

Knoll News



Welcome to the Autumn 2020 edition of Knoll News

Message from the New KRA Chair:

Thanks for reading this second newsletter published during the Covid-19 pandemic. I am very proud to see the Knoll residents following the changing rules and keeping the business community running as best as we all can.

I would like to acknowledge the excellent work of our services around the Borough and look forward to meeting as many of you that can make our first virtual AGM in November.

Keep safe all

Thanks,
Lee

2020 Annual General Meeting

This year's AGM will be held on 17th November 2020, but not in the Morton Hall at St. John's United Reformed Church, but rather in the comfort of your own home. We have decided to go ahead with the event, offering many of the talks we have come to enjoy such as

- Gareth Bacon - Live
- An update from our Safer Neighbourhood Police Team
- Orpington 1st update

Please do not discount yourself if you have not used Zoom in the past, but would usually attend the AGM. We would like to assist you in getting set up and ready to join us! Therefore email knollnews@gmail.com where we will make sure you are all ready to join us for the meeting.

We are unlikely to offer our usual question time, but we would like you to contact us with questions you would like answered so that we can get to them during our online event. We are also happy to end our evening with drinks and refreshments, but you will be responsible for providing your own.

A copy of the Agenda is on the back page of this newsletter. Copies of last year's AGM are available on our website (www.kra.org.uk) and we will make these available on our Facebook page too.

Zoom meeting ID 259 113 3136



Rainbow brings the neighbours out – is this what they mean when they say support bubble? Image by Stephen Sangster. Many residents captured this striking rainbow – please share your own pictures with us over on the Facebook page.

Petts Wood and Knoll Safer Neighbourhood Panel

Hello Knoll Residents, hope to find you all well. Firstly thank you for taking your time in reading this Crime Update, if you wish to contact us for any reason please call or email your team using the details as shown below.



Over the past few months we are happy to say that our crime in the area has dropped significantly due to lockdown as residents have been at their properties more, that's not to say that we haven't had crime reported however we have noted just recently that with Schools having gone back and people returning to their places of work we have now started to see an increase in reported crime.

At this time of the year as we start to see the dark evenings drawing in and the clocks going back it's pretty certain that our reported burglaries will start to increase, on this we ask that residents start to set their house ALARM SYSTEMS when they leave their properties, AND during the night when their tucked up in bed asleep, also if you do have to leave your property then think about leaving lights on or purchase a couple of timer switches, a house in complete darkness is a giveaway sign that no-one may be at home. Make sure that you double lock your doors and secure any open window before you turn in for the night, also remove any keys that may be in the back of doors.

Don't leave valuables on display in vehicles, a car may be broken into even if it's just for a bit of loose change. People take unnecessary risks leaving their engine running to let their cars warm up on cold winter mornings, criminals are also up early too.

If you are an owner of a KEYLESS CAR ENTRY system then think about purchasing a FARADAY POUCH, which will block any signal to your vehicle keys.

When using ATMs be aware of what's happening behind you, if possible go inside the premises to withdraw your cash. When out and about be careful when using your mobile phone, holding that expensive mobile phone up to your ear is just like holding up a bunch of ten pound notes to the criminal who will think nothing about attempting to snatch it away from you.

If it's an emergency call 999

The non-emergency number is 101.

Website: www.met.police.uk

Twitter: @MPSPettswood

Email: Pettswood&KnollSNT@met.police.uk

Tel: 02087212609

Your Team -

PS 287SN Alex Farmer

PC 1561SN Taj Mahil

PC 1544SN Matt Gill

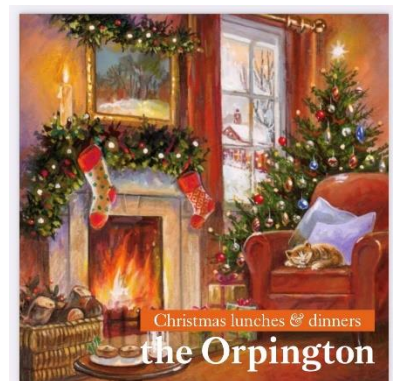
PCSO 7101SN Colin Bisset

Support our High Street



Orpington GPO is now opening earlier (10am) to satisfy the demand for their popular breakfast and brunch menu and, in response to the Government's recent revision to hospitality opening times, has extended their kitchen opening hours, allowing people to dine earlier for dinner if they wish (Mon-Sat 17:30-20:30, Sun 12:00-14:00).

Meanwhile, The Orpington is already taking bookings for a delicious three-course Christmas lunch or dinner for £32 (£18 for under 12s) from Monday 23 November until Wednesday 23 December.



Eat out to help out

Knoll residents certainly made the most of the 50% discounted meals during August with an amazing 85,000 meals claimed in Orpington. The Government incentive was designed to support the hospitality sector recovery - an important part of our local economy as we have over 30 restaurants and cafes on our High Street alone. In total, Orpington residents benefited from £472k of discounts! As we enter a second lock down period it is clear our local businesses will need our continued support to ensure their future viability.



The Orpington created an amusing advert for the campaign.



The Sangster Family enjoyed venturing out to many of the participating restaurants during the campaign. Please pop over to our Facebook page and share your own stories – good or bad.

KRA is on Facebook - join our group!

The Knoll Residents association Facebook page, launched in our last issue, now has 116 members and is growing daily. It is becoming a vital online hub for all news relating to the Knoll. Managed by Stephen Sangster and Carol Bisley, they scour all parts of the internet to flag important updates for our community. From lost and found and crime prevention to must see events or Knoll pictures and stories from residents. It has it all! We encourage you to join so we can continue to build our presence - just search on Facebook for Knoll Residents Association (KRA)

Brian Bates joined recently and added "Thanks for letting me in :-) Great initiative and a good way to meet the neighbours who aren't right next door!"

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3046131395453100/>

facebook



Support Local



Here's an idea ... Let's buy Christmas presents from small local businesses and self-employed people. For example – from your neighbour who sells online, a local craftsperson, the stunning local florist shop, the local bakers, a voucher for the local cafes, or salons. It may be easy to order from the big guns, but imagine what our High Street would be like when we spread our money around the little businesses local to us rather than the multinational companies. Let us make Christmas 2020 great for our local people. If you would like to share your own homemade goodies, or local small business details, we encourage you to head on over to our Facebook page.

Local Harvest Event

St. John's United Reformed Church hosted a successful harvest festival 'with a difference' on the 10th October despite the COVID restrictions in place. Harvest food was collected from the community for the local Foodbank as usual and this year an engaging virtual service was beamed out on a loop on various TVs placed around the church so everyone could participate and worship safely. The community were also asked to bring a piece of artwork, poem or bible reading to express their Hope, Faith or Love experienced over the last few months. Our social media committee member Stephen Sangster attended with his daughter Lilian who presented a rainbow tree of hope she had made. These expressions of hope, faith and love were then displayed on the front church fence for all Knoll residents to enjoy. You can keep up to date with our local church, key services and events by visiting their web page: www.stjohnsurc.org.uk

Lilian handing in her own artwork & donations



Planning news: Orpington 1st update on Walnuts development

Orpington Town Centre Public Consultation: The public consultation for the future of Orpington Town Centre closed on 5 October. Recurring themes in the public comments included pedestrianisation; provision of free parking; provision of toilet facilities and a café to encourage visitors to Priory Gardens; and an update to the Walnuts market square area to include box-park style facilities, space for more community events and pop up innovation. The outcome of the consultation will help shape 'Supplementary Planning Documents' (SPDs), which will provide detailed guidance to complement the policies already outlined in the adopted Local Plan and will be a material consideration in the determination of relevant future planning applications. The next step is for the Council to prepare the draft SPDs, which will be subject to a further round of consultation in early 2021.

Proposed Development of Poundland: KRA Committee members met with Acklam Developments to discuss their plans for the redevelopment of 208-212 High Street (former Poundland), which tentatively include reconfigured flexible ground floor retail space, around 44/45 apartments (1, 2 and 3 bed) and 20 parking spaces. We discussed parking provision to protect the already congested High Street and surrounding residential roads. We also discussed plans for sound proofing and screening the apartments to prevent future noise complaints from residents, thereby safeguarding the outdoor facilities of existing neighbouring businesses (The GPO and Pato Lounge). Acklam Developments took our comments on board and the Committee left the meeting feeling positive about the development. We await the submission of their formal plans to the Council for Planning Permission.

Residents are asked to not light Bonfires during the COVID19 pandemic

In an update to our previous newsletter request to all residents to consider the effects that bonfires have on their neighbours, we are once again asking you to be extra considerate as we approach these family favourite events such as bonfire night and Guy Fawkes.

NHS Track and Trace App

The NHS have now released their long awaited Track and Trace app. This has not gone without glitches, with an estimated 16 thousand contacts not being informed correctly that they are due to isolate. However, there have been a large number of the UK residents signed up to the app that uses your Bluetooth and location technology to track your whereabouts and work out whether you have been in close contact with someone who has now tested positive. We would encourage all residents to look into the app and how it may help protect our residents and neighbourhood.



We have had first hand experience now on using this app as well as many of the other services available once you have been traced as a contact. We have been contacted by track and trace and asked to isolate for 14 days which is a legal requirement. We have received several emails, text messages and a number of phone calls to check that we are in fact isolating, but more importantly I have noted the tone of the call is more about making sure that you are managing and doing okay both mentally and physically. It seems there is definitely a desire to understand where the virus is being caught and how it is operating in different age groups as well as making sure we are all doing our part to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

Agenda for the Annual General Meeting

The Meeting will open for attendees to join at 19.30 allowing time for everyone to sort out their technology with formal proceedings commencing at 19.45.

- 1) Welcome and introductions from the Chairman
- 2) Approval of minutes of the 45th AGM (copies will be available on our website at <http://www.kra.orp.org.uk>)
- 3) Election of the Committee (nominations welcome – see slip attached)
- 4) Treasurer’s report and the Association’s account to 30th September 2020 (Copies to be made available on our website)
- 5) Guest Speakers
- 6) Possible Q&A

KRA Committee Nominations

You may nominate any member of the Association for the Committee provide they are willing to serve and are seconded by another member of the Association. Completed nomination forms are to be sent the Secretary, Miriam Harries, 29 Broomhill Road, Orpington, Kent, BR6 0EN or scanned and emailed to kra.secretary@gmail.com by 10th November 2020.

Nominee
(name and address)

Nominated by
(name and address)

Seconded by
(name and address)

Nominee’s signature

Date

CONTACT



The contact details for specific KRA officers & committee members are:

Chair Lee Kendall 811735 kra.chair@gmail.com

Treasurer Ian Black 831014 kra.treasurer@gmail.com

Secretary Miriam Harries 07539069756 kra.secretary@gmail.com

Membership Anne Dungan 820987 knollra.membership@gmail.com

Planning Anika James kra.planning@gmail.com

Knoll News Editor Lee Kendall, Carol Bisley, Ian Black

Tree Warden Brian Wilkin 836728 kra.treewarden@gmail.com

Items for the KRA website to knollnews@gmail.com

Facebook Administrators Stephen Sangster and Carol Bisley

Our newsletter is delivered to over 1,500 members in the area. If you have any articles or news snippets you would like to share, or details of any forthcoming courses, events or talks that you would like publicised in the following edition please email knollnews@gmail.com

Please note

Information on items and activities included in this newsletter and on our website are as received by the Knoll Residents Association.

The KRA is not responsible for these items/activities and the inclusion of such activities does not constitute an endorsement of services or information offered.

Thank you