EDITORIAL

The main purpose of this Newsletter is to let the membership know what happened at our Annual General Meeting on 7th March.

After the Chairman's introduction we were given an illustrated talk by Pat Jones covering the history of Bromley's Little Theatre, opposite Bromley North station. She has been involved with this enterprise for many years and is one of its Directors. Her main role is stage management but recently she has also been asked to research its history over the last 75 years since it was founded. The interesting talk which she gave us was her first opportunity to present the results of her researches to an outside body.

Before being converted to its present purpose the building had been a Co-op bakery and a store used by the adjacent Railway Hotel. In 1956 it was enlarged to its present size with auditorium seating for 113. Many other internal alterations were made, including the construction of a raised stage. The back stage areas are extremely restricted which fact gave Pat a good base for a number of her stories of near disasters - but everything was usually "all right on the night"- but not always. The story of the artificial rat was an example of an event which was firmly in the "not all right" category. If you don't know what I'm talking about, all I can say is - you should have been at the meeting!

The theatre is run by unpaid volunteers as a club. Tickets can only be purchased by club members although they can invite guests. Most productions are plays but musicals and even an opera have been presented in this small intimate space. Some of us, having been members, know about the high standard of the productions there. Pat had application forms for those who might want to join for more information ring "Membership Enquiries" at 020 8460 8500.

After our break for refreshments the AGM could begin with a short report by the Chairman before he called on our Treasurer to present his report.

Our financial position at the end of 2012 was satisfactory and showed a modest surplus of £113 on the year, bringing our assets to a total of £9670. Brian Sanders went on to give explanations on various detailed figures. The annual account was then approved by the meeting. In a separate vote it was agreed that the membership fee would remain unaltered at £5 per household for the coming year.

Reports on Planning matters, Roads and Traffic, Beckenham Place Park and Community projects were given by the various officers concerned. With regard to

the last of these there was a request that If any Member had any ideas for future local projects which we might support, then they should let me (Leslie Tucker) know and suitable proposals could be discussed at following Members' Meetings.

The results for the election of officers were as follows:-

For Chairman, Treasurer and Auditor the present holders were willing to stand again and so Leslie Watmore, Brian Sanders and Pura Atkinson were again voted into these positions.

For the post of Secretary Tony Morton wished to stand down but Beatrice Osborn was willing to fill this position and was voted to be our next Secretary. The other vacant post was that of Vice Chairman as Peter Pain had been forced to stand down due to his poor health. It is not a position for which the constitution requires a formal vote but nevertheless Clive Lees had expressed his willingness to serve in this capacity and his offer was accepted unanimously.

Since the AGM we have also been able to find a new Road Rep to share the job of looking after Farnaby Road with Roger Thelwell. In future he will deal with numbers 108 and below, while Kay Shaw will become Road Rep for numbers 109 and above. All these changes have been set out in the listing of officers on page 4.

This is being written during the Easter "Holiday". My question is - when are we to be given a holiday from the cold weather? I hope it is better by the time you read this.

Leslie Tucker (Editor)

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 2nd May - Members' Meeting 8.00pm, Bromley Court Hotel
Thursday 4th July - Members' Meeting 8.00pm, Bromley Court Hotel

PLANNING

36 Farnaby Road:

The application for the construction of a triple garage to replace an existing single garage in the rear garden of 36 Farnaby Road. The garage would be in Madeira Avenue. We had objected and it has been refused by Bromley. We gave more information on this case in our last newsletter.

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, Lewisham refused it and an appeal was lodged. The inspector dismissed the appeal. A revised application was then made to Lewisham.

Billingford, Elstree Hill:

A revised application to build flats on the site of this house has been made and we await a decision by Bromley. Members will recall that there was a significant number of local objectors to the original proposal.

The Italian Villa, Elstree Hill

The proposals for internal alterations to this Listed building were refused by Bromley and an appeal has been made by the developers. The date for comments has now passed but the date for the hearing has not yet been fixed. Watch our website for further news.

Bromley South Central

This is the large redevelopment replacing the multi-storey car park and other smaller buildings which was approved late last year. Readers of a recent issue of the News Shopper and those who use the existing car park will know that the work on site is to begin immediately after Easter. The first thing to happen will be the demolition of the car park. The immediate effect of this will be an obvious reduction of the town centre parking provisions which will be felt for the next two or three years.

Queens Gardens

The developer has lodged an appeal against Bromley's refusal of their applications to build a block containing space for 5 new restaurants here. The proposed building would encroach into the garden area. The appeal will be heard during the first three days of May. Our Ward Councillors are against the proposals and so are many residents, including us. The date for submission of more objections has now passed.

TREES

Warren Avenue: With regard to the planting of new trees in Warren Avenue Playing Fields, Lewisham are not being allowed to forget that the promised work is not complete and, having missed the planting season just passed, they are expected to plan for it to be done next Autumn.

10, Crab Hill: With the support of Councillor Michael Tickner and local residents it is till hoped that the trees threatened at 10, Crab Hill might still be saved.

113 Foxgrove Road

Planning application 13/000941 to Bromley is for the approval of felling of 2 trees and trimming of others. For more information see our website.

R.V.P.S. OFFICERS (March - April 2013)

Chairman Leslie Watmore Vice Chairman Clive Lees

Secretary Beatrice Osborn 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 (nos. 1-108) Roger Thelwell-Pichler

Farnaby Rd (nos. 109 +) Kay Shaw

Madeira Avenue Brian Atkinson

Oaklands / Spencer Rds. David Page

Ravensbourne Ave. (evens) Ann Rowswell

Ravensbourne Ave. (odds) Ann Freiter

Ravensmead Road Peter Saunders

Warren Ave. Clive Lees

Calmont Rd / Ashgrove Rd. Belgravia Gdns/Ambleside

Rita Smith

Footnotes:

.If available to you, don't forget that our website can be more responsive to changing events than this steam-driven Newsletter can be - check it out from time to time.

Remember: we have asked for ideas to consider how we might best spend some money to enhance our area. Options are limited by cost, value for money and practicalities.