

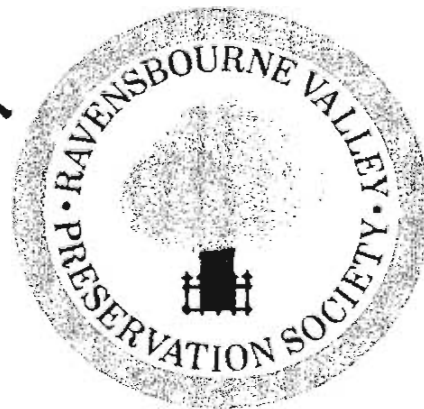
NEWSLETTER

February 2012

2/2012

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 3rd March

8.00pm

Bromley Court Hotel

EDITORIAL

This Newsletter is to advise everyone about the forthcoming Annual General Meeting - you will find the AGM agenda on Page 3. Please make a note in your diary and make every effort to attend. There will be a limited number of agendas available at the door, so please keep this Newsletter and bring it with you. Non-Members are very welcome to attend but, of course, cannot vote.

Our Guest Speaker this year will be Marie-Louise Kerr who is the curator of Bromley's Museum which is housed at the Priory, Orpington. The Priory is an appropriate place for the museum as it is a Grade II* listed medieval rectory and one of our oldest buildings. The subject will be "Building Over Bromley". This is an illustrated talk using digital images of old paintings and photographs. It explores how the Borough has changed over the last 200 years and how earlier buildings have been swallowed up by the houses and shops that make up the suburbia of today. The talk will focus on areas of Bromley Town, Beckenham, Orpington, Chislehurst and St Mary Cray. Marie-Louise took a degree in Ancient History and French at St Andrews and followed that up with post graduate studies on Museums at Newcastle. She has been a curator since 2005 of which the past 4 years have been spent at Bromley.

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 1st March 2012 - Annual General Meeting 8.00pm, Bromley Court Hotel

Thursday 3rd May - Members' Meeting 8.00pm, Bromley Court Hotel

Thursday 5th July - Members' Meeting 8.00pm, Bromley Court Hotel

Peter Pain - Editor.

SECURITY - SCAMS

In the last Newsletter we had an item on house security because of the increase in burglaries in the area. However that is not the only target for criminals.

Fake car Insurance There are several variations to this scam which is thought to have affected about 20,000 motorists. The targets are those who are trying to economise or just looking for cheaper car insurance.

Ghost Brokers They commonly advertise via websites, cards at newsagents or supermarkets or they put flyers under windscreen wipers. They act as middle men and claim to contact real insurance providers but actually issue fake policies. A variation is to take a cash payment from the customer, but use stolen credit or debit cards to pay for the premium. A further variation is to apply to a genuine insurance company for cover but to alter the personal details such as age or address which otherwise would increase the premium. In all cases the insurance is invalid.

The problem has become so prevalent that the City of London police have set up a special department to tackle this type of fraud.

Bank Card Scam This usually takes the form of a telephone call from someone claiming to be from your bank or credit card supplier. After asking for personal details they say you need a new card and will send a courier to collect your old one. Someone then calls, collects your card and promptly withdraws money from your account. Remember, banks or credit card providers will never call asking for personal details or account information, they already have it. If there is a genuine problem they will write to you and advise you to cut up your card and a replacement is usually in the post.

Computer Scam A telephone caller claiming to be from Microsoft Technical Support tells you that you have a problem with your Windows PC. They then ask you to check a file on your computer which apparently lists a lot of error messages. This can look alarming but in reality is a log file that shows that Windows is working properly and fixing routine problems on its own. Users may be asked to grant the caller remote access to their computer. Do not allow this or you will end up with a nasty dose of spyware, a virus, trojans or keyloggers. These bugs seek out personal and financial information and enable the caller to use your details to raid your bank or credit card account.

A variation is the caller offering to sort out the problems. All you have to do is pay a fee using your credit or debit card. If you do this, not only will the imaginary fault not be repaired but you are likely to find a large hole in your account. Microsoft never cold call Window users.

Distraction Burglaries Apart from the usual ploy of someone with a colleague calling and saying that they are from the Local Authority or a utility company and asking you to show them the stop cock or the rear of your property while their colleague steals what they can, a more elegant variant has recently surfaced.

Your wallet or hand bag is stolen. Then, using the usual personal information in it they telephone pretending to be a good Samaritan and arrange for you to collect the stolen item at an agreed time and location. As soon as you leave home they break in and burgle your home. Needless to say, you do not get back your wallet or handbag, leave alone their contents.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Thursday 1st March 2012

Venue: Bromley Court Hotel

Time: 8.00pm

AGENDA

1 Chairman's welcome and opening remarks.

2 Guest Speaker - Ms Marie-Louise Kerr

Break for refreshments

3 Approval of Minutes of previous AGM

4 Chairman's Report.

5 Treasurer's Report.

6 Planning Officers' Reports a) East
 b) West
 c) Roads & Traffic

7 Community Projects

8 Beckenham Place Park Representative's Report.

9 Membership Secretary's Report

10 Determination of subscriptions for 2012-13.

11 Election of Officers.

12 Chairman's Closing remarks.

Posts for re-election

Present holders

Chairman

Leslie Watmore

Secretary

Tony Morton

Treasurer

Brian Sanders

Auditor

Pura Atkinson

All of the present holders of office are willing to stand for re-election. If there are any nominations to stand against them, names, plus proposers and seconders, should be sent to the Chairman at least one week before the AGM.

The Chairman's name and address can be found on page 4 of this Newsletter.