

May, 2019
Issue 2/2019



Editor's Update

I intend to regularise the dates of the newsletter issues. From next year I propose to issue four newsletters dated January, April, July and October. (The remaining three this year will be May, August and November.) If anyone has comments on this schedule please send them to me.

Following our name change, we will also be changing our website address and email addresses. Please keep an eye on subsequent editions for details. Thanks to Leslie Tucker for the final design of our new logo. We may in future add a tag line and will discuss what it should be at our next members' meeting.

Chairman's Remarks

In case you missed it, the Society has changed its name to Ravensbourne Valley Residents, following a majority decision at the AGM. The feeling was that the word 'Preservation' suggested that we looked after historic monuments whereas our activities are much more about improving and maintaining our community and environment.

In this newsletter, we are especially looking to assist our members to enhance, improve and protect our community and environment. With [Greta Thunberg](#) and her climate concerns in mind we particularly want to involve younger people and support them in creating the world they want to live in. Do please pass this newsletter on to any young people in your household. We particularly want to hear about how they want to improve the environment and how we might support them.

If you missed it, the AGM was a treat. The Big Band of St Dunstan's entertained us with a very impressive set and will surely be back again by popular demand. We are grateful for the Bromley Court Hotel for their continuing generosity in providing a venue for us and supporting us generally.

Community Issues

Street Friends

Thank you to all our registered Street Friends for doing a great job. We would love to co-ordinate the activities of the society with you, but we don't necessarily know who you are!

Do please get in touch with us so that we can, together, improve our community. Contact Chairman.rvps@outlook.com.

Nets for recycling boxes

RVR is embarking on a community project to reduce litter on refuse collection days by encouraging the use of nets on recycling boxes. The nets are tied on to the recycling box, easily lifted with two red tapes, robust and easily extend when boxes are over-filled. They stop litter blowing around and foxes creating a mess. Some people have lids for their boxes so the nets are superfluous; Lewisham residents have lidded bins not boxes; and many people are using non-standard boxes. We will make a decision whether or not to extend the scope of the project at the next RVR meeting on July 4th when we will seek approval from members to spend between £200-£700 on the project to buy the nets. If this is granted, road reps will deliver the nets and explain their use at subs collection time.



Members in Bromley Council area can order new green and black boxes, free of charge, from <https://www.bromley.gov.uk/RequestContainers> and those in Lewisham can order from: <https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/wasterecycle/your-bins/order-a-bin>

Planning Issues

Further information and, in some cases, the history of the following applications can be found on our website by clicking on the title. Thanks go to our planning officer and webmaster for tracking the applications in our area.

NEW APPLICATIONS

[9 Farnaby Road](#)

The application has been approved for the conversion of a semi-detached house to three self-contained 2 bedroom flats together with a lower ground and ground floor rear extension, front porch extension and lightwell.

[The Chalet, Kirkstone Way](#)

Proposed plans and a design and access statement are available on the planning application for the demolition of the existing building and erection of two semi-detached houses.

UPDATES

[Trees, Coniston Road](#)

The refusal of the planning application, ref. No. [18/02909/FULL1](#), for the demolition of the existing house and erection of a three storey terrace of 5 dwellings at Trees, Coniston Road, Bromley BR1 4JB, was appealed but the appeal has been dismissed.

[5 Madeira Avenue](#)

The refusal of the application for part first floor/part two storey side extension, loft conversion with rear dormer, associated decking/steps to rear and detached garage to side has been appealed.

[24 Downs Hill](#)

Further conditions were submitted in relation to planning permission ref. [17/00812/FULL1](#) – Condition 5: Parking and turning spaces.

[50 Ashgrove Road](#)

A further planning application has been submitted that relates to this long running saga.

[18 Hillbrow Road](#)

An application has been made for the construction of a first floor extension and the conversion of the existing 3-bedroom bungalow to provide 2 x 3-bedroom self-contained units, together with alterations to the front forecourt, and the provision of cycle and refuse storage.

[Foxgrove Road / Southend Road / Park Road](#)

There are proposals for a mini-roundabout at the junction of Foxgrove Road; Park Road; Southend Road; and Beckenham Place Park. Park Road would need to be closed at this junction.

Bromley Community Streets Launch Day

Bromley Council have been successful in their Shortlands, Ravensbourne and Bromley Better Villages (SRBBV) Liveable Neighbourhood bid which will enable the project to move on to the more detailed design stage. The object of the project is to improve Shortlands Village and the immediate area, particularly with regard to traffic.

This is a very exciting opportunity for the area. To celebrate and launch the project with residents and stakeholders they are holding a launch event on **Sunday 2nd June, 11 am - 4 pm** on Station Road, Shortlands.

The event will involve Station Road (Shortlands) being closed for the day and the street being transformed into an event space for play, cycling and walking activities, project information and socialising. Sustrans have been asked by the Council to coordinate this event in partnership with the Borough.



Community Projects

Trees and Tree Friends

Do please start watering trees again – and if you can feed them too that would be even better! We are delighted with our tree planting projects and really appreciate your help.

As a result of one of our earlier Tree Friends' projects we had a fine show of daffodils in the triangle at the corner of Downs Hill and Ravensbourne Avenue.



Adopt a Tree Pit

RVR tree friends have initiated a scheme to invite residents to adopt a tree pit. To encourage this and make the task less onerous we have met twice, on Sunday 10th March and on Saturday 13th April. We tidied the pits in Farnaby Road, Warren Avenue, Madeira Avenue and Coniston Road and we did a mail-shot with a flyer explaining the scheme (see below). It has been encouraging to see several pits planted and we suspect more when people plant their annuals. We have also planted six 'feature tree pits' where RVR has funded plants or cuttings have been taken from tree friends' gardens.

A copy of the flyer is being mailed along with the newsletter or delivered by hand to non email recipients.

Tree friends meet about 4-6 times a year for 2 hours to work on street trees or trees in common spaces. We should welcome more tree friends so please contact trees.rvps@outlook.com if you are interested.

[Greener & Cleaner Bromley \(& Beyond\)](#)

This is the name of a Facebook group set up recently by one of our members, Parisa Wright. The group already has over 1600 members in Bromley and Lewisham. The goals of the group are: to tackle litter and pollution; to swap eco tips for home and/or workplaces; to work together on existing and new eco projects for local schools, businesses and green spaces; and to use people power to influence brands and politicians. If you are a member of the group and of RVR, please let us know so that we can coordinate activities of this group with our own. Contact Chairman.rvps@outlook.com

If you would like to find out more about the group and perhaps join, click on the name of the group in the article title.

Young People

We are really interested in hearing from young people in our area. Here are some questions we want to know more about:

- ♦ What concerns do you have about the environment and community you live in?
- ♦ What support do you need to improve the environment and community?
- ♦ How would you like to be involved in improving our environment and community?

We are considering a project to clean up the river in the Warren Ave. playing fields. Would this be something you would like to volunteer for - please let us know !

Crimewatch

There have been thefts from cars left in driveways in Crab Hill recently. It is not clear how the thieves gained access but the cars weren't damaged so they were probably opened using a transmitter.

Please ensure that your car fob is protected. Thieves can use a transmitter to locate your fob in the house if it is close to the front door or a window; they can then open the door and in some cases start the car.

The simplest solution is to house the car fob in a metal box with a lid, or in a key fob Faraday bag.

A resident of Downs Hill foiled a smash and grab from a white van by two masked men in a silver car. The driver reversed up to the van, the two men jumped out and broke the lock but drove away in a hurry when the resident screamed at them like a banshee! This is a very common occurrence and it seems that they broke into another van up the road. **Keep vigilant!**

General News

BECKENHAM PLACE PARK

Forthcoming Events

Peckish Place Park: Commencing 9th May - A new family-friendly event at Beckenham Place Mansion, running from 4 pm -10 pm every Thursday in summer, featuring workshops inside alongside food, drinks and fun outdoors.

Cat Fest: Saturday 29th June, 10:30 am – 10:30 pm.

Flower Show: Sunday 30th June, 12 noon - 7 pm (includes dog show and art show.)

Launch Event: Saturday 20th July

The purpose of the event is to encourage the local community and Lewisham residents to come and see the rebuilt homesteads, use the lake, play on the play equipment, etc.

Naked City Festival: Saturday 27th July, 12 noon – 10:30 pm <https://nakedcityfestival.com/>

Lewisham council have applied for a licence for a ticketed event with a capacity of 7000 people.

Details of most forthcoming events are at one of the following three weblinks:

<http://www.beckenhamplaceparkfriends.org.uk/>

<http://www.beckenhamplacepark.co.uk/>

<https://www.beckenhamplace.org/>

Park Regeneration

For details of new planning applications and progress of already agreed ones, please visit our website, here:

<http://www.rvpsbromley.org/beckenham-place-park.php>

BIGGIN HILL MEMORIAL MUSEUM

One of our members volunteers at the museum and recommends that you visit. Entry fee is £7.50 for adults and OAPs, £6.75 for ex-services or English Heritage members. Chapel and café are free. Although it is small there is enough of interest to spend a few hours there. At 11 am every day a pilot's name is remembered in the chapel and read out. For more information, follow this link: <https://bhmm.org.uk/>

Web-site help needed

Our website has served us well for a good few years now, but is beginning to look a little dated. We would love to hear from any kind volunteer who could refresh it for us, and make it look modern and so it works well on mobile devices. Do please contact our webmaster, David, at webmaster.rvps@outlook.com

CONTACTS

Officers

Chairman	Clive Lees
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Secretary	Judy Adcock
Treasurer	Dave Wiltshire
Auditor	Alan Williams
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Road Representatives

Bracken Hill Lane and Close / Highland Road	Linda Müller
Bromley Ave / Grasmere Rd	Quinton Schönknecht
Calmont & Ashgrove Roads / Belgravia Gardens	Rita Smith
Coniston Road / Ullswater and Hawkshead Closes	Sandra West
Downs Hill / Crab Hill	Wendy Watmore
Elstree Hill / Erin Close / Hillbrow Road	Mick Pinson
Farnaby Road (1–81)	Anna Koffer
Farnaby Road (82–194)	Kay Shaw
Madeira Avenue	Judy Adcock
Oaklands / Spencer Roads	David Page
Ravensbourne Ave. (Evens)	Monica Wiltshire
Ravensbourne Ave. (Odds)	Sharon Miles
Ravensmead Road	Peter Saunders
Warren Avenue	Clive Lees

Linda Müller
Quinton Schönknecht
Rita Smith
Sandra West
Wendy Watmore
Mick Pinson
Anna Koffer
Kay Shaw
Judy Adcock
David Page
Monica Wiltshire
Sharon Miles
Peter Saunders
Clive Lees

If you wish to contact your representative please contact the Secretary by email or post your letter to:

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