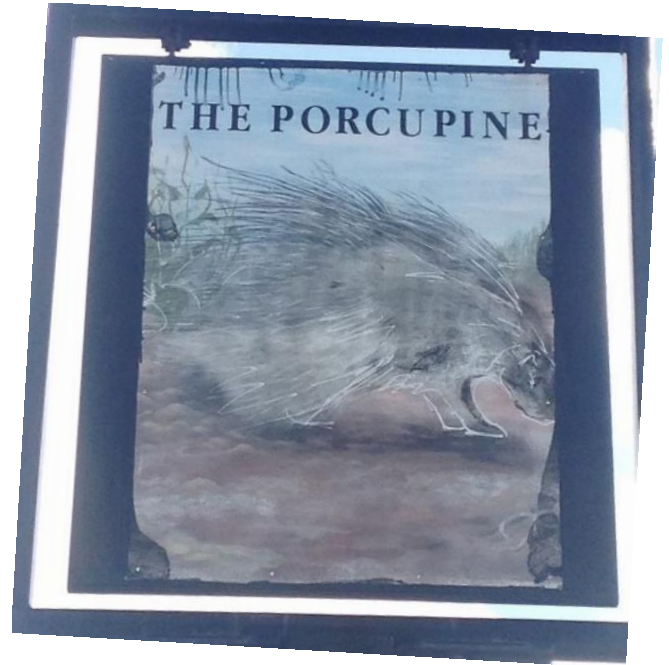


MOTTINGHAM NEWS

THE VOICE OF MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
FOUNDED 1932

Autumn 2018 Edition



MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

2018 – 2019		
Chair	Laurie Bell	chair@yourmra.org
Deputy Chair	Richard Mainwaring-Burton	deputychair@yourmra.org
Secretary	Robert Blanks	secretary@yourmra.org
Membership Sec'ty	Lesley Robins	membsec@yourmra.org
Treasurer	Laurie Bell	treasurer@yourmra.org
Website	Richard Mainwaring-Burton	webmaster@yourmra.org

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sally Bettsworth	Liz Keable
Edmund Cavendish	Rebecca Young
Jane Cornish	<i>This could be YOU !!</i>

New Committee Members Always Welcome

AUDITOR Bernard Hawes

MRA MEETINGS 2018 – All meetings begin at 8:00pm

17 th January 2019	Executive Committee (Thurs)	Chris Mumbray Hall
21 st March 2019	Executive Committee (Thurs)	Chris Mumbray Hall
1 st May 2019 (TBC)	A.G.M (Wed)	St Andrews Church Hall
20 th June 2019	Executive Committee (Thurs)	Chris Mumbray Hall
19 th September 2019	Executive Committee (Thurs)	Chris Mumbray Hall
21 st November 2019	Executive Committee (Thurs)	Chris Mumbray Hall

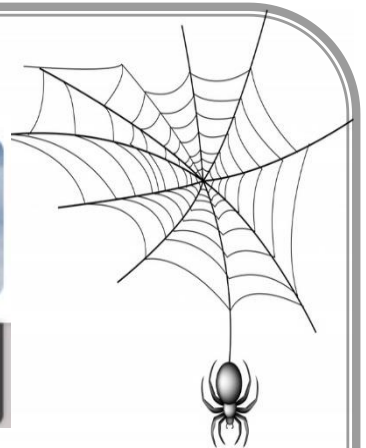
Chris Mumbray Hall is to the right behind St. Andrews Church, Court Road

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

WEBSITE : WWW.yourMRA.org



**Mottingham
Residents Association**



HOME NEWS LOCAL EVENTS LOCAL SERVICES CLUBS & SOCIETIES LINKS ABOUT MOTTINGHAM ABOUT MRA MEETINGS
CONTACT US CURRENT COMMITTEE TOPICS

Visit the website for useful local news and events and calendar. We currently welcome over 500 visits per week. There are links to services with update postings. Previous MRA publications are there back to 1972 as well as assorted links to local historical records. Let us have your information and events to add to the site.

COVER STORY

Porcupine Latest News (mid-October)

The site has been put up for sale as a 'Freehold Public House' by Estate Agents Davis Coffey Lyons
<http://www.daviscofferlyons.co.uk/property>

Background

The closure and sale of the Porcupine Pub to Lidl in 2013 proved a source of considerable disquiet and upset. The community rallied round, aided by local Councillors and our MP, including mention in Parliament, to prevent the pub's imminent demolition and redevelopment of the site. Bromley Council refused planning permission on grounds of access, and any development was prevented by the ACV declaration. Offers have been made for the site by developers, but all have been turned down by Lidl. Perhaps a case of "Big on Price – Lidl on Acceptability". Now that the site is on the market, there may be more news to come.

MRA Porcupine Survey

A recent MRA survey yielded only 118 responses with even distribution of members opting for and against reapplication for the ACV status.

EDITORIAL

There are some valued members who may not have regular computer access to the website, but nonetheless wish to be made aware of the activities of our organisation and representatives. Members may wish to post comments or questions in the dedicated MRA box in the library. Members who have questions or issues to discuss with our ward Councillors can find their details in the back of the news sheet, and their times and dates of surgeries in the library can be found on the MRA or Council websites.

This edition seems to have developed a recreational theme with articles about open spaces. The benefits gained from sport can be difficult to determine for some activities, but there is no doubt that we are privileged to live in a part of SE London well provided with open space. We should be mindful of our responsibilities to the protection, maintenance and preservation of the spaces, but also be prepared to welcome others to enjoy them.

Other closures of commercial premises have occurred, several traders being unable to afford a massive increase in rent charges. We can only hope that Mottingham does not continue this decline, and we would urge all residents to support local businesses as much as possible.

Richard Mainwaring-Burton

FESTIVE LIGHTS



Please support this enterprise which succeeds in brightening up our environment in the festive season.

We would encourage you to support our local traders who also contribute to the lights.

APPRECIATION – Councillor Charles Rideout



The recent Council elections marked the retirement of one of our much-respected Bromley Councillors. Charles had been elected councillor since his arrival following a bye-election in 2001. He has been a faithful supporter ever since, attending MRA Committee meetings whenever duties allowed, and has worked tirelessly on our behalf. In the first years of his association, he was heavily involved supporting the fight to save Dorset Road School. His unwavering stance was maintained at some considerable personal political cost. Charles was also a key supporter of the projects for installation of the village signs and the Festive Lights, and in the battle to save the Porcupine; most recently he maintained the momentum for construction of the path around Foxes Field to benefit less able residents' enjoyment of the area. No-one could fail to appreciate his calm and measured attitude, backed up by a fount of knowledge derived from unstinting dedication. In addition, he offered generous support to individuals and groups within the community, notably during the library negotiations, and several community engagement initiatives in the Kimmeridge area. He even took time out to research and produce an appreciation of Rev Edward Noel Mellish VC, MC – one of the names on the War Memorial – which appeared in the 2012-13 Mottingham news (See MRA website). He will be missed by many, particularly at Executive meetings.

Liz Keable & Richard Mainwaring-Burton

MRA COMMITTEE – CURRENT TOPICS

Traffic in West Hallowes

Members, supported by the MRA, have raised concern with Greenwich Council regarding use of West Hallowes as a high-speed rat-run from West Park to the A20. This route seems to be recommended by some satnav devices. The council have done a traffic survey, but have not released the results, and are reported to be installing a 20 mph speed limit and speed bumps in West Hallowes, West Park and Luxfield Road, despite the opposition of residents.

Nuisance Cycle Riding (motor and pedal)



This has been drawn to the attention of the police, but their problem is catching the cyclists actually committing an offence. The police are treating this more aggressively than in the past, and have asked for residents to report culprits if possible.

Aircraft Noise Nuisance



The MRA Committee has adopted a neutral stance on this issue, while encouraging members to contact the HACAN organisation with their personal views.

They can be contacted at : HACAN East, 13 Stockwell Road, SW9 9AU or by e-mail at info@hacaneast.org.uk. or on 020 7737 6641

Local Police Hub

The Executive Committee has raised concern with our Councillors regarding the lack of visible police presence.

PLANNING ISSUES

The 2011 Planning legislation was a response to the acute shortage of accommodation, particularly in London and the south east of England. It removed the requirement for planning permission for single storey extensions. Dependent upon the size of the house, some of them can be as large as a small flat. It has been a boon to families who wished to meet their growing family's needs without moving house. It has also encouraged the conversion of family houses into flats, particularly for private rent. At the same time, multi-occupation of houses was permitted subject to a maximum of six bedrooms with shared facilities.

Previous legislation had removed the Parker-Morris standards for size of accommodation and the facilities within it. New build flats, in particular, are becoming ever smaller with kitchens integrated into living areas, bedrooms barely larger than a double bed and children's rooms for two, requiring bunks to fit them in.

At first the effect of this legislation was felt mainly in inner London areas. It is beginning to be felt in Outer London suburbs through large extensions, conversions to flats, and family homes becoming HMOs (Houses in multi-occupation). HMOs offering more than six bedrooms require planning permission. Increasingly, where permission is refused by local Councils, on the grounds of loss of amenity for residents or parking issues, the decision is overturned on Appeal. It is tempting for potential landlords to extend upwards and outwards without concern for the appearance or amenities of the accommodation. However, local Councils are taking a stand on these issues, and particularly on the development of accommodation in rear gardens. They are being supported by national planning authorities. L.B. Royal Greenwich is pursuing an enforcement order against an oversized "shed" being used as accommodation. L.B. Bromley has won an Appeal over a large shed, proposed by a property developer, for "personal storage". An application for a garage/workshop, as big as a bungalow in a relatively small rear garden, is being vigorously opposed by neighbours and the MRA.

We need more homes, particularly for young people. The MRA will support development where it is appropriate, provides adequate and suitable accommodation and is not to the detriment of local residents or the character of the area.

Liz Keable & Bob Blanks

Wheelchairs (Manual), 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 on 020 8857 3671

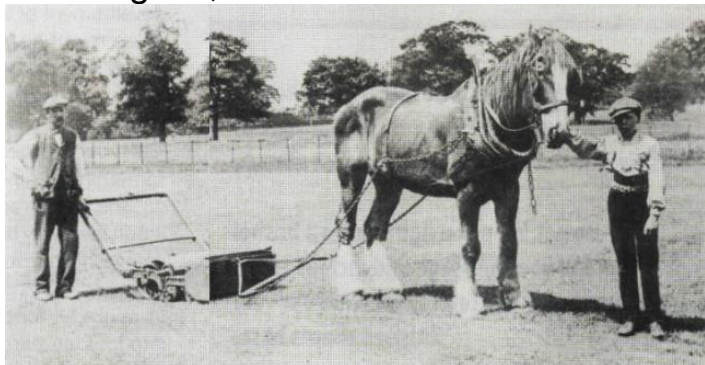


HISTORY SPECIAL – Foxes Field

*This article is derived from an original by John Kennett, local historian, which appeared in **SENine Magazine**.*

In the early 1900s, on the then fringes of London, some level farmland was being considered by inner London institutions for sports fields; these facilities were unobtainable nearer the capital. The London Playing Fields Society was looking for accommodation; 34 acres of land, south of Grove Park Rd, came on the market in 1904. Their Vice President, Lord Alverstone, approached the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths for funding. The response was positive and in 1905 the land was bought for £9,000 by the company, offering a rent-free 21yr lease to the LPFA and funds to equip the ground. 8 football pitches were created, with 4 wooden huts erected as changing facilities.

In 1907 the sloping land to the east was exchanged with the Mercers Company for adjacent level land fronting Grove Park Road. In 1907, 22 cricket teams from as far away as St Paul's Cathedral, Dulwich, Lewisham, Brockley, Kennington, Camberwell and Blackheath rented pitches.



Stables for the horses who pulled the mowing machine were built in 1908, sheds for equipment, a pavilion to include supply of refreshments, and a cottage on the road frontage for the groundsman. Two horses, valued at £31, were stolen and never recovered.

During the First World War the Goldsmiths Company helped to fund a rifle range and in 1914 two rifle butts and a firing shed were installed. A club, known as the Mottingham Miniature Rifle Range, was formed to gain affiliation to the Rifle Range Society. Two huts were made available, with free use of the cricket pitches, to the Army Service Corps based in the Greenwich Workhouse at Marvels Lane.

The custom of crowning a May Queen was revived in 1921 by new head teacher, Miss E Benford, of the Mottingham Council School (Infants) at Dorset Road. Weather permitting it was held in the school playground with a procession to the 'Playing Fields'. All the children took part as fairies, subjects, train bearers or country dancers. A collection was made from the visitors to support a scout group in the Surrey docks area.



In 1926 a new 21yr lease was granted to the LPFA and patronage increased after the war for football, cricket and tennis. The section of the field fronting Lower Marvels Wood often suffered from flooding and efforts were regularly made to improve the situation. Three years later development of the field was completed, and gas was laid on to the central refreshment pavilion. Groundsman Thomas

Groves, who served the LPFA for many years at Mottingham and formerly at Crofton Park, died at Christmas after a long illness; his son succeeded him on his retirement but died in 1933 at an early age. As some compensation Mrs Groves was given management of the pavilion refreshment facilities.

The wooden fence on the Court Farm Road boundary was replaced by a wire one when the road was straightened in 1930. Adjacent land, originally purchased by the Goldsmiths Company in 1905, was bought by the Eaglen brothers who built houses facing the sports ground, and at Lulworth, Elmhurst, and Beaconsfield roads, advertised as, 'Placed amid delightful country scenes, being adjoining Goldsmiths College Sports Ground of many acres'.

In 1940 three trenches were dug to deter landing of enemy aircraft; the following year three heavy explosive bombs wrecked some changing rooms and the ground staff were machine gunned. With reduced use of the pitches Chislehurst & Sidcup Urban District Council commandeered 4 acres on the upper field for allotments, later increased by another 5. In 1942 Civil Defence and ARP teams occasionally



used the cricket and football pitches as did the local Air Training Corps.

On Whit Monday in 1944 Chislehurst & Sidcup Urban District Council ran a successful 'Salute to the Soldiers' fete. The most serious aerial incident occurred on 16 June 1944 when a V1 flying bomb damaged pitches, nearby houses and the groundsman's cottage. The event was witnessed by the family of well-

known musician Mantovani who lived nearby at 76 Grove Park Road who were relieved that the bomb had missed their house and crashed into a field. In 1945 the Eltham Home Guard Band played for a Sunday concert during fine weather in the summer.

In 1946 moves were made by Chislehurst & Sidcup Urban District Council to purchase the grounds from the Goldsmith's Company as the LPFA was at the end of its second 21 yr. lease. The sale was completed in 1948 at the agreed price of £37,000; in 1949 the site was renamed 'Mottingham Sports Ground' The site, also known as 'Foxes Fields', has been used by local school children for cricket, football, netball, hockey, rounders, and other soft ball sports.

The war-damaged pavilion was replaced in 1960 by the present facility and public toilets by local builders WJ Eaglen Ltd. Play equipment from the recreation ground in Court Farm Road was removed in 1963 and reinstalled near the tennis courts; the groundsman's cottage was demolished due to structural problems in 1963 and a new house erected, now in private ownership.

Present owners Bromley Council lease the pitches for private use, but community events are encouraged and from 1973-2011 the field was the location for the biennial Mottingham Festival fete, commemorated by the seat by the Grove Park Road entrance, which was destroyed by an uninsured stolen motor vehicle in 2017 and replaced by Bromley council.

Pictures from the John Kennett Collection

John Kennett (Eltham Society)

FOXES FIELD UPDATES

Festival Bench Plaque Replaced



Formal reinstatement was supervised by the Chairman and his deputy.

Perimeter Path



The MRA's suggested paths to traverse the north and south borders of the fields to enable easier circumambulation of the field is nearing completion. We are grateful to our Bromley Councillors for steering this.

CONGRATULATIONS (AGAIN) TO PATRICIA & CLLR. JOHN HILLS !



Greenwich Gardeners competed for the 2018 Royal Greenwich in Bloom contest, sponsored by Coolings Garden Centre, which saw residents display their gardens, window boxes and hanging baskets. Patricia Hills, wife of Cllr John Hills *again* won the best front garden award with this superb display.

DUKE OF KENT COURT BOWLS CLUB – 45 years old

Down a leafy driveway off Dunkery Road (alongside number 127) lies the green, tranquil oasis that is the Duke of Kent Court Bowls Club.

The club was originally formed in Holbrook Lane Chislehurst in 1974, based at the 'Prince George, Duke of Kent Masonic Home' which was founded in 1964. The bowls club moved, with its name to the present location in Mottingham in 2006 and, having registered as a Community Amateur Sports Club, set about building their own bowling green and clubhouse which was completed by April 2007. The move and



subsequent building works were overseen by our then Chairman, Ted Camp who sadly passed away this summer. A substantial extension to the clubhouse was built by the members during the winter of 2015/2016.

Duke of Kent Court is a friendly club with approximately 100 members and is affiliated to Bowls England, Kent County Bowls Association and the Beckenham, Bromley and District Bowling Association. The club's seven rink level bowling green is generally recognised as one of the best greens in the area and is available for members to play all types of bowls (friendly, social and in matches) throughout the summer bowling season. We compete in league matches and are currently champions of the LX (over 60s) League and members are also able to enter the Kent County competitions.



The clubhouse has a licensed bar and modern catering facilities, enabling us to put on a wide range of social events throughout the year. Lawn Bowls is the ideal sport for men and women to play together in a friendly but competitive manner. Duke of Kent Court Bowls Club welcomes new members and for those with no experience of bowling we have an excellent coaching scheme. Please visit our website <http://www.dukeofkentcourtbowlsclub.com> or contact our Membership Secretary – Bob Harris, tel 020 8302 6050, email bob.harris617@ntlworld.com

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Beware motor scooters with 2 helmeted or balaclava-ed riders which have been seen to be somewhat aggressive and are known to have committed crimes elsewhere in London.

E-mails

If you receive scam e-mails, NEVER OPEN ANY ATTACHMENTS but you can assist the investigating authorities by forwarding them to NFIBPhishing@city-of-london.pnn.police.uk and then deleting from your inbox.

If you would like to receive regular NW updates, one of our stalwarts has offered his services. Please send your e-mail details to : home.huxley@tiscali.co.uk

You can find links to Bromley Neighbourhood Watch on the website with links to official NW Newsletters.

MIDWEEK LUNCH – ALL WELCOME

Mottingham Methodist Church Hall
Every Wednesday at 12:30
Doors open 11:00 for chat and coffee
No need to book - £ 3.00 donation



ROAD REPRESENTATIVES & SECTION LEADERS	
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	
LESLEY ROBINS, membsec@yourmra.org	
Section 1: Leader RICHARD MAINWARING-BURTON	
Road List [Borough]	
Albert Road [B]	Lesley Robins, Albert Road
Avondale Road [B]	Brenda Ludwick, Avondale Road
Devonshire Road [B]	Penny Waterson, Dorset Road
Evelyn Rogers Court [B]	Richard Mainwaring-Burton, Court Farm Road
Model Farm Close [B]	Ollie Gaynor, Model Farm Close
Mottingham Road - EVEN [B]	Rebecca Young, Court Farm Road
Mottingham Road - ODD (1-95) [G]	Mary Stevens, Layzell Walk
Mottingham Road - ODD (127-203) [G]	Rebecca Young, Court Farm Road
Silverdale Drive [B]	Richard Mainwaring-Burton, Court Farm Road
The Crossway [B]	Richard Mainwaring-Burton, Court Farm Road
Section 2: Leader JANE CORNISH	
Road List [Borough]	
Hinton Close [G]	June Coleman, Hinton Close, West Park
Luxfield Road [G]	Roger Joyce, Luxfield Road
Sidcup Road - EVEN (456-504) [G]	Vacancy – Road Rep Needed
West Hallows [G]	Jane Cornish, West Park
West Park - EVEN [G]	Beverley Howard, West Park
West Park - ODD [G]	Tom Biro, West Park
Section 3: Leader SHEILA BLANKS	
Road List [Borough]	
Carters Hill Close [B]	Sheila Blanks, Mottingham Lane
Cedar Mount [B]	Marion Burton, Cedar Mount
College View [B]	Mary Stevens, Layzell Walk
Court Farm Road [B]	Les Huxley, Court Farm Road
Grove Park Road - EVEN [B]	Liz Keable, Grove Park Road
Grove Park Road - ODD [B]	Brian Barker, Grove Park Road
Hall View [B]	Brian Barker, Grove Park Road
Kippington Drive [B]	Valerie Ewin, Kippington Drive
Layzell Walk [B]	Mary Stevens, Layzell Walk
Mottingham Gardens [B]	Mrs Longhurst, Mottingham Gardens
Colview Court [B]	Marion Burton, Cedar Mount
Mottingham Lane [B]	Sheila Blanks, Mottingham Lane

Section 4: Leader LAURIE BELL	
Road List [Borough]	
Beaconsfield Road - ODD (1-75) [B]	Vacancy – Road Rep Needed
Beaconsfield Road - EVEN (2-70) [B]	Vacancy – Road Rep Needed
Beaconsfield Road - EVEN (72-112) [B]	Vacancy – Road Rep Needed
Clarence Road [B]	Christine Ridgwell, Grove Park Road
Dorset Road [B]	Clare Whale, Dorset Road
Elmhurst Road [B]	Christine Ridgwell, Grove Park Road
Highcombe Close [B]	Clare Whale, Dorset Road
Lulworth Road [B]	Laurie Bell, Mottingham Road
Portland Crescent [B]	Sarah Crofts, Mottingham Road
Portland Road [B]	Sarah Crofts, Mottingham Road
Section 5: Leader LESLEY ROBINS	
Road List [Borough]	
Bill Hamling Close [G]	Lesley Robins, Albert Road
Birbetts Road [G]	Lesley Robins, Albert Road
Bowmead [G]	Lesley Robins, Albert Road
Chapel Farm Road [G]	Tim & Carole Hobbs, Chapel Farm Road
Lavidge Road - EVEN [G]	Julie Rutledge, Court Farm Road
Lavidge Road - ODD [G]	Julie Rutledge, Court Farm Road
Margaret Gardner Drive [B]	Lorna Noble, Margaret Gardner Drive
Sidcup Road - EVEN (522-542) [G]	Nazir Moya, Sidcup Road
Section 6: Leader LIZ KEABLE	
Road List [Borough]	
Court Road - EVEN (202-286) [G]	John Miller, Court Road
Court Road – ODD (201-281) [G]	Alison Lawrie, Court Road
Crossmead – EVEN [G]	Allison Nash, Crossmead
Crossmead – ODD (13-33) [G]	Mrs Llorente, Crossmead
Crossmead – ODD (1-11 & 35-77) [G]	Allison Nash, Crossmead
Downleys Close [G]	Vacancy – Road Rep Needed
Hartsmead Road [G]	Stuart West, Hartsmead
Leysdown Road - EVEN [G]	Vacancy – Road Rep Needed
Leysdown Road - ODD [G]	Janet Lane, Leysdown Road
Ministry Way [G]	Janet Lane, Leysdown Road
Porcupine Close [G]	Dorothy Robbie, Porcupine Close
Sycamore Close [G]	Alison Lawrie, Court Road

We have several vacancies in the Road Representative list we would like to fill which will spread the load for some existing stalwarts. We would particularly welcome volunteers with access to the “Everest” blocks. Please contact membsec@yourmra.org if you feel able to assist.

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

POLICE IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS DIAL 999

GREENWICH: 020 8853 1212 **ELTHAM:** 020 8284 5625



COLDHARBOUR & NEW ELTHAM

<https://www.met.police.uk/a/your-area/met/greenwich/coldharbour-and-new-eltham/>

60 William Barefoot Drive, SE9 3AY

 @MPSCldHarbourRG

Tel: 020 7161 9521 Mobile: 07768 083607

Insp Ruth Willshire
PS Neil Washington
PC Lindsay Cabble
PC Andrew McDermid
PCSO David Glock

Email: coldharbour.neweltham.snt@met.police.uk

BROMLEY HQ: 01689 891212

MOTTINGHAM & CHISLEHURST NORTH

<http://www.met.police.uk/a/your-area/met/bromley/mottingham-and-chislehurst-north/>

Room 3.01, Bromley Police Station, High Street, BR1 1ER

 @MPSMottChisNth

Tel: 020 8721 2889 Mobile: 07880 781483

PS Alex Komoroczy  Alex.Z.Komoroczy@met.police.uk
Acting PS Stuart Manuel  Stuart.C.Manuel@met.police.uk
PC Stuart Inglis  Stuart.Inglis@met.police.uk
PCSO Sue Kennedy  Suzannemargaret.kennedy@met.police.uk

Email: ChislehurstNorth.snt@met.police.uk

COUNCILS

GREENWICH - Switchboard 020 8854 8888 www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk

BROMLEY - Main Switchboard 020 8464 3333 www.bromley.gov.uk

LOCAL WARD COUNCILLORS

BROMLEY

David Cartwright 07785 111 763  david.cartwright@bromley.gov.uk

Will Rowlands 07973 745013  Will.Rowlands@bromley.gov.uk

GREENWICH

John Hills 07785 111 763  john.hills@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Matt Hartley 020 8921 6393  matt.hartley@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Roger Tester 020 8921 6393  roger.test@royalgreenwich.gov.uk