between 27th and 29th March that he earned his Victoria Cross, bringing out badly wounded men whilst under heavy fire. An officer from the Northumberland Fusiliers reported:

"Nothing could be finer than the way Capt. Mellish did his duty and more than his duty during the time he was near us. Immediately the troops captured the trenches and while the wounded were picking their way painfully back, the enemy's guns were turned on full blast and the intervening ground was deluged with shell and machinegun fire. Into this tempest of fire the brave parson walked, a prayer book under his arm as though on church parade in peace time. He reached the first line of wounded and knelt down to do what he could for them. The first few he brought out himself without aid and it made us think a bit more of parsons....."

His V.C. was gazetted on April 20th 1916 and he received it from the King on 12th June at Buckingham Palace. He left the Army in 1919, married and took over the church of St. Pauls in Deptford. During W.W.2 although in his 60's he saw service once more as an air raid warden. He died in 1962 in South Petherton, Somerset.

Gone are the days when men used to raise their hats when passing our War Memorial and women said a quiet prayer, but as you walk past this busy round-about, spare a thought for Capt. Mellish, V.C.M.C. a real life hero.

Researched and written by Cllr. Charles Rideout.

Rev.Noel Mellish V.C. M.C.



Mottingham's Poppy Tree



We can think, also, of Rev. Mellish during our Remembrance Day service at the Memorial on Sunday, 11th November, at 11.45am.

MOTTINGHAM FESTIVE LIGHTS

Thanks to the generosity of local residents and traders. I am pleased to say that we will have a good show of Christmas Lights in the Village again this year.

We hope the tree lights at each end of the Village will be 'linked together' with new lighting spirals between the usual motifs. Please do let us know what you think – we do need feedback to guide our efforts next year.

You may have seen posters in some of the shop windows, thanking Traders for their contributions. We encourage you to express your support! Some traders have funded a whole column and this will be recognised on the columns themselves.

We have received a few suggestions for new fund raising ideas for next year and will be exploring those at a future committee meeting. One idea is to hold a quiz night and I would be interested to know if this is something you would participate in. If you would like to put other ideas forward please do so.

Bob Blanks, Secretary, Lights Cttee.

MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

This is the second year of the "yourMRA" website. The website remains popular with a healthy hit rate; however, it needs **YOU** to keep it current with news and gossip in the area.

What else would you like to see in the links on the right? Let us make the MRA website a one-stop site that is specific to the Mottingham area.

Your support is key to keep the website a place where local information can be added and updated on a regular basis. Remember this is our resource and it will only work if we all get involved – so come on – let us have your input!

Please provide us with useful snippets and snapshots to add to the website. Send them to webmaster@yourmra.org

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MAYUR K PATEL (WEB MASTER) 28/09/2012

CHAIR'S REPORT

Once more, it has been a busy year with planning issues taking up a considerable amount of time. It is a pleasure to report that, at last, the mobile home has been removed from the 'Elms' site and nature is beginning to reclaim her own. The demise of the car-lot is also to be welcomed, though long overdue, and thanks only to their eviction by the landlords. Inappropriate applications for garden land development continue to present problems in Mottingham.

A notable success has been the installation of the additional refuge in Mottingham Road, providing a safer place to cross between shops, playgroup, church and homes. It has also been very effective in slowing traffic before it reaches the village. The Association's thanks are due to Cllr. John Hills who has persisted in pressing Officers for three whole years on this issue.

The Safer Neighbourhood Police Teams, having coped admirably with the extra demands placed upon them by the Olympics, are, again, facing restructuring and changes to numbers. However, assurances have been given that there will be no reduction in visible policing in either the Greenwich or Bromley areas of Mottingham. Local priorities remain the prevention and detection of domestic burglary, theft of, and from, motor vehicles and anti-social behaviour. Mottingham remains a 'low crime' area which is a credit to both Teams. Contact details are on the back of this Newsletter.

The Library continues to flourish with reading clubs oversubscribed, constant

visitors and the toddlers' group attracting ever growing numbers. There is no further news on the future. The report of the consultation exercise has yet to be published and debated. If you would like to be updated on developments when the report is published, please e-mail: chair@yourmra.org and you will be added to the database.

At the Annual General Meeting in April, 2012, the membership requested that the Executive prioritise the improvement of the village. Meetings have been held with Officers from both Greenwich and Bromley. The painting of street furniture and the removal of redundant items has been agreed, but, neither borough has funding for costly improvements. The provision of hanging baskets and tree poppies, by Bromley and festive lighting by the MRA do make a welcome difference as do the anti-pigeon spikes provided by most traders. Residents can play their part by promptly reporting 'fly tipping' and dog fouling and using the village shops regularly. If anyone is interested in opening a new business, 288 Court Road is a prominent corner site with no premium and a reasonable rent, contact Mandeep at Linays Commercial, 01689 875511 for a good deal. Finally, I would like to thank our three Councillors for their hard work and commitment to Mottingham residents. Together, we can make a difference.

MRA - FINANCIAL OVERVIEW - MARCH 2012

The MRA membership remains strong and has enabled the MRA to maintain and its ability to protect members' interests. The revenue generated last year was around £2000.

The following three goals remain important going forward:

1. Build an adequate reserve, to be able to deal with major issues impacting the wider community.
2. Ensure there are sufficient funds to cover regular expenditure.
3. Adopt controls to ensure monies are spent in line with the Association guidelines.

Commentary

After taking into consideration all the income and expenditure to run the Association, it is evident, from the previous three years, that there is an amount of no more than **£380** which is available for discretionary spend.

At present the current level of subscription income, of **£2.00** per household, adequately covers the regular costs of the Association, therefore the current subscription need not be increased.

Recommendations

- Continue to reserve a minimum of £500 pa
- Subscription level should continue at £2.00
- The discretionary spend should be budgeted each year
- Seek views from members on how they would like to see the budget spent.

KRISHNAKANT PATEL (HON. TREASURER) 28/03/2012

LES CHEESEMAN – LOCAL ARTIST

I have lived in Mottingham since 1988 and enjoy walking and cycling. I usually have a camera with me and take photos of interesting buildings and some landscapes. I am a self-taught artist and over the last 20 years have produced more than 50 drawings. 'Cley Cottage' (Mottingham Lane) below is an example of my work. I roughly sketch a picture and then define this using a black felt pen. I also do some water colour paintings.

In November, 2011, I was privileged to have a few pictures shown in Central Saint Martins, University of Arts London, thanks to Patricia Branco who I met at our local Book Club. The feedback was positive and I went on to have a solo exhibition in Mottingham Library in February-March this year, Patricia acting as my curator.

I am happy to show my pictures to anyone who may be interested, and will sell prints as required. Telephone 020 8851 1747 for details.



Les Cheeseman 2012. © Les Cheeseman

STOP PRESS!

THE MRA IS 80 YEARS YOUNG!

Look out for the history of the organisation in next year's AGM Notice!

THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE TREE PLANTING CEREMONIES

In celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, it was decided to join with the Mottingham Horticultural Society to plant a commemorative tree in both Greenwich and Bromley boroughs.

A Mountain Ash was chosen for Fairy Hill Park and planted by Cllr John Hills in a short Ceremony attended by local residents who were enjoying the Parksfest Jubilee Fayre. Our thanks are due to the Friends of Fairy Hill Park for giving us a space and allowing us to take part in the Fayre.

An English Oak was chosen for Mottingham Playing Fields for a very special reason.

Margaret Southam, who has lived in Mottingham since 1932 and served on the MRA Executive for 13 years recalled that a WW2 flying bomb had demolished the pavilion and several oaks along the avenue and had blackened and hollowed out two remaining trees along the path. When the Bromley Tree Officer heard the story, he asked us to plant 2 trees in the space along the path and agreed, in return, to replace the trees lost from the original avenue.



The first oak was planted Cllrs. Roger Charsley and Charles Rideout, accompanied by local residents. The second will be planted, without ceremony, as soon as a suitable sized tree comes into stock.

It was expected that both trees would require considerable T.L.C. over the summer period. The dismal weather ensured that artificial watering was minimal. Both trees are thriving.

See more photos on our website: www.yourmra.org



ROAD STEWARDS		
Section 1—Leader Mrs. HOLLINGUM, 33 Devonshire Rd 8857 5856		
Albert Rd	Mrs. Cheeseman, 152 Mottingham Rd	8851 1747
Dorset Rd	Mrs. Whale, 22 Dorset Rd	8325 7542
Highcombe Cl.	Mrs. Whale, 22 Dorset Rd	8325 7542
Mottingham Rd		
2-56	Mrs. Cheeseman, 152 Mottingham Rd	8851 1747
100-154	Mrs. Cheeseman, 152 Mottingham Rd	8851 1747
127-167	Mrs. Osborne, 47 West Park	8857 5559
169-203A	Mrs. Osborne, 47 West Park	8857 5559
Porcupine Cl.	Mrs. Robbie, 23 Porcupine Cl.	8857 6367
Section 2—Leader Ms. JANE CORNISH 8333 7824		
Hinton Cl.	Collins/Oliver, 42 West Park	8488 0052
Luxfield Rd	Ralph Harrison, 9 West Hallowses	8857 8736
Sidcup Rd		
375-511	Dr. M Patel, 53 Grove Park Rd	8857 7333
452-508	Dr. M Patel, 53 Grove Park Rd	8857 7333
22-620	Dr. M Patel, 53 Grove Park Rd	8857 7333
551-655	Dr. M Patel, 53 Grove Park Rd	8857 7333
West Hallowses	Ralph Harrison, 9 West Hallowses	8857 8736
West Park (odd)	Sandra Oliver	8488 0052
West Park (even)	Noreen Collins, 42 West Park	8488 0052
Section 3—Leader SHEILA BLANKS, Hilltop, Mott. La. 8857 4183		
Beaconsfield Rd	Mrs. Keable, 54 Grove Park Rd	8857 4183
Carters Hill Cl.	Sheila Blanks, Hilltop, Mottingham La	8857 8695
Cedar Mount	Lynn Seymour, 23 Carters Hill Close	07838 859388
College View	Mrs. Stevens, 1 Layzell Walk	8857 2687
Grove Park Rd		
Even	Mrs Keable, 54 Grove Park Rd	8857 4183
Odd	Mr Baker, 78 Grove Park Rd	
Hall View	Mr Baker, 78 Grove Park Rd	
Kippington Dr.	Mrs. Ewin, 3 Kippington Dr.	
Layzell Walk	Mrs. Stevens, 1 Layzell Walk	8857 2687
Model Farm Cl.	Mr. Wakeling, 8 Model Farm Cl.	8249 0544
Mottingham Gdn.	Mrs. Longhurst, 17 Mottingham Gdn.	8860 9349
Mottingham La.	Miss McDonald, 25 Carters Hill Close	8857 6947
Mott. Rd (1-95)	Mrs Stevens, 1 Layzell Walk	8857 2687

Section 4—Leader Mr. BELL, 1 Mottingham Road 8851 8939		
Avondale Rd	Mrs. McDougall, 8 Avondale Rd	8851 9547
Clarence Rd	Mr K Patel, 49 Elmhurst Rd	8249 1178
Court Farm Rd	Mr/Mrs. Huxley, 71 Court Farm Rd	
Crossway	Mr/Mrs. Mainwaring-Burton, 9 Court Farm Rd	8851 5131
Devonshire Ed	Mrs. Waterson, 4 Teign Mews, Dorset Rd	8851 9713
Elmhurst Rd	Mr K Patel, 49 Elmhurst Rd	8249 1178
Evelyn Rogers Court	Vacant	Vacant
Lulworth Rd	Mrs. Shimell, 7 Lulworth Rd	8851 3495
Portland Cres.	Mrs. Shimell, 7 Lulworth Rd	8851 3495
Silverdale Drive	Mr/Mrs. Mainwaring-Burton, 9 Court Farm Rd	8851 5131
Sycamore Cl.	Mrs. Lawrie, 265 Court Rd	8851 0685
Section 5—Leader Mrs. HENDERSON, 10 Birbetts Rd 8857 5800		
Bill Hamling Cl.	Mrs. Henderson, 10 Birbetts Rd	8857 5800
Birbetts Rd	Mrs. Henderson, 10 Birbetts Rd	8857 5800
Bowmead	Mrs. Henderson, 10 Birbetts Rd	8857 5800
Bromhedge	Vacant	Vacant
Chapel Farm Rd	Ms. Hussey, 61 Chapel Farm Rd	3556 5128
Lavidge Rd	Julia Rutledge, 2 Court Farm Rd	8851 3454
Margaret Gardner Dr.	Mrs. Henderson, 10 Birbetts Rd	8857 5800
Section 6—Leader Mrs. KEABLE, Grove Park Rd 8857 4183		
Court Rd (Even)	Mr. Miller, 258 Court Rd	8488 0012
Court Rd (Odd)	Mr. Wyborn, 240 Court Rd	8857 1524
Crossmead	Mr. Wyborn, 240 Court Rd	8857 1524
Downleys Cl.	Mrs. Headley, 72 Leysdown Rd	8857 6455
Hartsmead Rd	Mr. West, 33 Hartsmead Rd	07971 413214
Leysdown Rd	Mrs. Headley, 72 Leysdown Rd	8857 6455
Ministry Way	Mrs. Headley, 72 Leysdown Rd	8857 6455