

August 2025

Issue 3



Welcome to our latest newsletter, the third of 2025. If you are reading a printed copy and wish to follow the web links you will can download the PDF from our website download page.

Bromley Updates

Churchill Theatre

Bromley Council has exchanged contracts with Galliard Group in an agreement allowing shows and other theatrical performances to continue in the heart of Bromley Town centre at the much-loved Churchill Theatre, securing the long-term future of the theatre for the next generation.

The news follows earlier confirmation that an offer had been accepted for the Churchill Theatre after extensive discussions with the theatre's current operators, Trafalgar Theatres (the theatre division of global live entertainment business, Trafalgar Entertainment) .

Former Bromley Civic Centre sold to developer for £13 million



Indicative sketch of the proposed develop

Galliard, the new owners of the old Civic Centre site, approached Bromley's Planning Committee on 26th June asking approval for the redevelopment of two of the old office blocks (North Block and Stockwell) to be processed under a fast track procedure known as permitted development.

The Committee refused permission and expressed a view that they would welcome a full planning application which would give residents and councillors an opportunity to properly examine the plans including key details missing from the prior approval application and look forward to working with Galliard to develop this important site.

Further details about the redevelopment can be viewed at the following link: [CivicCentreDev](#)

Help Shape Next Local Plan for Bromley

Councillors are encouraging residents, businesses and local groups across the borough to take part in Bromley Council's latest consultation for its new Local Plan.

You can view details at the following link [BromleyPlan](#) which contains a link to the Direction of Travel document and provides the opportunity to respond to the consultation by 26th September.

Shortlands Updates

Forecourt Planters and Benches



Recently installed are three of the four new benches and four of the five new planters originally planned. As of 12th August, the planters await the flowers promised by Idverde, the council's soft landscaping contractor, who have confirmed a specification that will remain colourful for 10 months with suitable watering twice a week in summer and whenever necessary in winter during prolonged dry spells.

Shortlands Station Communal Garden

Dee Janes has been refurbishing the garden in front and side of the ground level lift which she created from scratch some three years ago and is now recreating following the devastation of her original work by the erection of the lifts. Because the soil has been bulldozed and now full of granite fragments and unplatable, she has created/is creating planters. One is already looking splendidly green and blooming. Dee has planted small trees on the perimeter, and is creating a path for wheelchairs and a play area for children. There are already benches donated by the golf club and a donated playhouse. The mural is about to be extended. The whole venture is funded by Dee's efforts plus one local gentleman has donated a bench and tree in memory of his recently deceased wife.

RVR and Shortlands Residents Association (SRA) have both agreed to donate £200 towards the project. To ensure that the garden will be maintained after she retires towards the end of this year, Dee and her committee are hoping to create a team of volunteers drawn from local people. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Dee in the ticket office.

Shortlands, the small cafe beside the station, has launched a Gofundme page to enable the wider public to donate to this project



Shortlands Updates

Shortlands Village Litter Picking Event



Some of the many volunteers who turned out to join the litter picking event in May, led by the then Mayor, David Jefferys, and some of our Councillors. The event was publicised to both SRA and RVR and the resulting attendance from both associations was heartening.

Approximately 40 bags of rubbish were returned to Shortlands Station yard from where they were collected by Veolia.

An impromptu social gathering took place at the Shotlands café in the yard afterwards.

Beckenham Updates

Kelsey Park South End Bridge Project

The initial phase of design work for the replacement bridge at Kelsey Park is now complete. The latter part of this design phase focused on finalising the technical details needed to safely reuse the existing bridge abutments, helping to keep the project within budget.

Unfortunately, the additional design work has led to a slight delay in the original envisaged programme, but it has enabled the Council to avoid the significant costs associated with constructing new abutments, without compromising the structural integrity of the bridge.



Land and Water, the contractor who successfully completed the desilting work in March 2025, has been appointed to carry out the permanent works design, and the bridge construction. On-site works are scheduled to begin in autumn 2025 and it is anticipated that the works will be completed by early 2026.

There is currently no plan to replace the bridge at the north end of the park, near the information centre.

Further information is on Bromley Council website at the following link: [Kelsey-park-bridge-plan](#)

Real Access Makes Progress (R.A.M.P.) Initiative

Can you imagine what it's like to smell the coffee but not be able to buy one?



R.A.M.P Beckenham is a Community Group of local residents who believe in and aim to promote *equal and easy access* to all venues in local High Streets.

Starting in Beckenham High Street, we surveyed the 'accessibility' of all commercial properties and found that approximately 50% of shops, offices, cafes and restaurants were accessible via level access, permanent ramps or ramp-on-request.

This was a positive start but we realised there was still much to do.

With this in mind, R.A.M.P Beckenham developed a scheme, offering accessible venues double-sided, vinyl, shop front window stickers.



It is anticipated that this will enhance trade for these businesses, whilst also encouraging those who aren't yet accessible, to invest in *equal and easy access*.

Many thanks to RVR members for supporting R.A.M.P. both financially and personally.



For further information please contact Sharon:

sharonrampbeckenham@gmail.com

Parks News

BPP Lottery Grant



London Borough of Lewisham has secured an £840,000 grant to help make our green spaces more accessible and inclusive for everyone.

This funding will support improvements like clearer signage, better pathways, and more inclusive areas, making it easier for all residents to enjoy the outdoors, no matter their age or ability.

For news of the improvement works on the east side and for information on events in the park, click on the following link: [BPP-Link](#) See also further news at BPP Facebook Page: [FBLink](#)

Green Flag Awards

Three local parks, Kelsey Park in Beckenham, Cator Park in Penge and South Hill Woods in Shortlands, have recently won prestigious Green Flag awards in recognition of high standards and maintenance of green spaces.

For further details click the following link: [Green-Flag](#)



Beckenham Place Park is also a winner of the award and is nominated as a Green Heritage Site. See the following link for details: [BPP-Green-Awards](#)

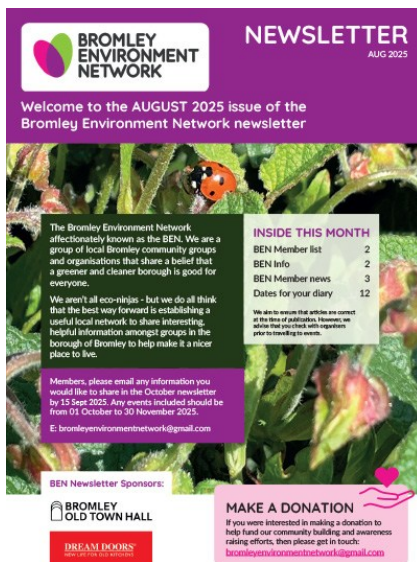
Roads and Transport

Imminent Traffic Restrictions

Traffic restrictions are set to affect multiple roads in our area due to maintenance work commencing this month. The list of roads and the nature of the restrictions can be viewed at this link: [roadworks](#)

Bromley Environment Network (BEN)

The August BEN newsletter is online. Download a copy from this link: [BEN-Aug-newsletter](#)



Beckenham Repair Cafe turns one. Approximately 250 items have been repaired at the 7 Repair Cafes that have taken place at the Kingsway Church in Beckenham during this last year. Well done to James Tinker and his team for this amazing achievement in saving so many items from landfill and also saving the local community money by not having to replace those items. We would like to thank the Kingsway Church Community for their unwavering support in providing us with a venue to host this Repair Cafe and keeping the Repairers sustained with drinks, sandwiches & cakes while they work their magic. The next Beckenham Repair Cafe is on Saturday 27th September 10am-1pm. We have a number of Repair Cafes across the Borough of Bromley so if you are interested in becoming a repairer email repair@greenerandcleaner.co.uk for info.

Crime and Security

Scams

A scam relating to parcel delivery has had frequent reports recently: it revolves around the receipt of a message purporting to come from a delivery company, advising that insufficient postage has been paid and seeking the payment of a very nominal sum, perhaps only 23p. If payment is made, however, the individual will very quickly receive a phone call, on this occasion purporting to come from their bank, enquiring whether they have just made a 23p payment and advising that this is a scam.

Having got the trust of the person by highlighting this scam, the “bank” official will then seek to go through security with the individual. But underlying this is the intent to obtain the individual’s PIN number/security details. TAKE NOTE - banks will never seek such specific information from you. End the call immediately and, if you have any further concerns, contact your bank.

MET Engage

MET ENGAGE Community crime-fighting If you haven’t already signed up I suggest you do so at:
metengage.co.uk

You will receive updates on local issues and will be able to express your own views on the area and your priorities for local policing.

Local Crime Update

Shortlands Residents’ Association (SRA) posts bi-monthly reports on their website. You can view them in the “Law and Order” section of their webpage by following this link: [SRA-Crime-Reports](#)

FREE Adult Education



Free Employability Training & Coaching Programme

*Need help finding a job?
Are you looking to enhance your job search skills?
Do you need help applying for and securing a job?*

Learn the skills needed to improve your job prospects; register your interest for a Prepare for Work programme.

SCAN HERE!

Contact us to find out more or scan the QR code!

Bromley Adult Education College
Kentwood Centre, Kingsdale Road, SE20 7PR
020 8659 7976 www.baec.ac.uk - enquiries@baec.ac.uk

Ofsted Approved
matrix
MAYOR OF LONDON
Education & Skills Funding Agency
Bromley

www.baec.ac.uk

BAEC (Borough Adult Education College <https://baec.ac.uk/>) has recently launched a series of free employment programmes designed to support unemployed residents in our borough.

These courses aim to boost confidence, build essential employability skills, and connect learners with real job opportunities.

What’s on Offer:

- Free training in key employment skills
- CV writing and interview preparation
- Support with job applications
- Flexible learning options to suit different schedules
- Pathways to employment through local employer partnerships

Click on the BAEC link above to find information about these, and other, courses

Planning

Recent Updates

Since the last newsletter, updates have been posted to our website relating to the following sites:

[101 Farnaby Road](#)
[Matilda House, Hillbrow Road](#)
[Millwall Football Club, Calmont Road](#) *
[79 Coniston Road](#)
[64 Warren Avenue](#)
[Hillary Mount](#)
[119 Coniston Road](#)
[5 Chart Close](#)
[20 Ravensbourne Avenue](#)
[Shortlands Tavern](#)
[64 Warren Avenue](#)

Clicking on any of the properties on the left will take you to our website where you can see details of the application

* The picture below shows the buildings that breach a planning condition (outlined in green) and those that have been constructed without authorisation (outlined in red).



The Royal Bell to reopen as boutique hotel and members' club



The Royal Bell in Bromley, a Grade II-listed building, will reopen this autumn as a boutique hotel, dining and entertainment destination, private members' club, and co-working space.

Further details can be viewed in the News Shopper article at the following link: [Royal-Bell-Plans](#)

Meeting Dates

Members' meetings are held on the first Thursday, every other month, at 7:30pm, usually at Shortlands Golf Club. Members and prospective members are welcome. The meetings normally last between 1^{1/2} and 2 hours, with socialising afterwards, and focus on local community and planning issues, the latter normally illustrated by a slide show. There is usually at least one local councillor present to answer questions and log concerns. The bar is open during and after the meetings.

If you are registered for email delivery, you will receive minutes of completed meetings, agendas for forthcoming meetings and quarterly newsletters.

Forthcoming meetings, are as follows:-

Extraordinary General Meeting : **4th September at Bromley United Services Club, 33 London Rd.**

Members' Meeting: 6th November at 7:30 pm at Shortlands Golf Club.

Don't forget that we post, on X (formerly Twitter), items that we believe to be relevant, interesting – and sometimes urgent, such as burst water mains and traffic problems. The link is on the right to view our posts and feel free to post items yourself if you have some news or information of interest to our members.

X Link: <https://x.com/RVResidents>



Current Officers

Chair	Margaret Brearley	chair.rvr@outlook.com
Vice Chair	Vacant	vicechairman.rvr@outlook.com
Secretary	Jacqueline St Quinton	secretary.rvr@outlook.com
Treasurer	Sharon Richardson	treasurer.rvr@outlook.com
Membership Secretary	Alastair Holmes	membership.secretary.rvr@outlook.com
Planning Officer	Clive Lees	planning.rvr@outlook.com
Newsletter Editor	Euan McMaster	editor.rvr@outlook.com
Webmaster	Vacant	webmaster.rvr@outlook.com
Roads and Traffic	Andrew Lancaster	roadsandtransport.rvr@outlook.com
Street Friends Coordinator	Nigel Foster	trees.rvr@outlook.com
LBBR Delegate	Beatrice Osborn	lbbfrep.rvr@outlook.com
BPP Rep	Vacant - Liz Logan acting	bpp.rvr@outlook.com
Hon. Legal Advisor	Richard Thomas	
Auditor	Jayne Nickalls	

Road Representatives

Bracken Hill Lane and Close / Highland Road	Vanessa Redhouse
Bromley Ave / Grasmere Rd	Philip Wolfson
Calmont & Ashgrove Roads / Belgravia Gardens	Rita Smith
Coniston Road / Ullswater Close	Jane Doherty
Crab Hill / Foxgrove Road / The Avenue	Gonul Hussein
Elstree Hill / Erin Close / Hillbrow Road	Nicki Martin
Farnaby Road (1–81)	Jaki Moody
Farnaby Road (82–194)	Rosamond Eele
Madeira Avenue (Evens)	Judy Adcock
Madeira Avenue (Odds)	Anne Lancaster
Oaklands Road / Spencer Road / Hawkshead Close /	
Lullington Garth	Stephen Edwards
Ravensbourne Ave. (Evens)	Monica Wiltshire
Ravensbourne Ave. (Odds)	David MacKenzie
Ravensmead Road	Peter Saunders
Warren Avenue	Clive Lees
Downs Hill / Downs Bridge Road	Hadyn Davies

If you wish to contact your road rep.
please email or write to
the RVR Secretary :
secretary.rvr@outlook.com

Or

RVR Secretary
35 Downs Hill
Beckenham
BR3 5ET