

April 2022  
Issue 2



Welcome to our latest newsletter. If you are reading a printed copy and wish to follow the underlined web links you will have to download the PDF from our website download page.

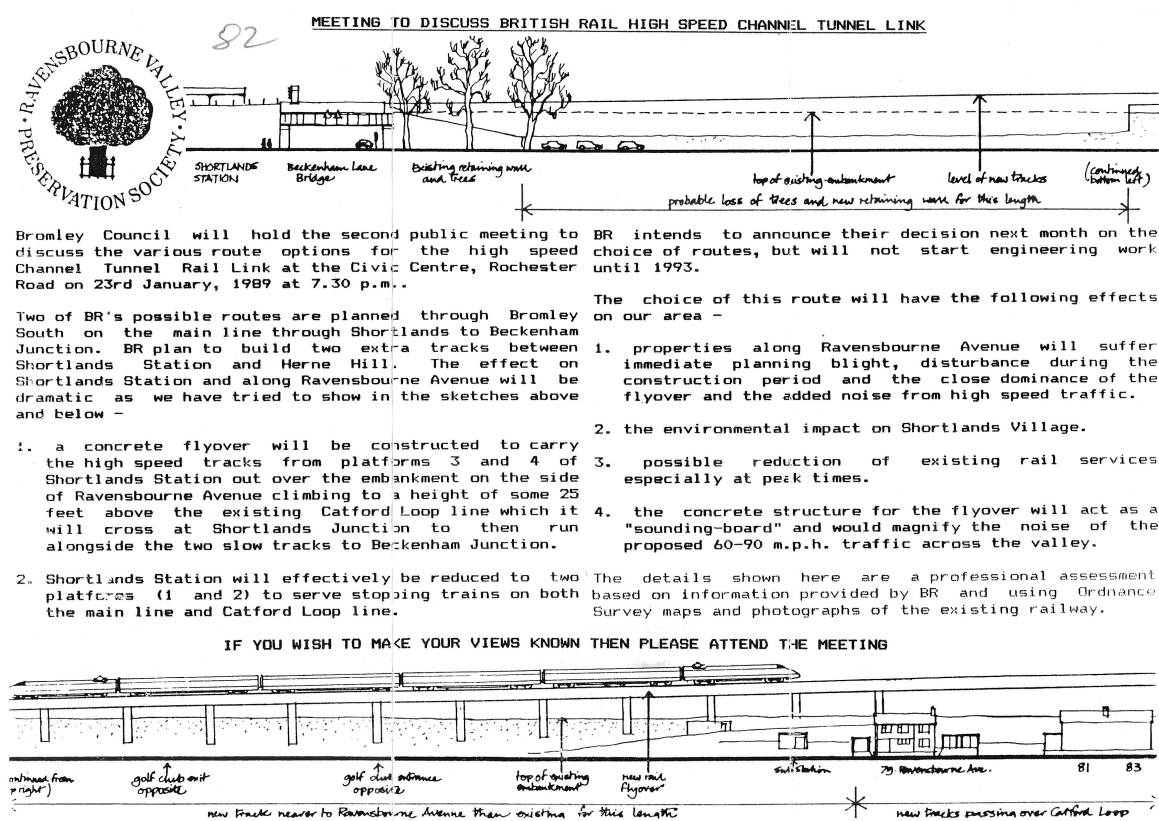
## RVR Society News

In recent weeks, the project to scan and upload historical copies of our newsletters and documents relating to the founding of the society has been completed. You can download any of them from the download section of our website [here](#). If you do not know the Login and Password, please email the secretary at [secretary.rvr@outlook.com](mailto:secretary.rvr@outlook.com) and she will supply them.

You may be particularly interested in three stories that span a number of historical newsletters due to the significant involvement of Ravensbourne Valley Preservation Society (our former name):

1. The protracted planning and implementation of the proposals for the British Rail High Speed Channel Tunnel Link. The initial proposal, very fortunately abandoned, was to build a rail flyover above Shortlands Station. The final solution was the box tunnel built in 2001 - 2003.

See Issues 1(a, b and c) and 4/1989, 1, 3 and 6/1990, 4 and 5/1991, 4/1992, 4/1993, 4 and 5/1994, 3/1995, 3, 4 and 5/2000, 3 and 4/2001, 2, 4 and 5/2002, 2/2003.



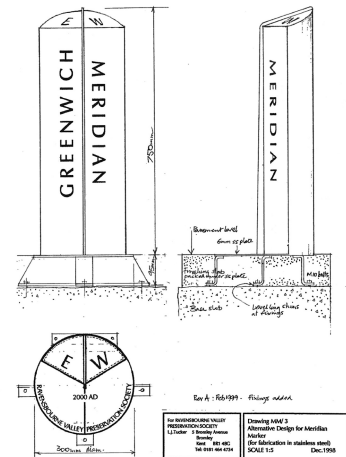
RVPS members attended this meeting and, along with many others, objected strongly to the proposal. It was abandoned in part because of the strength of the objections but also because it became evident that BR could not afford to build it!

## RVR Society News (Cont'd)

2. The rejected proposals to privatise the management of Beckenham Place Park and allow David Lloyd Clubs to build additional sports facilities. See issues 3, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e and 4/1992, 2, 3, 4 and 6/1993, 3, 4 and 5/1994.

Since those applications were rejected, discussions about the future of the park including the successful proposal to apply for Lottery funding, have featured in nearly every issue.

3. The planning, commissioning and installation of the Meridian Markers in Farnaby Road, sponsored by RVPS to mark the Millenium. See issues 5/1996, 3/1998, 5/1998, 3/1999, 4/1999, 6/1999, 2/2000, 3/2000 and 5/2000.



## Covid Update

### Spring Boosters (4<sup>th</sup> vaccination)

A Spring booster of the coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine is being offered to:

- People aged 75 years old and over;
- People aged 12 and over who have a weakened immune system.

This is a fourth vaccination after the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and booster doses. It is best to wait 6 months after your previous dose before getting your spring booster, to get the best protection. If you've tested positive for COVID-19, you need to wait 4 weeks from the date you had symptoms or the date of the positive test if you did not have any symptoms.

You will probably be contacted by the NHS telling you to get a spring booster. If you have a letter or text message bring it with you to the walk-in vaccination site. If you think you are eligible but do not have a letter or text, someone at the site with clinical training will talk to you to help make sure it's the right time for you to get your spring booster.

Full details of the conditions are on the NHS website [here](#).

Two vaccination centres near the RVR area are:

Peters Chemist, 15 Bromley Road, Beckenham, BR3 5NT

Blackwells Chemist, 245 Croydon Road, Beckenham, BR3 3PS

You can either book an appointment online or go as a 'walk-in'. If it is busy priority is given to appointments.

Searching "grab-a-jab" online will lead you to: finding details about the NHS vaccination sites (which are mainly in Pharmacies now); finding which vaccines are available i.e. Pfizer, Moderna; and choosing whether to book an appointment or walk-in.

## Environment

### Street Friends (formerly Tree Friends)

Towards the end of our Street Friends group session on 5th April, Big Sam (Noulton) from Veolia unexpectedly turned up with his van, picked up 3 purple sacks of litter that we had been collecting during our session and then posed for photos. A great example of collaboration and friendliness to improve the streets in our curtilage. Subsequently Sam's manager has sent thanks to RVR for the hard work they promise does not go unnoticed and now it looks like we will have a mention in the next edition of Environment Matters, Bromley's biannual Newsletter. It was a great working-together experience between Veolia and RVR street friends



At the same session, Judy Adcock and Carole Mullord worked on one of the Farnaby Road tree pits with impressive results.





## Environment (continued)

### Street Litter— Help to reduce it

#### Nets for recycling boxes

In July 2019 RVR ran a community project to reduce street litter on refuse collection day by promoting the use of recycling box nets. The nets help to stop litter caused by wind, foxes and overflowing bins. They are robust and withstand the boxes being stacked and thrown around. Refuse collectors do not object to them.

At our next members' meeting on May 12<sup>th</sup> we will discuss revisiting this project, which if agreed, road reps will deliver in some streets in August when subs are collected and the Round-up newsletter is delivered.

To gauge interest, if you would like 2 FREE recycling box nets, please let the secretary know on [secretary.rvr@outlook.com](mailto:secretary.rvr@outlook.com)



### Ravensbourne River

Since the part of the river at the Farnaby road underpass was cleared of vegetation and dredged last Autumn, a significant amount of gravel has built up.

In January, an environment agency officer and a surveyor met onsite to discuss what could be done. Their suspicion is that the build up is coming either from erosion of the upstream golf course banks or from Glassmill Pond. As long as the gravel keeps shifting around and moving downstream, it is considered good for the river ecology and shouldn't become a flood risk but if finer material starts to infill and vegetation takes hold more gravel will accumulate and stabilise. The environment agency have promised to monitor the site closely and take action if it becomes a problem.



## Planning Applications

### New Applications



**Ethelbert Road / Ringers Road Bromley Town Centre:** A massive 13 storey proposal in Bromley's Ethelbert Road/Ringers Road. Image provided by [@BromleyCivic](#) who will campaign against it. Details [here](#) should you wish to comment or object yourself.

**Rear of Oaklands Court, 6 Oaklands Road:** An application for development at this site was first granted in 2014 and has been revised several times since. A new and somewhat different application was made last September and still awaits a decision. See [here](#).

**Land behind 21 Bromley Avenue (accessed from Madeira Avenue):** RVR object to the proposal. See [here](#).

**Lifts at Shortlands Station:** We strongly support the idea of lifts and want the very best design so that they enhance our area. At the moment the current proposed design is poor and we have objected to it and are calling for an improved appearance which we would support. See [here](#).

**2 Warren Avenue:** Another new planning application at 2 Warren Avenue. This time it is for substantial extensions rather than a rebuild. Please let our planning officer have any thoughts you may have. Comments to the council by 4<sup>th</sup> May. See [here](#).

### Determined Applications

**2 Bromley Avenue:** This application has been refused. Details [here](#).

**76A The Avenue:** This application has been refused and now appealed. Details [here](#).

**8 Madeira Avenue:** Planning permission has been granted for the demolition of the existing house and garage and the erection of 2 three storey five bedroom houses and a single block of replacement garages.

### Enforcements

**The Chalet, Kirkstone Way:** The Council is now pursuing the order to clear this messy site and could issue a Section 215 notice which will enforce a tidy up. Details can be found [here](#).



**61 The Avenue:** Thanks to Bromley Council Officers and Cllr Tickner for attending this site. The Officers agreed to investigate whether the redevelopment of the property has resulted in an encroachment on the carriageway.





## Beckenham Place Park (BPP)



### Regular Events

Homestead Courtyard local makers market—first Saturday of every month. See [here](#).

Weekly Food and Farmers market. Every Sunday 10:00am—3:00pm. See [here](#).

Weekly Street Food Market. Every Thursday 4:00pm—10:00pm.

Many other events and activities take place in the Mansion. There is a schedule [here](#).

### Scheduled Events, 2022

Adventure Open-Air Cinema Festival. 19th—21st August. See [here](#).

BPP flower, art and dog show. 31st July 12:00 noon - 7:00pm. See [here](#).

Krankbrother Naked City Festival. 10th and 11th September. See [here](#).

Krankbrother Hospitality in the Woods. 17th and 18th September. See [here](#).

## Transport News

### Scheduled Railway Closure

Brixton to Beckenham Junction 9-day line closure – Saturday 23 to Sunday 31 July to enable several Km of track to be replaced. Details are on the network rail website [here](#).



## Roads and Traffic

### Recent Activity

- A review of the parking arrangements in Ravensbourne Ave and Crab Hill is due to start this month.
- Albemarle Rd will be returned to two-way traffic throughout. There will be a mini-roundabout at the junction Albemarle Rd/Westgate Rd.
- The consultation on the closure of Park Rd at the junction with Southend Rd has been concluded and will go to the Environment Sub-committee in May. It is expected that Park Rd will then be closed off.
- The new 'school street' is in place on the unmade section of Westgate Rd. Sources have suggested that in due course a mini-roundabout may be installed at the junction Foxgrove Rd/Westgate Rd.
- The junction of Scotts Lane/Bromley Rd/Downs Bridge Rd is now a mini-roundabout and there is a new crossing over Bromley Rd. The new roundabout has engendered mixed opinions in our local nextdoor.co.uk group. See [here](#).
- An update on the situation regarding the Shortlands junction can be expected at some point after the May elections.
- Bromley Living Streets have collated the results of their survey covering Farnaby Road, Ravensmead Rd, Ravensbourne Ave. and Bromley Ave. Almost all respondents (there were 70 responses) indicated that speeding was a significant problem requiring action. Half of them mentioned traffic volumes as a problem and less than half mentioned parking. Almost all respondents were in favour of speed reduction measures of some kind or another.
- A member of the nextdoor.co.uk group reports that he has received 2 speeding tickets on Southend Lane between Dunfield and Bromley Road proving the police are now enforcing the 20mph limit in this area....be aware!!!

### Use of mobile phones while driving

Since 25th March, 2022, the law has changed regarding the use of mobile phones while driving. The meaning of "using" has been expanded to cover the following:

- illuminating the screen;
- checking the time;
- checking notifications;
- unlocking the device;
- making, receiving or rejecting a telephone or internet based call;
- sending, receiving or uploading oral or written content;
- sending, receiving or uploading a photo or video;
- utilising camera, video or sound recording;
- drafting any text;
- accessing any stored data such as documents, books, audio files, photos, videos, films, playlists, notes or messages;
- accessing any app;
- accessing the internet.

## RVR Subscriptions

If you have not yet paid your annual subscription for the year ending June 30th, 2022, either because you were out when your road rep visited or because you have yet to set up your Standing Order payment, please do so as soon as you can.

## Meeting Dates

Forthcoming members' meetings are as follows:-

Thursday 12th May, 2022 - Followed by a short Extraordinary General Meeting to vote on proposed changes to our constitution;

Thursday 7th July, 2022;

Thursday 1st September, 2022.

The meetings will be held at 8pm at Bromley Court Hotel.

## Society Officers and Road Representatives

There have been a number of changes recently. Please note the contact details below. The most up-to-date list can always be viewed on our website [here](#).

### Officers

Chairman	Pete Saunders	chair.rvr@outlook.com
Vice Chairman	Beatrice Osborn	vicechairman.rvr@outlook.com
Secretary	Jacqueline St Quinton	secretary.rvr@outlook.com
Treasurer	Dave Wiltshire	treasurer.rvr@outlook.com
Planning Officer	Clive Lees	planning.rvr@outlook.com
Membership Secretary	Linda Müller	membership.secretary.rvr@outlook.com
Newsletter Editor	Euan McMaster	editor.rvr@outlook.com
Roads and Traffic	Nicholas Ansdell-Evans	roadsandtransport.rvr@outlook.com
Tree Warden	Monica Wiltshire	trees.rvr@outlook.com
LBBR Delegate	Vacant	contact - chair.rvr@outlook.com
BPP Rep	Liz Logan	bpp.rvr@outlook.com
Hon. Legal Advisor	Richard Thomas	contact - chair.rvr@outlook.com
Auditor	Alan Williams	contact - treasurer.rvr@outlook.com

### Road Representatives

Bracken Hill Lane and Close / Highland Road  
Bromley Ave / Grasmere Rd  
Calmont & Ashgrove Roads / Belgravia Gardens  
Coniston Road / Ullswater Close  
Downs Hill / Crab Hill  
Elstree Hill / Erin Close / Hillbrow Road  
Farnaby Road (1-81)  
Farnaby Road (82-194)  
Madeira Avenue (Evens)  
Madeira Avenue (Odds)  
Oaklands Road / Spencer Road / Hawkshead Close /  
Lullington Garth  
Ravensbourne Ave. (Evens)  
Ravensbourne Ave. (Odds)  
Ravensmead Road  
Warren Avenue

Linda Müller  
Jane Willcocks  
Rita Smith  
Sandra West  
Wendy Watmore  
Mick Pinson  
Jaki Moody  
Cathy Davies  
Judy Adcock  
Anne Lancaster

David Page  
Monica Wiltshire  
David MacKenzie  
Peter Saunders  
Clive Lees

If you wish to contact your representative  
please email the RVR Secretary or write to:

RVR Secretary  
35 Downs Hill  
Beckenham  
BR3 5ET