

Knoll News



Knoll Residents Association Summer 2017 Newsletter

SINCE THE LAST KNOLL NEWS

A company called Aventier have been making themselves very unpopular in the area, submitting planning applications for large developments. They submitted a full and then outline planning application for a development on the corner of Keswick and Stanley Roads to demolish a bungalow and replace this with two 4 bed roomed semi detached houses. They also submitted an application to demolish a property in Broomhill Road and to replace it with a 4 storey block containing seven 2 bed roomed flats. Both the KRA and local councillors supported the numerous objections made by the local residents and all applications have been refused.

For bus users, from the beginning of April, you may be aware the R1 bus now travels down Tower Road. Whilst bus rerouting has to go through a proper consultation process, the siting of the bus stops does not. The residents of certain properties were surprised to receive letters in late March advising them that a bus stop would be erected outside their property. This is the responsibility of TfL who are required to consult with the local council and Metropolitan Police to check whether they have any objections to the situation of the proposed bus stop. This did not occur. The KRA, along with the relevant councillor, took the matter up with TfL in support of the direct lobbying by the residents. TfL have now belatedly followed the correct procedures but unfortunately resident consultation does not form part of this process so, in the absence of any objections from LBB or the police, the bus stops will be situated where TfL decided. Somewhat undemocratic!

Thank you to all members who sent in issues and questions to raise with our local councillors at a meeting scheduled for Monday 3 July. Some of the matters that have been raised relate to The Priory, the ASRC status, parking, planning, Biggin Hill airport and the High Street. We will feedback to you when we receive feedback from the councillors.

ROAD WARDENS

We welcome Joan Kinnear who is now road warden for Irene Road. Thanks to David Riddock for covering the vacancy. We also say goodbye and thank you to Amrita Shodhan who covers all of Broxbourne Road and Irvine Way and will be leaving the area after this issue is delivered.

We have road warden vacancies for the following roads, some of which have not been filled since the last 'situations vacant'. It is essential these are filled before the Autumn Knoll News is ready as otherwise there may not be anyone to distribute them to the roads listed below.

Tower Road 4-26 & 9-27	Tower Road top
St Aubyns Gardens	Irene Road
White Hart Road	Lynwood Grove 42-58 & 45-85
Broxbourne Road (ideally 3 road wardens required as it is a very long road)	
Irvine Way	

For Tower Road and St Aubyns Gardens please contact Hilary Robson. For Irene Road, White Hart Road, Broxbourne Road and Irvine Way please contact Simon Wood. For Lynwood Grove please contact Kay Wilkins.

The duties of the road warden will be to deliver the Summer and Autumn editions of the Knoll News to members only, the Spring edition to all houses in the area they cover, collect subscriptions and pass them to the membership secretary. The time involved can only amount to a few hours a year.

BONFIRES

Bonfires are a subject we regularly receive enquiries about. We are not sure whether the reduction in the opening hours of the green waste sites and/or the often lengthy queues at the Waldo Road dump are to blame but enquiries seem to be on the increase.

There also seem to be myths about when bonfires can or cannot be lit. In fact there are no bye laws in the London Borough of Bromley which prevent bonfires at any time. However, a bonfire must not be a 'public nuisance'. Obviously what is a nuisance to one is not necessarily a nuisance to another. As so often is the case, basic commonsense needs to prevail. Don't light a bonfire when you would reasonably expect someone to be enjoying their garden space, have washing hanging out or windows open. Even in our climate we would have thought that this constitutes the majority of British Summer Time.

LBB have a leaflet with more information. This can be downloaded from the LBB website. Go to the LBB website and search bonfires.

ST JOHN'S CALLING ALL KNOLL RESIDENTS

Do you have Scouting or Guiding in your DNA?

St John's URC, The Church on the Hill at the top of Knoll Rise, has wonderful Scout and Guide Groups that were established back in the 1950's. However like all organisations today they suffer from a lack of enough Leaders and adult helpers to guarantee future Scouting and Guiding for our local youngsters.

Were you a Beaver, Rainbow, Cub, Brownie, Scout or Guide at some time? Or were your children (or even grandchildren) part of the wonderful adventure that is Scouting or Guiding? So if you have some free time (or know someone who has) and would like to become part of our wonderful adventure, come and talk to me through our church website. I can easily arrange for you to meet some of our leaders and, indeed, if you want to see our Sections at work and play.



And while I have your attention don't think that St John's is only about Scouting or Guiding. We are a Christian body of believers who truly believe in the power of prayer. You will have received a prayer request card as part of our Christmas and Easter cards. But do not fear if you can't find them – if you have someone or some situation that you would like us to pray for just post a note through our church letterbox or contact us via our website. We will include your request on our prayer tree and in our Sunday morning prayers. And, in any case, we will continue to pray for all those who live in the Knoll area. Who knows how or when your prayers will be answered, but put your trust in God and they will be – and maybe you could be the answer to our prayers for more adult help with our Uniformed organisations.

Our website is at stjohnsurc.org.uk. Please visit it and see what else we have on offer. There will always be a welcome waiting for you at St John's. Why not come along and join us sometime?

Jon Henderson
Church Secretary, St Johns URC Orpington
Assistant Group Scout Leader, 8th Orpington Scouts
Tel 01689 835681

BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT

It has been noticed recently that there has been an increase in aircraft noise pollution over our area and, initially, this was blamed on Biggin Hill airport. However, on closer scrutiny, it appears that this recent activity is more likely to be aircraft stacking whilst waiting permission to land at Heathrow airport.

However, there may well still be issues regarding aircraft noise from Biggin Hill and the following is an item from a recent London Borough of Bromley Residents' Federation meeting which may be of interest.

'The previously predicted noise emissions required the installation of a state-of-the-art track and noise system. It is hoped that the current system meets the requirement imposed by the Council, and by the airport itself wanting to keep within delineated levels.

Pilots are given sheets on "how to ... approach/ take off" - those who do not observe the new rules/ regulations are firstly given a warning, then a fine and, if re-offending, a ban from the airport in perpetuity. (Emergencies excepted). Any fines collected go to LB Bromley, as the landlord.

A Review Board has been formed to assess the level of fine vs. violation incurred. The Board is composed of pilots and others - initially for two years. Bob Hadley attends as Federation chair.'

There is a way of tracking and reporting a violation, by logging into WEBTRAK Biggin Hill Airport. At the moment there is a delay of 45 minutes between reporting an incident and seeing the plane on the screen. If you are interested in downloading the software to enable you to track and report an aircraft, the link is:

<https://lbhacommunity.co.uk/noise-track/>

If you do not have access to the internet, you can make a report by phone. Call the airport on 01959 578580 to register a complaint.

ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

You may not be aware, but nestled between the end of the gardens in Mayfield Avenue, Lynwood Grove and Westholme and with an entrance off the passageway between Mayfield Avenue and Lynwood Grove lies the Knoll Lawn Tennis Club. There are 5 all weather courts, 2 of which are floodlit. The club is open to everyone irrespective of their tennis standard.

If you are interested or require further information, their website is <http://www.kolt.org.uk>.
If you are interested in joining then please email membership@kolt.org.uk.

WEA COURSES 2017

The WEA will be starting a new programme of varied and interesting adult education courses at local venues in the Autumn. Make sure you don't miss out and book a place now.

Britain – King, Parliament & The Civil War	10 sessions, Mondays 10:30-12:30 from 18.9.17 at Petts Wood Memorial Hall
China – From The Qing Dynasty To The People's Republic	10 sessions, Mondays 14:00-16:00 from 18.9.17 at St John's URC, Orpington
Art – From Academic Art To Impressionism	10 sessions, Tuesdays 14:00-16:00 from 19.9.17 at St John's URC, Orpington
Creative Writing – Writers' Workshop	10 sessions, alternate Wednesdays 14:00-16:00 from 20.9.17 at Christ Church URC, Petts Wood
Britain – Hanoverian Consorts From Caroline of Brunswick To Prince Albert	10 sessions, Thursdays 13:45-15:45 from 21.9.17 at St John's URC, Orpington

For further details and costs, and to book a place (pre-enrolment is essential), please contact either Penny Stewart on 01689 827420 or Martine Haynes at haynes.martine@gmail.com

And why not try one of the WEA's Saturday afternoon lectures:

7 October	Art of the Russian Revolution
4 November	The Romanov Grand Duchesses
2 December	The Birth of Modern Science

They take place at St John's URC, Orpington (14:00-16:30) and tickets cost £10, including refreshments. Pre-enrolment is essential but payment can be made at the door.

To apply for tickets, contact Yvonne Tapper on 01689 877372 or yvonne_tapper@hotmail.com

BIGGIN HILL MUSEUM / HERITAGE CENTRE

Plans for the above will include demolition of the Grade II listed Vestry of St George's RAF Chapel of Remembrance.

'Planning Decision: The application has been GRANTED.

St Georges RAF Chapel, Main Road, Biggin Hill 17/00728/FULL1 and 17/00736/LBC – Proposed Memorial Museum (Use Class D2) with ancillary café/shop (Use Class A1/A3) with associated car parking, landscaping & alterations to the access points, demolition of modern annex building at St Georges Chapel, partial change of use of the internal chapel space from D1 (Place of Worship) to D2 (Assembly and Leisure) and minor alterations to the listed building and Listed Building Consent.'

Many people are appalled at this, and a petition has been set up online to send to the Secretary of State for the Department for Culture Media and Sport to try to reverse this decision.

If you would like to find out more about this, and to sign the petition, the website is:

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/protect-biggin-hill-st-george-s-raf-chapel-of-remembrance>

HEDGES AND EDGES

Just a reminder to all residents who have hedges bordering pavements or alleyways, it is your responsibility to keep these cut back to allow free access to pedestrians. We have been made aware that there are a few alleyways in our area which are beginning to become so overgrown that is difficult for people in wheelchairs or pushing prams/buggies to get past.

We know that most residents are aware of their responsibility in this matter and do keep their hedges in a neat and tidy condition, but we feel it is always helpful to remind those who may have forgotten this aspect of their gardening maintenance.

INFORMATION FROM BROMLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The Metropolitan Police have stated that a Hotpoint FF175BP fridge freezer has been identified as the initial source of the Grenfell Tower fire.

Owners of a Hotpoint fridge freezer model FF175BP (White) and FF175BG (Graphite) should call the manufacturer's freephone hotline on 0800 316 3826 to register their details for further information.

If you think you may have an affected model please contact the manufacturer on the above number, or read advice at the Which Consumer Advice website: <http://www.which.co.uk/consumer-rights/advice/hotpoint-fridge-freezer>

ORPINGTON MARKET RELAUNCH AUTUMN 2017

A new and improved market will be coming to Orpington later this year...

Following the completion of the public square developments, funded by a joint BID to the GLA from Orpington 1st and LBB, a revamped Orpington Market will be launched in the Autumn of 2017 operating Tuesdays, Fridays & Saturdays.

More information on this will be available on the Orpington 1st website at:

www.orpington1st.co.uk/news/d/113065/orpington-market-relaunch-autumn-2017

BROMLEY CHURCHILL GARDENS - SITE G

Unfortunately by the time you receive this newsletter the public consultation dates will have passed.

However, if you are interested in the proposed plans for this development, they can be found at:

<http://churchillgardensbromley.co.uk/index.html>

CONTACT US

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

Chair & Treasurer Ian Black 831014 kra.chair@gmail.com

Secretary Miriam Harries 811243 kra.secretary@gmail.com

Membership Stacey Taylor 332031 knollra.membership@gmail.com

Planning Sue Smith 830251 kra.planning@gmail.com

Tree Warden Brian Wilkin 867728 kra.treewarden@gmail.com

Road Warden co ordinator & Road Warden secretary Kay Wilkins 878603

Road Warden secretary Jo Wyton 810622

Road Warden secretary Hilary Robson 825422

Road Warden secretary Simon Wood 871811

Road Warden secretary Dave Thomas 829646

Items for the KRA website to knollnews@gmail.com

Our Spring Newsletter is delivered to all households in our area. Summer and Autumn editions are only delivered to members.



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 Autumn 2017 edition please email to knollnews@gmail.com by Monday 25th September 2017.

Thank you.

Please note that information and activities included in this newsletter and on our website are as received by the KRA. The KRA is not responsible for these items or activities and the inclusion of such activities does not constitute an endorsement of services or information offered.