





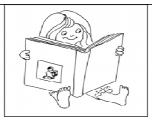
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Christmas edition 2013

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Editorial help needed. Contact lain Simpson on 020 8947 1301 email: iainsimpson@imi-consulting.com

Chairman's Report

AGM report

The AGM took place on the 24th October. The format was different this year, with no guest speaker, to allow for more interactive discussion. Attendance was good. Presentation of the Front Garden Awards (see results on page 18) was followed by a short presentation from two members of the Safer Neighbourhood team, PC Leanne Evans and PCSO Brett Lavey. They brought us up to date on crime in the Ward and the current policing model. They also indicated when to use 999 (example: emergency; seeing a crime being committed or threatening behaviour) or 101 (example: reporting an incident a day or two afterwards). We were pleased to welcome them to the meeting.

Topics covered under the Chairman's report were the new hall, the car park extension in Wimbledon Park and the proposed development of the Greyhound stadium. The prospect of a stadium for 15 – 20,000 football fans on the doorstep caused a lively discussion – and some disagreement on what had been the impact the crowds on the tube station and Arthur Road etc. when the old Wimbledon FC had been at Plough Lane.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the refreshments and social interaction afterwards.

Wimbledon Park Hall

Well, we are nearly there. As with most building projects there is a little slippage in the completion dates. However we did have a site visit last week with all parties concerned and completion is now expected to be by the end of the year. Fitting out remains to be done for the main cafe kitchen the little Kitchenette off the hall, the toilets and finally all flooring. Once everything is considered complete and satisfactory by the Council and ourselves, we will be able to sign the lease and take over responsibility.

I understand that sales of the flats above the hall have gone well and there are already some in occupation.

I have been encouraged by the interest shown in hiring the hall. It is going to be a wonderful new space and will be ideal for a wide range of activities. As we have indicated before, we are not in a position to confirm any bookings until we have signed the lease, but we are happy to give firm indications of availability subject to that proviso.

Car Park Extension in Wimbledon Park

As you know, In June 2012, the Council eventually submitted a planning application (12/P1181) to make this car park a permanent feature for use between April and September.

At the October meeting (2013) of the Council Planning Committee (PC), the application was considered and firmly rejected by a vote of 6 to 3. This application had already been heard at the previous meeting, in September, at which representatives of the FOWP and WPRA spoke against the application. The quality of

the application was severely criticised by committee members and a decision was reached to defer the application pending further information and clarification. In particular committee members noted:

- the failure to safeguard protected views of the Grade II* listed park, in contravention of Merton's own policies.
- the inability and unwillingness to control or monitor how many commuters and other non-park users were taking advantage of the free parking.
- the failure to implement Merton's policy of encouraging sustainable transport rather than car use.

It was assumed, at that stage, Officers would take some care in responding to the criticism and various points raised. However, surprisingly, the application winged its way back to the subsequent October meeting.

After representations from the FOWP and the WPRA against the application, there was considerable discussion among the committee which resulted in a proposal to reject the application on the basis that it contravened a number of sections of the Council's own Core Strategy and that Officers had given insufficient weight to the relevant Core strategy policies.

Since that decision we have had confirmation that the hard core would be removed and the area reverted to grass. To say we were all very pleased with his result would be a slight understatement. This was a key battle to be won based on important principles. We are grateful for the effective campaign against the application by Friends of Wimbledon Park.

Regrettably at no time during this campaign did we receive any support from our local Councillors. In fact at a very early stage they made it clear that they supported the application and the need for additional parking. Given the planning considerations; the historic importance of this Capability Brown designed park and the weight of local opinion against the application, many local residents are beginning to wonder exactly what planet local Councillors think they are on. Perhaps the only redeeming factor was that on the night of the decision Cllr Janice Howard, who was present as a substitute member of the Planning Committee, was persuaded by her colleagues to vote against the application. Well done Janice!

Development of the Greyhound Stadium (Site 37 in the Sites and Policies consultation)

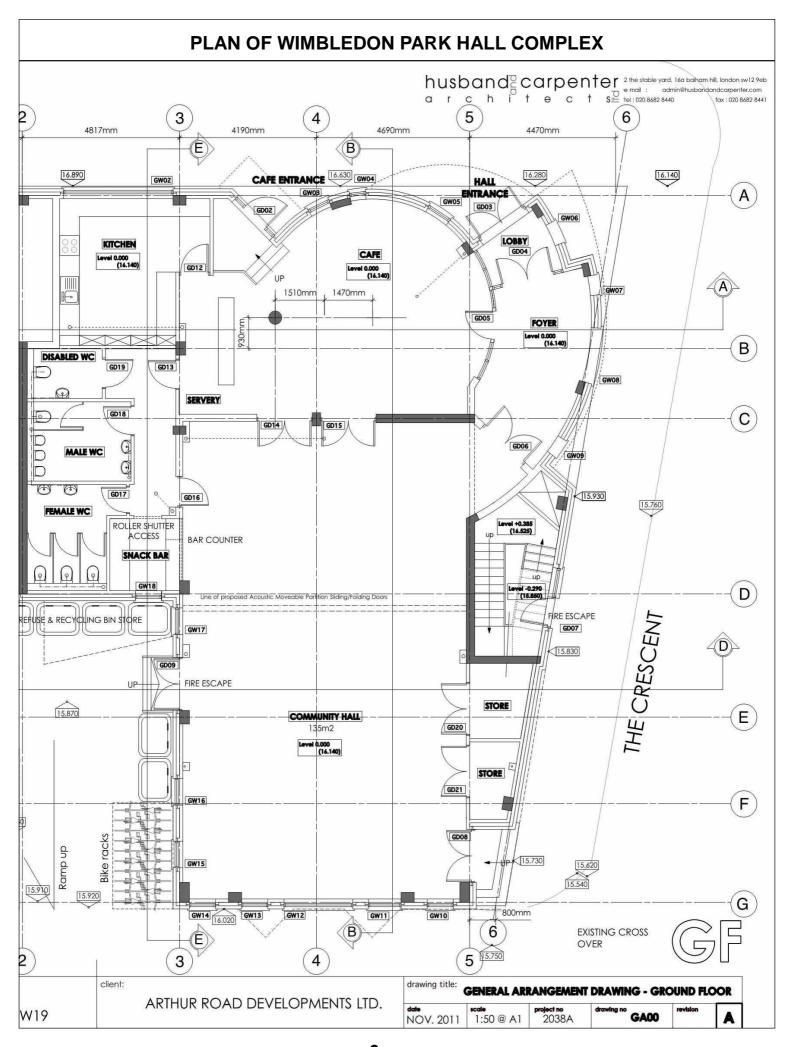
This consultation has now reached a vital stage. The Council has now submitted its final paper to the planning Inspector for review. The Inspector will be sitting at the Civic Centre from January 21st to hear comments from those who have applied to speak. Both Peter West, committee member from Cromwell Road and I will be there to represent the views of local residents.

In the meantime we will be distributing a leaflet explaining the issues and asking residents to participate in a survey. We hope you will get involved.

For more information see the article on Pages 16 & 17.

Happy Christmas to all

lain Simpson



Invitation to all residents in the Haydons Road area

In the past there has been an active Haydons Road Residents' Association. However that association is no longer active and a number of residents have inquired about joining the WPRA. Last year Peter West from Cromwell Road joined the committee and more recently we have had two new members join from the area. We would be delighted to see more members from that part of the Ward and greater representation on our committee. This is an open invitation to all those residents to join the WPRA. We are printing 500 extra copies of this newsletter which will be distributed to a number of roads in the area in early December.

Hire Rates, conditions and information for making bookings for the new Hall will be advertised on our upgraded website which we intend to launch in early December.

In the meantime contact lain Simpson at iainsimpson@imi-consulting.com or mobile 07836361782

Wimbledon Park Hall

New Café operation

We are keen to hear from any experienced Café or Restaurant operator who might be interested in running our community café within the new community resource complex at 170 Arthur Road.

Designed to accommodate approximately 30-35 seated customers, it presents a wonderful opportunity to create a fully - functional café/restaurant with a community ethos.

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Robert Graves features at Bookfest

Robert Graves and the Great War was the sell-out event which brought an excellent Bookfest 2013 to a close. It was sponsored by The Wimbledon Society, in support of the Richard Milward History Prize which is to be awarded in October 2014. The talk was given by Professor Paul O'Prey, Vice Chancellor of Roehampton University, the only living academic to have had a close relationship with Graves and his family, for Paul lived with them in Deia, Mallorca for some five years while helping with the poet's extensive archives.

Bookfest's delightful William Morris tent seemed almost too cosy for a talk which was to remind us of the appalling slaughter in the trenches, though it took for its starting point 1913, the 'calm before the storm' the year in which young Graves exchanged the uniform of Charterhouse schoolboy for that of the Welch Fusiliers.

Paul spoke with warmth about the war poet (1895 - 1985). Graves' first collection of poems *From the Brazier* was published in July 1916 when he was twenty-one. Weeks later, during the Battle of the Somme, he was reported 'Died of Wounds' in the Times. In fact he had been left for some days amongst the battlefield casualties awaiting burial, when he was noticed as showing signs of life by a passing orderly. It is not surprising that his injuries combined with untreated post traumatic stress had severe repercussions for Graves for the rest of his days. At the time, shell-shock or neurasthenia as it was called, was not recognised as having long term effects on suffers.

However Graves was a survivor who despite everything he had endured went on to achieve great things as a man of letters, poet, scholar, translator, historian and the author of the *I Claudius* historical novels which have never been out of print. His memoir *Goodbye to All That*, published in 1929 was recognised as the best depiction of life and death in the trenches. It was also extremely frank and therefore controversial about his schoolboy relationships, the military, his friends and his first marriage, adopting a tone that veers throughout between the jaunty and the bitter.

Graves expressed little affection for his early life in Lauriston Road in that memoir, calling Wimbledon a 'wrong place' neither town nor country. We heard of the toddler's dread of a pat on the head from the poet Swinburne, who appeared to accost every pram between Putney and Wimbledon on his daily walk to the Rose and Crown; or infinitely worse, being teased and mocked by his sisters' school friends, as he waited for them in their malodorous cloakroom in Wimbledon High School. However, on this unique occasion, Wimbledon seemed to be the epitome

of the right place, as Professor O'Prey accompanied by William Graves, the poet's son with his daughter Sofia, and Lucia Graves the poet's daughter with her husband made the event a truly family affair. The Wimbledon Society was delighted to enrol William Graves as an Honorary Life Member.



From L To R Paul O'Prey, Frank husband of Lucia and Lucia daughter of Robert Graves



L to R - Lucia, her brother William, who has become an Honorary member of the Society, his daughter Sofia, Robert's nephew, Paul Cooper, his wife Lily, and Monica Ellison, event organiser for the Wimbledon Society

News update from Friends of Wimbledon Park (FOWP)

Car park extension defeated

After a concerted campaign by FOWP, Merton Council's planning application 12/P1181 regarding the permanent extension of the Revelstoke Road car park was rejected by its own planning committee on 10 October. This is a victory for the hundreds of local people who joined us in speaking out against the proposal over the past 18 months, concerned about the damage to this Grade II* listed park. Since the decision, the Council has announced that it will remove the hardcore area and reseed the grass. Improvements are also to be made to the surface of the existing car park and the marking out of parking bays (there are currently no disabled spaces).

Vision for the park gains momentum

FOWP's project plan for the park has been widely circulated and includes all Merton and Wandsworth councillors, The Wimbledon Club, the Golf Club and the All England Lawn Tennis Club, seeking their views. As far as we know, this is the only plan to cover the whole of Wimbledon Park, 'joining up' all the interested parties. As part of our consultation, questionnaires have been sent to Revelstoke Road residents regarding the entrance to the park, which we feel could be greatly improved.

Break-ins at athletics stadium

The current fencing of the athletics stadium is failing to prevent break-ins and a 3m high fence, inside the tree line, is being considered; the cost will be around £40,000-£50,000. FOWP agreed to Hercules Athletics Club's request that we support the erection of the new fence.

New bins for BBQ coals

Merton Council is to install waste bins for the disposal of BBQ coals, which caused problems during the hot summer this year. These will probably be sited by the trees surrounding the athletics track, near the sailing base and along the path close to the bowls pavilion. FOWP is to be consulted about the exact positioning.

Alterations to the park

Large logs have been placed in the Wimbledon Park Road entrance car park to prevent cars driving into the park itself, hopefully deterring very large parties. Various pieces of playground equipment have been replaced. The path at the back of the splash pool has been resurfaced and lighting has been fitted along the path between Wimbledon Park Road and the stadium. The toilets have been refurbished. Work has begun to replace the concrete panels along Wimbledon Park Road with 1.8m high railings.

Dog attack

A greyhound was recently attacked in the park by an unleashed bull terrier. Such attacks must be reported to the police since Merton Council does not have dog wardens for the park. Dog owners should note as many details as possible when making a complaint, including descriptions of the offending dog and its owner, the time of day the incident occurred and vehicle registration number where relevant.

Policing of the park

Crime levels are believed to be low in the park but collecting crime data is difficult because there are four wards (Southfields, West Hill, Wimbledon Park and Village) and two councils (Merton and Wandsworth) involved. We're investigating the best way to rectify this situation.

Football pitches

Football pitches have not been released for use this season as the grass has been very slow to re-establish itself. A complaint regarding the lack of changing facilities has been raised.

Foraging in the park

People have been seen picking watercress from the stream and there was a recent case of children eating poisonous berries. Visitors to the park are advised not to forage for food in case of mishaps.

Drainage problems on golf course and cricket pitch

The Golf Club has spent around £1.4 million pounds over the last two years on landscaping features without addressing the fundamental drainage problems. Similarly, the Wimbledon Club (Cricket Club) faced formal written criticism from the local Surrey cricket authority and a warning that the condition of the outfield was not up to standard. The drainage problems are due to the artificially high water table, which is caused by the lake silting up and being held at an artificially high level to enable watersports.

Café sign

The large and unsightly 'Café Open' sign next to the bowling green has still not been removed, despite a request to the café by Merton's Greenspaces manager Doug Napier. It was felt that the sign could be replaced by smaller 'direction' signs.

To join FOWP, fill in the application form on page 14.

Friends Of Wimbledon Park

To join the 'Friends of	Wimbledon Par	rk' (FOWP) please compl	ete the following:
TitleForename		Surname	*
TitleForename		Surname	**
Corporate name			
Address			
		Application Date	
Email***		Phone:	
*If y	outh add date of bir	th here	
**Family add any child	ren's names under 1	6 years on back or separate sl	neet with date of birth.
***Would you like to be	included on an en	nail list for FOWP updates &	information? YES/NO
I can offer help with: Caterir	ng / Stewarding at ev	dlife / Birds / Sport / Dogs / Kio	/ Other
A	nnual subscrip	otion rates (circle selection	1)
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Your details will be kept on computer solely for administration purposes

Payment preferably by cheque made payable to 'Friends of Wimbledon Park'

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The Membership Secretary (FOWP), Miss Janet Mullane 149 Revelstoke Road, SW18 5NN

FOWP Application form

March 2013



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Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

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Wimbledon Park Residents' Association Front Garden Awards 2013



Winner of the 'Environmental Sustainability' award

This year, a new award was introduced for front gardens demonstrating "Environmental Sustainability".

The winner was the garden of Judith and Lindsay Jones, at 21 Dawlish Avenue.

The attractive topiary garden encompassed various features, including predominantly evergreen foliage (atmospheric cooling and filtering of pollutants), extensive ground cover (water retention), and wildlife friendly (nectar, berries and shelter).

The overall winner of the John Uden trophy and best "Summer Interest" garden was Tony Borkowski at 25 Stroud Road, whilst the winning "All-Year Interest" garden was that of Tracy Whelan at 108 Melrose Avenue.



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Redevelopment of the Greyhound Stadium to a 20,000 - seater football Stadium ?

Like all local authorities, Merton is obliged to declare a designated use for important development sites in the borough and this includes the Greyhound Stadium, called site 37. The council carried out its 'Sites and Policies' consultation exercise from January 2012 to the end of August 2013 and has decided that this site is best suited for Sporting intensification with enabling development (this means building residential and retail units to make the scheme viable).

They should have consulted you as a local resident living close to this site. Did they?

Site 37 is a very difficult site to develop; it is an area that is at high risk of flooding according to the Environment Agency and is universally acknowledged to have poor access by public transport that would be difficult to improve.

There are two developers who have made proposals.

Hume Consulting Ltd, on behalf of Paschal Taggart, who is a very well known personality in Irish Greyhound circles, who wishes to build a new greyhound stadium which would accommodate a maximum of 4,500 spectators, 400 residential units and a supermarket. They have indicated that they would no longer have stock car racing.

On the other hand, AFC Wimbledon and GLA Ltd propose to build a 20,000 - seater football stadium for AFC Wimbledon, 600 residential units, 6-10 stories high, and a retail space.

Our response to these proposals can be found at: http://www.merton.gov.uk/
http://www.merton.gov.uk/
http://www.merton.gov.uk/
http://www.merton.gov.uk/
http://www.merton.gov.uk/
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http://www.merton.gov.uk/
http://www.merton.gov.uk/
<a href="mailto:environment/planning-policies_

Our submission is labelled "Wimbledon Park Residents Assoc."

We considered site 37 from the viewpoint of Merton's own Core Planning strategy and the National Planning Guidelines which are the documents that should be used to determine what is the appropriate development. We do not regard the building of a stadium with such a large capacity (20,000) to be consistent with the very restricted public transport and we consider that the building of a large number of residential units is not compatible with the flood risk.

As such we do not think that the development proposed by AFC Wimbledon and



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GLA Ltd is consistent with Merton's and National Planning principles.

While we do not have any fundamental objection to AFC Wimbledon aspiring to a new ground in the borough we do not think the Greyhound Stadium is a suitable site.

Talking to those residents who were living in the area when Wimbledon Football Club were still playing in Plough Lane (with a maximum capacity of around 6,000) does not provide much reassurance.

The impact of large crowds, 10,000-20,000, which is the number planned, would be very considerable and has the potential to blight Wimbledon Park Ward, which has two main transport hubs; Wimbledon Park Tube station and Haydons Road Railway station.

Similar concerns apply to Wimbledon town centre and in particular its vitality as a shopping centre.

The proposal of AFC Wimbledon and GLA Ltd was submitted to Merton Council well after the deadline for planning proposals to be submitted. Indeed there is considerable concern that Merton Council has not taken a completely fair and balanced approach to this process. The Council rejected our proposals to use the site 37 for offices, for a school or to move other developments that are more suited to being in a flood plain, from their existing sites and build a school, or houses, on the sites which are vacated. Such developments would legitimately help towards meeting some of Merton's important strategic goals

The next step in the process is for the proposal by Merton for site 37 to be considered by a government- appointed Independent Planning Inspector. Your residents association will be present during this process, which starts on the 21st January 2014, at the Civic Centre. We hope that our planning arguments will carry some weight with the Planning Inspector.

Our research so far reveals that local residents have not been aware of the proposed developments and have not been consulted. We think it is time for local residents to make their views known. We will be seeking your views so that we can represent them to the Inspector.

If you want to help contact:

iain Simpson at iainsimpson@imi-consulting.com Or Peter west at peter.west540@gmail.com

What's going on in the Wandle Valley?

Wandle Valley Regional Park (WVRP)

Wandle Valley Forum (WVF)

The Annual General Meeting of the Wandle Valley Forum was held on the 10th October 2013. The Annual Review by the Chairman included the following main points:-

The Website: more work is required to create a Wandle Valley Forum website independent of the WVRP website www.wandlevalleypark.co.uk

Amongst the many achievements during the year have included a newsletter in colour, membership registration, two clean-ups along the river and the monitoring of 40 planning applications.

Successful projects within the park have included the Wandle Catchment Plan, Greenways projects, Merton Priory, Morden Hall wetlands walkways and improvements to Waddon Ponds and Wandle Park, Croydon.

Failed projects include the failure to stop the incinerator, the failure to stop the tower block in Wandsworth and it would appear the Forum is failing to prevent the widening of the Trail between Trewint Street and Plough Lane (see below).

Among the issues raised by the CEO of the WVRP included the subject of boundary changes. The London Borough of Merton has agreed their boundary changes and their plans are with the Secretary of State. The next changes could be 2-3 years away. Comment – It is disappointing that there was little if any discussion with local interested organisations before the boundary changes were agreed.

Wimbledon Park is not included in the proposals for inclusion within the WVRP despite pressure from FOWP and WPRA. These organisations, and no doubt others, will continue to raise this issue and hopefully the Park will be included as part of the next change. The Park had been landscaped in the 18th century by Capability Brown when the lake was formed by constructing a dam across a brook that flows from the spring line near Wimbledon Common down to the River Wandle in Earlsfield. The 300 year anniversary of Capability Brown's birth will be celebrated in 2016.

Regarding the widening of the Trail between Trewint Street and Plough Lane, the original plans were to increase the width of the path to 3.0m with 0.5m either side cut. Following pressure from the Forum this has been reduced to a maximum of 2.5m with 0.5m either side cut. However, the Forum believes that even 2.5m is too wide and are pressurising for this to be reduced to 2m plus 0.5m either side cut. These decisions have been agreed following discussions between London Borough of Merton and Sustrans. Comment – It is interesting to note that finance for this work will be provided by (Tfl) Transport for London. They have little if any interest in walking. Tfl and Sustrans are working together on this. No other inter-

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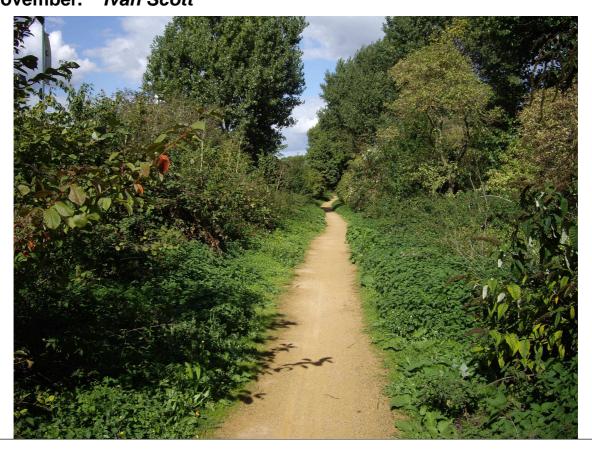
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ested organisations, for instance the Ramblers Association, WPRA or the Forum, were asked to express their views. A further discussion on the issue will be held in mid-November. *Ivan Scott*



Why should I support the Residents' Association?

There has been some of Residents' Association in Wimbledon Park since 1906. It provides a forum for discussing important local issues and a platform for action. Since it's inception, the Residents' Association has helped hundreds, probably thousands of local residents, irrespective of religion, race or creed who have turned to the committee for guidance and support.

We regularly check local planning applications and have been very successful in opposing unsuitable developments. We promote planting and improvements in local parks and green areas. We work with the local police to help you to fight crime in your street and keep you informed by publishing the crime statistics in our newsletter.

We have led the initiative to redevelop Wimbledon Park Hall —so that once again we can have our own community centre. We have put on fairs and shows and supported numerous local campaigns, individuals and families faced with tragedy. The Residents' Association has given the Wimbledon Park Community a solid and respected voice when dealing with Merton Council. An individual can achieve only so much, but as a team we can and do achieve so much more.

This area is growing and improving all the time. Your Residents' Association is more active than ever and we are happy to put in time and effort on your behalf. But we cannot function without funds. We did extremely well financially from the three Edwardian Fairs we ran in past years but that money has been put aside for the running of the new Hall – now almost ready for use.

We need you to support your local Residents' Association ideally for 3 years, which is only £12. Twelve pounds for a 3 year period will help us pay for printing and stationary to publish this newsletter, computer and IT software to run the website, materials and equipment to organise events and keep the flowerboxes blooming in Arthur Road.

Please take a moment to fill in the very brief form on the opposite page. We regret that unless an email address is supplied, we are unable to acknowledge receipt.

If you are already a member but are not sure of your current status, email to wpsecretary@blueyonder.co.uk and we will check for you.

Thanks in advance for your support. It is hugely appreciated.

DeNica Fairman, Membership Secretary

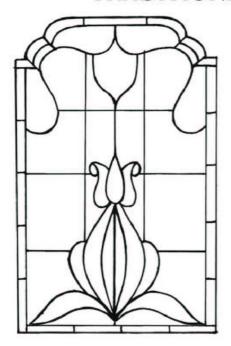
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	y, DeNica Faiı	cription through the door of the rman at 3 Strathmore Rd, or of our Park Rd.
_		cluded on an e-mail list for crime alerts n other important local issues
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Allegation	Method	Address	Date From	Time From	Date To	Tim To
Burglary in a Dwelling.	By suspect(s) unknown forcing entry to the flat and taking items without permission.	ARTHUR ROAD	02/10/2013	1015	02/10/2013	134 5
Burglary in a Dwelling.	Entry gained to premises by smashing kitchen window using a brick and then opening from the inside. Untidy search of some rooms. Exited through rear door after finding keys.	HASLEMERE AVENUE	26/10/2013	830	27/10/2013	164 5
Burglary Non Dwelling	Unknown suspect(s) have entered the venue by breaking a skylight. They have stolen two shirts and made off in unknown direction.	LEOPOLD ROAD	04/10/2013	1800	05/10/2013	730
Burglary Non Dwelling	Unknown suspect gained entry to shed by un- known method and stolen bicycle belonging to victim	DURNSFORD ROAD	29/08/2013	1500	07/09/2013	110
Burglary Non Dwelling	Unknown suspects have forced the door to a cabin on a building site and removed some high value tools	HOME PARK ROAD	25/10/2013	1745	28/10/2013	800
Crim Dam to M/Veh - under £500	Caller reporting criminal damage to his taxi by two youths throwing eggs at his taxi - it has caused damage to the paintwork - he drove off the first night but they were there again the next night and he is reporting	GAP ROAD	19/10/2013	2145		
Making Off Without Payment	suspect filled vehicle with fuel and drove off making no attempt to pay	PLOUGH LANE	17/10/2013	822		
Making Off Without Payment	By suspect who filled vehicle with fuel then made off without making payment.	PLOUGH LANE	25/10/2013	850		
Theft by an Employee	Suspects have taken property belonging to victim and sold it without victims knowledge or consent	WEIR ROAD	03/10/2013	1000	03/10/2013	110
Theft from Motor Vehicles	Victim took his car to service at the venue. 2 Hours later he collected it an drove to KENT, then SURREY. On arriving in SURREY he found a laptop was missing from the boot.	PLOUGH LANE	04/10/2013	1145	04/1 0/2013	183
Theft from Motor Vehicles	Victim is unsure whether he secured his vehicle? Vehicle has been entered from the front seat passenger door.	VINEYARD HILL ROAD	08/10/2013	1700	09/10/2013	915
Theft from Motor Vehicles	By unknown suspect taking a bag containing cigarettes from the front seat as the victim is loading the van	ENDEAVOUR WAY	21/10/2013	1400		



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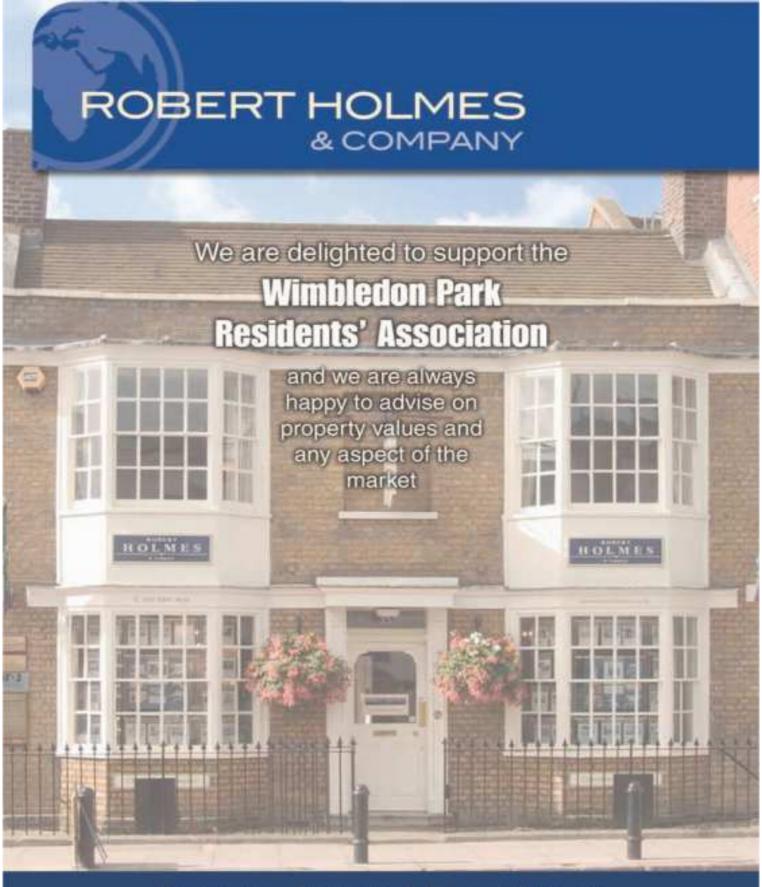
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Theft from Motor Vehicles	Theft from Vehicle, parked outside home address and registration plates unscrewed and removed	KENILWORTH AVENUE	24/10/2013	1630	25/10/2013	800
Theft from Motor Vehicles	By persons as yet unknown apparently taking set of kitchen knives from front seat of vehicle as yet unknown and making good escape.	ENDEAVOUR WAY	04/09/2013	2130	08/09/2013	1000
Theft from Motor Vehicles	front grill removed from vehicle	STUART ROAD	25/10/2013	2230	26/10/2013	730
Theft from Motor Vehicles	By the suspect gaining access to the vehicle through the open doors she has carried out an untidy search	MELROSE AVENUE	26/10/2013	100	26/10/2013	130
Theft from Motor Vehicles	Victim's vehicle locked and secured on street doors down from his home address. Victim returned to vehicle to find window smashed and items taken from within. No suspect seen.	HAYDON PARK ROAD	27/10/2013	1600	28/10/2013	1600
Theft in a Dwelling	unknown suspect has taken items from inside the address.	ARTHUR ROAD	21/10/2013	1000	25/10/2013	1400
Theft Not Classified Elsewhere	Theft of petrol by a suspect driver who filled a vehicle with fuel then drove off making no attempt to pay.	HAYDONS ROAD	21/10/2013	1336		
Theft Not Classified Elsewhere	By unknown person taking quantity of bricks from front garden of house currently under construction	HAVANA ROAD	21/10/2013	1700		
Theft Not Classified Elsewhere	By persons entering warehouse unnoticed and taking Telly and making off with it	GRESHAM WAY	18/10/2013	1600	21/10/2013	1500
Theft of Motor Vehicle	By suspects unknown breaking into the van and stealing it including tools inside	ASHEN GROVE	16/10/2013	2155	16/10/2013	2158
Theft of Motor Vehicle	Victim parked his van overnight at the incident location. When he returned, it had been removed, and there was smashed glass on the floor where it had been parked. Victim is still in possession of the key.	WATERSIDE WAY	19/10/2013	1800	20/10/2013	2000
Theft of Motor Vehicle	By suspect unknown taking vehicle without permission	STRATHEARN ROAD	23/10/2013	1600	24/10/2013	950
Theft of Pedal Cycles	suspect unknown has entered the alley way between two houses and removed secured bikes	KENILWORTH AVENUE	30/09/2013	2000	02/10/2013	730
Theft of Pedal Cycles	By person unknown taking unlocked cycle from back garden	DORA ROAD	03/10/2013	1130	06/10/2013	1900



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Smart Meters - Friend or Foe?

Some of you might remember the campaign against mobile phone masts planned for a building in Arthur Road. Unfortunately it's just about to get much worse! The government and utility companies are intending to bully every resident into having strong intensity microwave emitters installed `within' their property to provide fine grained data of their energy usage and personal activities within the home.

These 'smart' meters will replace existing gas and electricity metres and, in case you are wondering whether this is scare mongering, because you might not have heard anything about the planned nationwide roll-out of wireless energy `smart' meters. Do check out the facts for yourself by going to www.stopsmartmeters.org.uk and for further information purchase/rent the `Take back your Power' DVD from them.

For the time being you can still REFUSE electricity or gas 'smart' meters and I urge you ALL to do so if you want to protect your finances, your privacy, security and your health. In the US, where smart meters have been mandatory for some time now; litigation has been started to have them removed. Many meters have caught fire when connected to older wiring.

The whole smart meter campaign is being fought on the false promise of reduced energy use. So WHY are bills doubling then? There have already been complaints in the UK where people have seen their energy bills double after smart meter installation and in the US some bills have trebled. The usual excuse from the energy company: "Your analogue meter must have been wrong!".

There might also be another reason why energy bills have already massively increased in the UK even before the roll-out, which will cost the energy companies £12 billion, to be levied to the tune of £400 for each customer (additionally there is a history in the UK of costs wildly escalating, think of the NHS computing fiasco). The consumer group Which?' is also against this. There has been no 'public' consultation on this and little or no info from the media.

The German government has looked at this extra cost to the customer and has decided that this is NOT acceptable! A number of peer-reviewed studies have shown that individuals will not make savings, so WHY embark on a £12 billion roll -out?

Another European state has also decided NOT to participate in the mandatory smart grid due to the fact that the surveillance aspect might infringe Human Rights when all our energy consumption habits are monitored 24/7, whether we use the shower, the washing machine etc AND whether we are out or on holiday. WHO will be able to get hold of all this data whilst each one of us will deliver a complete personal profile? As the `Take back your Power' DVD shows in a statement by David Patraeus, former Director of `Wired' "We'll spy on you through







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Also, 'smart' meters can turn off your power remotely and a Cyber Attack on the 'wireless' Smart Grid or even an unusually strong solar flare or manmade electromagnetic pulse (EMP) event can shut down the power/water supply of a whole city or country and plunge it into darkness. EMP would fry the circuitry in smart meters but leave traditional analogue meters undamaged. Huge loss of life has been predicted by experts in the US due to such events.

But now to the most important point and one which might affect the health of every one of us. Having a gas and electricity `smart' meter in your home will be like living with two Mobile Phone Masts `inside' your house which pulse microwave radiation 24/7. PLEASE watch the reports of affected citizens in the US and decide for yourself whether you allow these meters into your homes. It is amazing that `Public Health England' still refers to this wireless microwave radiation as harmless after the WHO has declared these frequencies as 2B CARCINOGENS. The many thousand peer reviewed scientific studies showing health effects (some of these documents can also be viewed on www.bemri.org) have been completely ignored by the PHE.

If children sleep near these smart meters there will be consequences for their future health. The graphs affecting DNA in the `Take back your Power' DVD clearly demonstrate this. Microwave radiation from mobiles is bad enough but the additional effect of having two mobile phone masts inside our home will be the last straw for our health, particularly for young children, the elderly or those already suffering from immune deficiency or cancer.

Unfortunately, Thames Water has also decided to install `mandatory' smart water meters which will act like a THIRD Mobile Phone Mast, although in houses they will be situated in front of the property in the ground. Imagine a street full of mobile phone masts! However, in flats these water meters will be positioned mainly under the sink! Let Thames Water know that you are against mandatory wireless `smart' water meters. Not only can they affect your health, you will also pay for them in increased water rates. They can also be turned off `remotely'!!

So it doesn't look good for our future health, privacy and security or indeed for upholding our basic Human Rights unless we take action and inform ourselves of the facts in order to make an informed decision.

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The Cheapside Hoard: London's Lost Jewels The Museum of London until 27th April, £10

This exhibition explores the mysteries surrounding the hoard, which represents a goldsmith-jeweller's stock-in-trade. The exhibition considers why and when it was buried and by whom. It also uses the jewels to explore the wider landscape of 16th and 17th Century London,

and in particular, the clandestine world of the Elizabethan and Early Stuart goldsmith-jeweller.

New evidence is offered about the individuals and communities engaged in mining, cutting, trading and buying jewels and it will look at their creative talents, craft skills



and manufacturing techniques. The jewels are shown with a range of objects to reflect craftsmanship, taste and fashion, and portraits of goldsmith-jewellers, patrons and consumers are used to illustrate the importance of jewellery in early modern society.



When the hoard was found in 1912 it was immediately heralded as a landmark find in the history of the jewellers' craft because so little jewellery of this quality and date has survived. One hundred years on it is still regarded as a timecapsule of contemporary taste and it remains the most important source of our knowledge of Elizabethan and Early Stuart jewellery in England. It also provides

unparalleled information on London's role in the international gem trade in an age of global conquest and exploration.

This is the first time that the Cheapside Hoard has been displayed in its entirety since its unexpected discovery over 100 years ago. A jeweller's stock in trade, we

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now know that the hoard was buried between 1640 and 1666. The crucial clue comes from a previously overlooked intaglio (a gemstone with an engraved design), blazoned with the heraldic badge of William Howard, the first and only Viscount Stafford, (1612-1680).



At nearly 500 glittering pieces strong, the hoard includes delicate finger rings, cascading necklaces, Byzantine cameos, beautiful jewelled scent bottles, and a unique Colombian emerald watch. This priceless collection of jewels is the City of London's most exquisite stash of buried treasure. And it is the single most important source of our knowledge on early modern jewellery worldwide.

The Museum of London until 27th April, £10

Thanks to Nigel Israel

Pearls are treasured for their beauty and have been associated with wealth, royalty and glamour across cultures for centuries.

This exhibition explores the history of natural pearls from the early Roman Empire to the present. On display will be spectacular jewellery showcasing the many different shapes and colours of pearls. Highlights include a 16th-century salamander pendant, delicate art nouveau pieces, a group of magnificent tiaras

worn by European royalty and a pair of drop pearl earrings owned by Elizabeth Taylor.

There are also robes embroidered in pearls worn by Far Eastern rulers. Painted portraits and photographs document the fashion for wearing pearls and their symbolism in East and West. The exhibition examines early experiments in developing cultured pearls and how Kokichi Mikimoto in Japan made them affordable for all women.



The exhibition is organised in partnership with the Qatar Museums Authority who own one of the finest collection of jewels with natural pearls. The Victoria and Albert Museum until 19th January, *Thanks to Nigel Israel*

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Wimbledon Park Safer Neighbourhoods team

The Wimbledon Park Safer Neighbourhoods team is your dedicated police team. We focus on local issues in partnership with other agencies to deal with our priorities. The team currently has priorities of burglary, vehicle crime and antisocial behaviour (ASB). These are set after consultation with the Wimbledon Park ward panel. We meet four times each year and discuss crime and other local matters.

Contacting police - new non-emergency number 101

It has never been easier to report a crime or make the police aware of any suspicious activity in your local neighbourhood. As well as the "999" number, which should always be used if you require an immediate police response, you can contact us on "101". Generally speaking, if it's happening now telephone "999" and if it's happened and there is no need for an immediate police response then use the "101" number. Whichever number you use your call will be prioritised and you will be given some indication as to how and when the police will respond. Alternatively, you can contact the Wimbledon Park Safer Neighbourhood Team on 0208 721 2452 or email us at wimbledonpark.snt@met.police.uk. Please note that your SNT is not available 24 hours a day 7 days a week. You can contact Wimbledon Police Station directly on 0208 947 1212. In the case of an emergency always call 999.

Ward drop-in surgeries

The team is still required to make dates and times available for residents to come and see us. These are called ward surgeries. The dates and times are advertised on the team webpage which can be accessed via the Metropolitan Police official website then following the links to the neighbourhood teams. Select Merton, then Wimbledon Park. Of course we are always contactable when we are on duty and find that most people will either phone or e-mail us if they need advice or assistance.

Alleygate Schemes

Burglars and shed thieves will often look to gain entry to a property or garden at the rear where they will feel they are less likely to be seen by neighbours or passers-by. Alleys provide excellent cover and easy access to and from the rear of a property. Closing off these alleys reduces the risk of burglary. An "Alleygate Scheme" may provide protection from unwanted visitors by gating off the alley access points. Access to the alleys can only be gained by keys issued to all those within the particular scheme. The London Borough of Merton may provide up to 50% of the cost of installation with the balance being funded by those residents within the scheme. The more residents opting in means the cost will be reduced. The support of most, if not all of the residents is required before any work can begin. If you are interested please contact the Wimbledon Park SNT on 0208 721 2452 or wimbledonpark.snt@met.police.uk. One of the team will meet with you and consider if you would benefit from the scheme.

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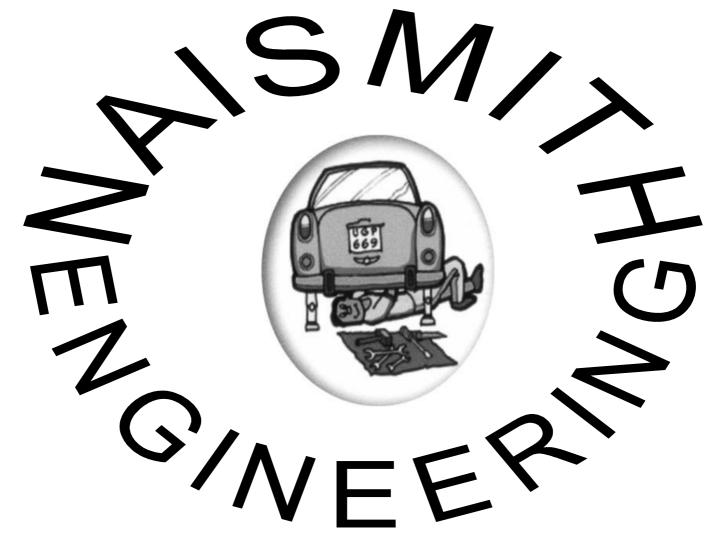
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