



NEWSLETTER

3/95

June 1995

EDITORIAL

Unfortunately this Newsletter begins on a sad note.

Bill Jamieson our Planning Officer for Bromley, who had not enjoyed good health for the past-few years, died in Bromley hospital over the weekend 20/21 May. Bill of course was an early member of the Society and volunteered to keep a watching brief on planning applications that could affect our patch and to take a lead in opposing them when it was appropriate to do so. Although he was trained and practiced as an architect, he was the first to admit that he learnt a lot from his involvement in planning issues. Indeed it was his diligence in researching the background and practice of planning guidance that led to an ever increasing effectiveness in planning matters. An effectiveness that he was more than happy to use for and share with the Society. Perhaps this was exemplified by his diligence and persistence in preparing for and presenting the arguments against the extension at Christ Church, which culminated in a most carefully crafted model of the site and buildings. This was accepted by all parties as a true representation of the proposals.

Quite apart from his substantial contribution in time, effort and judgement to the Society he had a dry even puckish sense of humour and a deep personal integrity. Your Chairman and Secretary have written to his family expressing condolences on behalf of the Society and I am sure all of our members would wish to be associated with that letter.

I expect that if Bill were to read the above he would be quietly pleased but also slightly embarrassed and would say something like "That's enough of me, get on with the Newsletter" so I will.

There are two main issues in this Newsletter. The first is an update on the Channel Tunnel rail traffic. The second is a questionnaire on your usage, needs and aspirations for Beckenham Place Park. I make no apologies for those items as both in their different ways can materially affect the quality of life in our area.

Dates for the Diary

Thursday	6th July. Members Meeting,	Bromley Court Hotel. 8pm, Shakespeare 4 room.
Thursday	7th Sept. Members Meeting,	Bromley Court Hotel. 8pm, room to be advised.

Peter Pain (Editor)

CHANNEL TUNNEL TRAINS

Train Noise at Track Joints, Points and Crossings: The sudden impact of trains going over breaks in the track causes a local increase in noise. The extent of this noise depends on the design of the points, the state of wear of the track and the wheels. Studies of this noise indicate that it generates an increase in sound level of around two and a half decibels. British Rail have now agreed that the effect of track joints and points can be taken into account when assessing the noise impact for the barrier scheme in Bromley. It is expected that this could result in an extension of the barrier near Bickley junction and a new section of barrier near Shortlands junction. Further details are awaited.

Compensation: There are differing views on the appropriateness of the 1973 Land Compensation Act. One significant statement was made by Roger Freeman when he was Minister for Public Transport. "British Rail and the Department of Transport acknowledge that under section 9 (1) (b) of the Land Compensation Act 1973 it is open to individuals who believe that they are affected to apply for compensation".

Bromley Council has therefore joined together with other Local Authorities to pursue a test case under that Act. The track owners Railtrack, have prepared a householders guide to Noise and Vibration. It sets out Railtrack's stance on the Land Compensation Act and copies are available from Railtrack, 0171-344 7100 and from Bromley Council offices (Borough Engineers Dept.) Bromley's advice to residents who are considering making a claim under the Act is to seek legal advice or contact a compensation consultant. Any decision to pursue a claim is clearly a matter of personal discretion. To date the Council has had contact with two companies who deal with compensation they are :

Guest Burgess
The Old Town Hall
King George St, Yeovil
Somerset, BA20 1PT
Tel: Yeovil - (01935) 33112

and

Howard Sharp & Partners with Ibbott Mosely
125 High Street
Sevenoaks
Kent, TW13 1UT
Tel: Sevenoaks - (01732) 45688

BECKENHAM PLACE PARK

As you know we have a representative on both the main Lewisham Working Party and the Management Plan Sub-Group. in view of the leading role we took up to and during the Inquiry, it is more than appropriate that our voice should be heard in any deliberations about the Park. However that voice must be more than just the opinion of your officers or the representative.

To try to get a feel for the views of the membership at large we have compiled a questionnaire which when analysed should ensure that your - the members - views are reflected.

Questions 1,2 & 3 should give us some base information with which to argue.

Question 4 should help clarify which areas are most popular and could help counterbalance various subjective impressions which if stated firmly and loudly by some people may be mistaken for objective facts.

Questions 5 & 6 are related because although the Management Plan has to cater for all tastes and needs, it gives the opportunity to shift past emphasis. So we need to know the things that people like and dislike about the Park.

Question 7 is perhaps the most important because the Management Plan will create the chance to progressively steer the management of the Park in the direction that the majority of users want.

Question 8 is at present hypothetical. There are no current plans for dealing with the problems listed by volunteer labour. However, such an approach may be necessary due to limited public finance and may be proposed by any future "Friends of the Park". We need to know whether such an approach would receive support from our members.

The Pavilion: Following vandals setting fire to the pavilion it had to be demolished. The insurance was for rebuilding costs and Lewisham has submitted, for approval, plans for a replacement which will include changing rooms, a store and a club room. The question remains however, what do local people want to see happen in the future on Summerhouse field. If you have any views please include them in your response to the questionnaire.

R.V.P.S. Officers

(April 1995)

Chairman	Peter Pain, 74 Madeira Avenue
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Road Representatives:

✕ Bromley Ave / Karen Ct. Grassmere / Highlands Rds	Leslie Tucker, 5 Bromley Avenue
Coniston Road / Ullswater & Hawkshead Closes	Margaret Payne, 68 Coniston Road
Downs Hill / Crab Hill	Barbara Brown, 34 Downs Hill
Elstree Hill / Hillbrow	Daphne Robeson, 2 Lynton Court, London Rd
✕ Farnaby Rd (1-108)	Audrey Byrford, 90 Farnaby Road
Farnaby Rd (109 +)	Maureen Johnson, 69 Farnaby Road
✕ Madeira Avenue	Ray Terrett, 70 Madeira Avenue
Oaklands / Spencer Rds	Joyce Varney, 1 Lavinia Court, Oaklands Rd
Ravensbourne Ave (evens)	Ann Rowswell, 164 Ravensbourne Avenue
Ravensbourne Ave (odds)	Ann Huntley, 155 Ravensbourne Avenue
Ravensmead Rd	Key Lincoln, 12 Ravensmead Road
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