

Knoll News



Knoll Residents Association Autumn 2019 Newsletter

Welcome to the Autumn 2019 edition of Knoll News

Annual General Meeting

A reminder that the Association's 45th AGM will be held on Tuesday 19th November in the Morton Hall at St John's United Reformed Church at the corner of Mayfield Avenue and Lynwood Grove. Proceedings start at the usual time of 7.45pm. We look forward to welcoming all members on the night.

As usual, the evening will start with a small amount of formal business (see Agenda on back page) but will quickly move on to the most important part of the evening – the chance to hear and question our guest speakers and local Councillors about issues which affect The Knoll and which matter to you. We always try to get interesting and relevant speakers. This year we have:

- Members of our Safer Neighbourhood police team who will provide an update on policing in the area
- Gareth Bacon, the GLA member for Bexley and Bromley, who will provide an update on the Mayor's London plan
- Sharon Baldwin from Orpington 1st. She needs no introduction!
- Jo Johnson MP may also attend subject to Parliamentary commitments and indeed whether he is still our MP at the date of the meeting

We will also have representatives from our local Councillors, who will be on hand in the general question and answer session that follows our guest speakers to answer any questions you may have.

As usual the meeting will conclude with drinks and light refreshments. This gives us all a 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 as will copies of the Association's accounts for the year to 30th September 2019. The Committee and I look forward to meeting as many members as possible at the AGM, so please make a note in your diaries and come along to show your support for your local residents' association.

Urgent need for new committee members

The constitution of the KRA enables the committee to be up to 15 members. Both myself and Sue Smith will be leaving at the forthcoming AGM and David Thomas left earlier this year, which brings the numbers down to just 7. This is not enough for the KRA to function properly. The committee therefore urgently needs new members. In rough terms there are 1,500 residences in The Knoll, 800 of which are in membership covering 1,500 people.

Can just 5 people come forward and join the committee. Please complete the nomination form on page 4 of this newsletter and come forward to support your community. See **situations vacant** for more details.

WHAT'S ON

Do you want to learn or improve your Spanish?



If you have some knowledge of Spanish and would like the opportunity to practice and further your conversational skills in particular, why not join a course at St John's.

Spaces are available on the following classes:

Thursday 11-12:30 am

Wednesday 8-9:30pm.

For more information please contact:

Phone: 07504 086443

Email: dpetronsdospanish@gmail.com

Petts Wood and Knoll Ward Safer Neighbourhood Panel



Safer Neighbourhoods is an initiative introduced by the Metropolitan Police in 2004 to tackle the low-level types of crime that have a high impact on local communities. Each of the 22 wards in the London Borough of Bromley have a dedicated neighbourhood team. They work with local authorities, community leaders and residents to decide policing priorities for the area. A panel of community leaders and residents meet with the team on a regular basis. The KRA committee has a representative at each panel meeting, usually Brian Wilkin.

The local team have three stated priorities

1. The reduction in violent crime. This is achieved by regular visits to public houses around the Petts Wood area as well as weapons sweeps
2. Safeguarding, by offering reassurance patrols to victims of burglaries and elderly victims of doorstep crimes, whilst offering crime prevention advice
3. Target and frustrate drug use and dealing, & anti-social behaviour around the Queensway area of Petts Wood

The most recent panel meeting was at the beginning of August. The main points from that meeting were as follows

- Last year the Bromley and Croydon and Sutton police authorities were merged. This did cause some concern that resources would be transferred to Croydon which is perceived as a higher crime area than Bromley. In practice this concern has proven unfounded.
- Crime figures showed that reported crime in The Knoll continues to be low, most criminal activity in the ward being in Petts Wood. The panel has a website where the monthly crime figures are reported. Please see <https://www.met.police.uk/a/your-area/met/bromley/petts-wood-and-knoll/?introducingyoursaferneighbourhoodsteam>
- You will be pleased to know that the policing team is complete and is made up of PS Paul Brewer, PC James Baldwin, PC Taj Mahill and PCSO Colin Bisset. Anyone attending the KRA AGM in recent years will have seen all or some of this team

WEA IN THE NEW YEAR

The WEA, a charity, is the largest provider of adult education in the country. A varied and interesting programme of courses will be starting again at local venues in January 2020.

- **History: Russia from Peter the Great to Stalin 1682-1953**
- **Art Practical: Introduction to Painting in Watercolour**
- **Art Appreciation: Masterpieces in Art**
- **Creative Writing**
- **History: 10 Political Classics that Changed the World**

Further details and costs are available from the local Petts Wood & Orpington Branch

haynes.martine@googlemail.com or Penny Stewart on 01689 827420

Please note, pre-enrolment with the WEA is essential for these courses, either online at wea.org.uk or by telephone on 0300 303 3464.

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

- 1 February 2020 The Horniman Family: Tea & Good Works**
- 7 March 2020 Artists in Montmartre in the 1890's**
- 28 March 2020 Fanny Burney: Novelist, Courtier & Exile**

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.

Enrol directly with the WEA (see online address and telephone number above) or contact the local Branch

Yvonne Tapper at yvonne_tapper@hotmail.com or 01689 877372

Changes to ward boundaries - Since the last Knoll News



We reported that the boundary commission is reviewing ward boundaries in the LB Bromley. The review will propose the total number of Councillors elected to the Council in the future, the number of wards in the Borough, the number of Councillors to represent each ward, the names of the wards and mostly importantly the ward boundaries. A consultation process ended on 2 September. We can advise members that we asked for The Knoll part of the Petts Wood and Knoll ward to be included with Orpington, as it was until the last boundary review in 1999. The reasons cited were as follows

- We are part of Orpington and not part of Petts Wood. Even the part of The Knoll that is nearest to Petts Wood is nearer to Orpington High Street than the centre of Petts Wood
- We have two sets of councillors dealing with one distinct area via The Knoll
- Similarly, we have two Safer Neighbourhood police teams looking after The Knoll

Draft recommendations will be published in October and we can report back after then.

Meeting with the councillors

We would like to thank Councillors Tony Owen and Keith Onslow (representing the Petts Wood and Knoll ward) and Kim Botting and William Huntington Thresher (representing the Orpington ward) who met with the committee on Monday 3rd July.

Several issues were raised, and information provided, some of which was reported in the Summer Knoll news. The issue of dangerous cyclists and motorcyclists in the roads and on pavements was raised again by residents. Kim Botting undertook to progress this with our Safer Neighbourhood team and will report back.



Road Wardens

We say goodbye and a thank you Richard Parrat who has been the road warden for Wiltshire and Devonshire Roads for a few years.

We therefore now have vacancies for these roads plus those listed below which have been vacant for some time.

Tower Road 4-26 & 9-27

White Hart Road

Eastcote

Mayfield Road 51-123

Sequoia Gardens

Vinson Close

For White Hart Road please contact Simon Wood. For Eastcote, Mayfield Avenue, Sequoia Gardens and Vinson Close please contact Kay Wilkins. Vinson Close is a long road so it would be ideal if two or three residents came forward.

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.

KRA Committee and Chair

The member on the committee who deals with planning, Sue Smith will not be standing again for re-election at the AGM. We would like to thank her for her sterling work over a number of years serving on the committee. I am still planning to step down from the committee after the AGM. **We therefore urgently need new recruits.** If anyone is interested, please contact me or any member of the committee. See contact us on page 5.

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 or scanned and emailed to kra.secretary@gmail.com by Sunday 17th November 2019. The new Committee, once elected, will appoint the officers of Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.

Nomnee.....
(name & address)

Nominated by.....
(name & address)

Seconded by.....
(name & address)

Nominee's signature.....

Date.....

Agenda for the 45th Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 19th November 2019



The Meeting commences at **7.45pm** 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 44th 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 slip on previous page)
- 4) Treasurer's report and the Association's accounts to 30th September 2019 (copies of the accounts will be made available at the meeting)
- 5) Guest speakers
- 6) 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.

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 Anne Dungan 820987 knollra.membership@gmail.com
Planning Sue Smith 830251 kra.planning@gmail.com
Tree Warden Brian Wilkin 836728 kra.treewarden@gmail.com
Road Warden co-ordinator & Road Warden secretary Kay Wilkins 878603
Road Warden secretary Hilary Robson 825422
Road Warden secretary Simon Wood 871811
Road Warden secretary Christabel Drakes 832632
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. 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 Summer 2019 edition please email knollnews@gmail.com by Monday 9 March 2020.

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