

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Welcome to the Autumn 2015 edition of Knoll News. The most important news is that the Association's 41st AGM will be held on Tuesday 24 November in the main hall at St John's United Reformed Church at the corner of Lynwood Grove and Mayfield Avenue. Proceedings start at 7.45 pm and we look forward to welcoming all members on the night.

The meeting will start with a small amount of formal business (see Agenda on the back page) but the most important part of the evening is the chance to hear and question our guest speakers and local Councillors about issues which affect the Knoll area and other matters of concern. We always try to get interesting and relevant speakers. This year we have:

- Paul Donahoe and colleagues from King's College Hospital Trust to talk about developments at the PRUH and Orpington Hospital;
- A representative from SE Cluster Local Police team to update us about changes to local policing;
- Sharon Baldwin from the Orpington Business Improvement District ("BID") to talk about the latest developments in the High Street.

All these topics affect us all. While progress has been made, it appears that King's has found that some of the problems at the PRUH are more difficult to resolve than originally anticipated; policing is coming under increasing budget pressure and there have been suggestions that many/all PCSO posts might be scrapped and replaced with volunteer policemen; and we are all interested in High Street developments and the new cinema and hotel. So please do come along and hear, and question, our speakers.

We will also have representatives from our local Councillors (Douglas Auld, Kim Botting, Simon Fawthrop, Tony Owen, William Huntington-Thresher and Pauline Tunnicliffe and our GLA member, James Cleverly), who will be on hand in the general question and answer session that follows our guest speakers to answer questions about Bromley Council actions and what is happening in and around the Knoll area.

As usual the meeting will conclude with drinks and light refreshments. This gives us all the chance to talk to Councillors, guest speakers, members of the KRA Committee and, of course, friends and neighbours in a friendly and informal setting.

A copy of the Agenda is on the back page. Copies of the minutes of last year's AGM are available on our website (www.kra.org.uk) and will also be available on the night. Copies of the Association's accounts for the year to 30 September 2015 will also be available on the night. I and the rest of the Committee look forward to meeting as many members as possible at the AGM – so make a note of the date in your diary and please come along.

ASRC

The results of our petition were a little disappointing in that out of approximately 2600 residents only 916 were in favour of having the Knoll area designated an ASRC ("Area of Special Residential Character"). The results, however, showed a clear divide in our area: broadly speaking the roads in the north of the area were strongly in favour, while those in the south of the area were against. This presented the Committee with something of a quandary. However, based on the results of the petition we decided to submit a revised request to LBB to have the north of the area, where 59% of the residents were in favour as against only 20% in the south, designated an ASRC. The area requested encompasses the following roads:

Dalewood Road, Lynwood Grove and Mayfield Avenue and the smaller roads and closes off them (Melbourne Close, Eastcote, Brookside etc.), Broxbourne Road, Irvine Way, Lucerne Road, Oatfield Road, St Kilda, Cyril Road, Keswick Road, Irene Road, Sequoia Gardens and Novar Close.

The local plan is effectively the only mechanism whereby an area can become an ASRC. We have submitted the petition and our reasons for allowing the area outlined above to become an ASRC to LBB, where it will be considered as part of the plan consultation process and will be pressing LBB to grant ASRC status.

SITUATIONS VACANT

One of our KRA Committee members (Ray Vaughn) has had to resign as he has moved house and another (Richard Burton) will step down at the AGM after many years of service, and all of the Committee would like to thank both Ray and Richard for their efforts over the years. This does, however, leave the Committee short of members so we do urgently need new volunteers to join us.

We meet about eight times a year and there are a variety of roles/jobs to cover depending on your interests and availability: these vary from acting as Road Warden Secretary (helping with the distribution of the Knoll News to the Road Wardens, who actually distribute the newsletter), to attending occasional meetings of the Federation of Bromley Residents Associations and the Road Safety Panel. Like all things in life, "many hands make light work". Please give our Chairman, Paul Savage, a call or send an e-mail (contact details are on the back page) if you would like to join the Committee or would like more information. Or, of course, you can simply complete the nomination form on the back page. Either way, if the Association is to continue to represent the interests of the Knoll area we do urgently need more Committee members so please think if you can spare a couple of hours a month to help your Association.

We also need some new road wardens. We need road wardens for the following areas: White Hart Road; Somerset, Wiltshire and Devonshire Roads.

Duties involve distributing the Knoll News three times a year and collecting subscriptions once a year. Please let Paul know if you would like to help out the Association by taking up one of these posts. Contact details are on the back page.

We are very pleased to announce that Amrita Shodham has replaced the long serving John Gray as road warden

for Broxbourne Road and Irvine Way. Many thanks to John for his efforts over the years. Broxbourne Road and Irvine Way is, however, quite a big area to cover so if anyone would like to share the area with Amrita, please let Paul know.

WEA IN THE NEW YEAR

Why not join one of the WEA's adult education courses starting again in January and study interesting and varied subjects such as:

- British History 1815-1914
- The Story of the English Garden
- Creative Writing
- Art in Britain 1900 to the Present
- The Age of Transition 1400-1650
- Two Classical Cities: Athens & Rome
- England's Warrior Dynasty: The Earlier Plantagenets

Most courses take place weekly at local venues in Petts Wood and Orpington. For further details and to book a place, please contact Penny Stewart on 01689 827420 or Martine Haynes at haynes.martine@googlemail.com

And why not try one of the WEA's Saturday afternoon lectures taking place in 2016:

6 February The Madness of Gardeners

20 February Architects of London (Part 2)

19 March Women in Greece & Rome

9 April History of London & The Thames

They take place at St John's URC, Orpington (2-4.30pm) and tickets cost £8 including refreshments. To apply for tickets contact Yvonne Tapper on 01689 877372 or yvonne_tapper@hotmail.com

At the Parish Church of All Saints in Bark Hart Road Orpington

A Grand Concert at 7.30 pm on Saturday 21st November 2015

Haydn's The Creation

Sung and performed in English by choir and voice soloists

accompanied by the Festival Orchestra

Tickets £12 (advance booking: £10, students £5)

Bookings and enquiries: 01689 891571

Fellowship Opportunities at St John's

St John's URC, Lynwood Grove, hosts a wide variety of events across all ages, and the following might be of interest to residents in The Knoll.

The "Friendship Club" meets on Thursday afternoons between 2pm and 4pm at the church, and offers varied entertainment such as talks, music, slideshows, good company and refreshments. There is a small weekly charge of £3. New members are always warmly welcomed.

"Men of Leisure" is a group of men who have the "leisure" to meet at the church on alternate Wednesday mornings between 10 am and 12 noon to play snooker and short mat bowls, drink coffee and enjoy each other's company. It has been suggested that a better name for the group might be "The Re-Cycled Teenagers" Anyone is welcome to come along. There is a charge of £1 per session, or if you decide to become a permanent member of the group there is an annual subscription of £15. Dates for the remainder of 2015 are 14th and 28th October, 11th and 25th November, and 9th December. The dates for 2016 start on 6th January and continue every fortnight from then on. So if you are a "man of leisure," why not come along? Or, if you are the wife of a man of leisure/ recycled teenager who is getting under your feet, why not send him along?

TIME TO REMEMBER

St John's Church, Lynwood Grove will be open between 6:30 and 8:30pm on Friday 6th November, offering a quiet space in which you may come and remember those you loved who have died.

There will be an opportunity to light a candle in their memory and to place their name on a list which will be read out towards the end of the evening.

You are free to come and go as you please. Tea and coffee will be available if you want it.

At 8:15pm the Minister will lead a short Act of Remembrance.

BROMLEY LOCAL PLAN

LBB has released an update of the local plan for consultation. This outlines local development and planning issues, including the number of new homes expected, effect on schools and the number required and parking. It also deals with Areas of Special Residential Character (see article on page 1).

The key driver is that the LBB area is expected to have a further 9615 homes built over the next 15 years. 196 of these will be in Orpington, mainly accounted for by existing developments at Berwick House, the old Police Station and a proposed development at the old milk depot at Bruce Grove. Orpington perhaps might feel that it has got off relatively lightly compared with developments elsewhere but there is one substantial downside. LBB is proposing to reduce the parking spaces that must be provided by developers in the Orpington area from the 1 space per 1 or 2 bedroomed dwelling which applies in most of the rest of the Borough to only 0.7 space on the grounds that Orpington has good public transport links. We consider that this is poppycock as most people buying one of the flats in these new developments will have cars and while public transport links into London are good, this does not necessarily apply in other directions (e.g. travel to Croydon).

Other issues raised by the plan are the retention of that part of Knoll Rise adjoining the High Street as a preferred office building area, the likely expansion of Poverest Primary school by one class and the partial relaxation of the Green Belt around Biggin Hill Airport to allow for light industrial development, which it is estimated might create some 3000 new jobs.

DRAGONS AND DUNGEONS

As many of you may know, Orpington (and more specifically, the Knoll area) received unexpected prominence in local and national press, due to the discovery of a dungeon being operated by two lady dominatrices in Lynwood Grove.

Apparently, there were all sorts of exciting goings on. It appears that the house was rented with the lease expiring in October and thanks to the involvement of LBB, local Councillors and the Police, the ladies involved have decided to move their business to a more secluded and rural setting.

CONTACT US

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

Chairman Paul Savage 820912 kra.chair@gmail.com

Secretary Miriam Harries kra.secretary@gmail.com

Treasurer & vice-chairman Ian Black kra.treasurer@gmail.com

Planning Sue Smith kra.planning@gmail.com

Tree warden Brian Wilkin kra.treewarden@gmail.com

Road warden secretary Paul Savage 820912

Road warden secretary Hilary Robson 825422

Road warden secretary Richard Burton 810561

Road warden secretary Kay Wilkins 878603

Road warden secretary Dave Thomas 829646

Items for the KRA website to knollnews@gmail.com

Our Newsletter is delivered to all households in our 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 Spring 2016 edition please email to knollnews@gmail.com by Friday 12 February 2016. Thank you.

Agenda for the 41st Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 24 November

The Meeting commences at **7.45 pm** in the Main Hall, St. John's URC, Lynwood Grove, Orpington, BR6 0GB

1) Welcome and introductions from the Chairman

2) Approval of Minutes of 40th AGM (copies will be available at the meeting or can be viewed on our website at <http://www.kra.orp.org.uk/>)

3) Election of the Committee (nominations welcomed; see Chairman's Corner & slip below)

4) Treasurer's report and the Association's accounts to 30 September 2015 (copies of the accounts will be made available at the meeting)

5) Review of the year's activities

6) Guest speakers

7) Q&A session

The evening ends with wine, soft drinks & light refreshments and the opportunity to circulate & socialise with your Committee, our members and invited guests.

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NOMINATION FORM

You may nominate any member of the Association for the Committee provided they are willing to serve and are seconded by another member of the Association. Completed nomination forms are to be sent to the Secretary, Miriam Harries, 29 Broomhill Road, Orpington, Kent BR6 0EN **by Sunday 22 November 2015**. The new Committee, once elected, will appoint the officers of Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.

Nominee.....

....
(name & address)

Nominated
by.....

(name & address)

Seconded
by.....

(name & address)

Nominee's signature..... **Date**