

NEWSLETTER

February 2013

2/2013

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EDITORIAL

It seems no time at all since the last Newsletter was distributed - why another so soon? It is not that I am so eager to produce another issue that I can't wait - but actually I can't afford to wait any longer as members must be given adequate notice of our Annual General Meeting. Please try to attend if you can.

Each year we arrange for a speaker to begin the evening and on this occasion we are pleased to welcome Mrs Pat Jones who is a director and a stage manager of that much treasured local establishment - the Bromley Little Theatre. Like our Society, it is run by volunteers but in their case it has survived for an amazing 75 years. We have recently been proud to have survived for 25 years - just think how proud those old stagers at Bromley North must feel! She has been researching its history and plans to tell us the many stories she has unearthed. Her talk will be titled "Life Filled with Drama".

The eagle-eyed amongst you may have noticed some changes in our list of officers and Road Reps on page 4. First there is a gap against "Vice-Chairman" this position is vacant for the time being as Peter Pain has had to give up this post due to his poor health. Although this is not one of the positions on which members have to vote formally at the AGM, we expect to discuss, at the meeting, who might replace Peter as Vice-Chairman.

The other changes in the list all involve Road Reps. Since our previous Chairman moved away, Caroline Campbell has served Ravensmead Road. Now she has also moved away. So sudden was her departure that we had no opportunity to thank her for her past efforts. Her last act was to recruit Pete Saunders as her replacement. Thank you Pete for taking this on. Farnaby Road for many years was shared by two Road Reps but our previous Rep. Peter Clarke had covered the whole street and Roger Thelwell took over on that basis. The problem is that Roger is still working for his living and needs help. I hear that another resident in Farnaby Road might be willing to share the load with Roger. I await confirmation of this encouraging news.

The most important change in the Road Rep section is, however, the fact that Barbara Brown - one of the few original Road Reps left, has had to give up her sterling work in Downs Hill - even Barbara has grown tired after 25 years. We owe her a great debt of gratitude. Happily Wendy Watmore has taken over. Whilst on the subject of Road Representatives I must take the opportunity of thanking them all and not just new volunteers. The Society relies on them for its very existence - for keeping up membership numbers, for collecting our only income, for distributing our Newsletters and anything else we ask of them; so thank you all.

Leslie Tucker (Editor)

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 7th March - Annual General Meeting 8.00pm, Bromley Court Hotel

Thursday 2nd May - Members' Meeting 8.00pm, Bromley Court Hotel

PLANNING

36 Farnaby Road:

A most unwelcome application has been submitted for the construction of a triple garage to replace an existing single garage in the rear garden of 36 Farnaby Road. The garage would in fact front Madeira Avenue and to our eyes, it looks like a small house and we fear that at a later date, a further application would seek to convert the garage to a habitable dwelling. Notwithstanding this, the development would set a most unfortunate precedent for substantial structures to be built on this unspoiled section of Madeira Avenue. We have objected to the application and further details can be found on our website. We have also circulated a letter to Local Residents advising them how best to object should they wish to. Any objections should be sent by 5th February to M. Forrester, Planning officer, Civic Centre, Bromley. Ref: DC/13/00045/Full.6.

Land between the Shell garage and Quasar on Bromley Hill:

We are pleased to announce that Bromley Council is taking action to ensure that land owners tidy this rather unpleasant area that has been used for fly tipping. However, the council's action will not in itself stop this fly tipping and we are therefore monitoring the situation to see what preventative, rather than restorative, action can be taken.

44-46 Bromley Hill:

The proposal is to demolish a pair of semi-detached houses and replace them with a block of flats as an "infill development". The RVPS objected to the original application to build a 3 storey block and made oral representation on behalf of the local residents to the Planning Inspector at the hearing at Lewisham Town Hall earlier in 2012. We focused our concerns around layout, scale and massing of the building, the inadequate architectural design, the lack of amenity space and inadequate parking space. The inspector dismissed the appeal. In December 2012 the developer made an expected re-application. The number of units had been reduced to six (2 x 3 bed and 4 x 2 bed) as had been the height and massing of the building. The architectural design had also been modified. Many problems remain, not least to the amenity of the immediate neighbours and the lack of sufficient parking. We are awaiting the views of the Lewisham Planners and we are expecting to lodge further objections at any time.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Thursday 7th March 2013

Venue: Bromley Court Hotel

Time: 8.00pm

AGENDA

- 1 Chairman's welcome and opening remarks.
- 2 Guest Speaker - Mrs. Pat Jones "Life Filled with Drama"

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 2013-14.
- 11 Election of Officers.
- 12 Chairman's Closing remarks.

<i>Posts for re-election</i>	<i>Present holders</i>
Chairman	Leslie Watmore
Secretary	Tony Morton
Treasurer	Brian Sanders
Auditor	Pura Atkinson

All of the officers above are willing to stand for re-election except our Secretary, Tony Morton. If there are any nominations for the post of Secretary or to stand against the other officers, names, plus a proposer and seconder, should be sent to the Secretary (still Tony Morton) to be received at least one week before the date of the AGM. (See page 4 for his address).

A few copies of this Agenda may be available at the meeting but **PLEASE BRING THIS COPY** with you to make sure you know what is happening !

R.V.P.S. OFFICERS (February 2013)

Chairman	Leslie Watmore
Vice Chairman	-
Secretary	Tony Morton
Treasurer	Brian Sanders
Auditor	Pura Atkinson
Planning Officer-East	Clive Lees
Planning Officer- West	Mike Mielniczek
Membership Secretary	Linda Muller
Newsletter Editor	Leslie Tucker
Roads & Traffic Rep.	Brian Atkinson
Tree Warden	-
LBBRF Delegate	-
BPP Joint Working Party Rep.	Leslie Tucker
Hon. Legal Advisor	Richard Thomas
Web Master	Clive Lees

ROAD REPRESENTATIVES

Bromley Ave. Grasmere Rd.	Leslie Tucker
Brackenhill Lane & Close Highland Rd. /Karen Ct.	Linda Müller
Coniston Rd / Ullswater & Hawkshead Closes	Barbara Price
Downs Hill / Crab Hill	Wendy Watmore
Elstree Hill / Erin Close / Hillbrow	Roger Legg
Farnaby Rd	Roger Thelwell-Pichler
Madeira Avenue	Brian Atkinson
Oaklands / Spencer Rds.	David Page
Ravensbourne Ave. (evens)	Ann Rowsell
Ravensbourne Ave. (odds)	Ann Freiter
Ravensmead Road	Peter Saunders
Warren Ave.	Clive Lees
Calmont Rd /Ashgrove Rd. Belgravia Gdns/Ambleside	Rita Smith

Footnotes:

The prime message of this issue is **please come to our AGM** – by definition, we only hold one of these each year ! Even non members are welcome although, of course they cannot vote. All they would risk is being tempted to join the RVPS.

If you attend, not only do you get a free talk about Bromley Little Theatre but also a free cup of coffee and a chance to meet your neighbours.