



**PETERBOROUGH ROAD & AREA
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**
Incorporating Clancarty Road,
Daisy Lane and Settrington Road.

PRARA NEWSLETTER

Volume No. THREE

Issue No.15

Date: October 2004

OPEN EVENING - A DATE FOR PRARA MEMBERS' DIARIES

In advance of the seasonal celebrations, the PRARA committee would like to invite all members to a social gathering in the back room of the Duke of Cumberland pub (on the corner of Peterborough Road) from 6.30pm- 8pm on Monday 29 November. This will be an opportunity to meet the committee, your neighbours and other members for an informal chat. It will be a BYO (buy your own) occasion and Neil at the Duke of C has kindly offered to provide the nibbles. Please RSVP to Ann so we can anticipate numbers.

The committee also extends a warm welcome to the new members in Clancarty Road and Settrington Road.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH/SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM REPORT.

Andrew Gray, Neighbourhood Watch (NW) representative for Peterborough Road & Clancarty Road, attended the first meeting of the Fulham Police Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) on 16 August, along with the NW representatives in the Walham & Parsons Green Ward. Sands End Ward, (which includes Settrington Road & the part of Peterborough Road below Clancarty Road), is considered safe as it has a low crime statistics, and does not warrant special attention.

Andrew reports that the SNT is in effect going back to basics of the 'good old days' when communities had beat officers. The team comprises one Police Sergeant, (Mick MacDonald) 2 PCs (Ray Hayes & Jason Devlin), and 3 PCSOs, (community officers: Matt Boardman, Kerry Graham & Mark Lyons).

Their brief is to cut crime and cut the fear of crime and they will work closely with the eight Walham & Parsons Green Ward NW representatives each of whom will identify the priorities of the streets they represent.

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The SNT team outlined the role of the Walham & Parsons Green Ward NW representatives. This is to build individual networks and gather information from their communities/neighbours regarding their specific concerns, and report these concerns to the SNT. Then the options available will be discussed, the problems tackled, and the actions/results reported back via the NW representative to the residents concerned.

Currently the issues identified by the NW representatives as affecting the ward are anti-social behaviour, insufficient or limited support from the Council, licensing, and problems residents are having contacting the police.

The SNT will set up an email information loop to keep in contact with all NW representatives, and offer crime prevention tips.

The streets covered by the Walham & Parsons Green Ward NW representatives are: Broomhouse Road, Linver Road, Alderville Road, Hurlingham Road, (and all roads west up to the junction of Hurlingham Road and New Kings Road), Cedarne Road, Walham Green Estate, Waterford Road, Moore Park Road, Britannia Road, Maxwell Road, Rumbold Road, Holmstead Road, Peterborough Estate, Harwood Mews, Musgrave Crescent, Harwood Road, Kemp Road, Blake Gardens, Peterborough Road, Clancarty Road, Favart Road, Campana Road, Basuto Road, Novello Street.

Parsons Green area was identified as needing a NW representative.

Sands End Ward: It is not known at the time of printing this newsletter if PRARA members in Settrington Road have a NW representative. We will check this. The section of Peterborough Road below Clancarty Road and which ends at Carnwarth Road is linked to NW coordinator, Andrew Grey, by new NW representatives Lance & Sue Pierson at No. 48. Tel: 020 7731 6544

Police Action:

- Anti-social behaviour

This has been identified as a major problem in the ward. It is being tackled with high visibility policing, which while not eradicating the problem has produced results. Youths on bikes and mopeds and those hanging about in large intimidating groups is the problem currently being tackled. The SNT is working with the Council to take out ABCs (Anti-Social Behaviour Contracts) on some youths causing these problems. Anti-social behaviour on Eel Brook Common has been tackled and gates have been erected to make it harder for mopeds and bikes to enter the Common. There has been a positive result to these measures, as there are more families and residents are now using the Common.

Sullivan Court – Following a complaint from a PRARA member regarding the intimidating behaviour of a crowd of youths who regularly congregate outside the shops in Sullivan Court, the SNT have applied for a dispersal order (under the Anti-social Behaviour Act) allowing the police to disperse groups who are causing trouble. While waiting for the council to sign the order, uniformed police will patrol the area as often as possible.

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A dispersal zone to combat anti-social behaviour came into force on 25th October. It covers roads on either side of the southern-most end of the King's Road where residents have experienced vandalism, graffiti, late night noise, swearing and harassment and intimidation over the last 18 months, from groups of 20 to 30 teenagers. The zone has been created by the SNT using new powers available to the police. Although the zone does not cover PRARA's territory it is an encouraging indication of the increased police activity requested by PRARA.

- Council

Concern was expressed by the SNT that they were not getting enough resources and cooperation from the Council. Although under the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, the Council have statutory obligations to assist the police to combat community problems, where possible the SNT encourage all residents to take every opportunity to remind the Council of their responsibilities to the community. However one NW representative who chairs a bi-monthly focus meeting in the Town Hall, said that the Council acknowledges these responsibilities, although another said that in his experience, the Council did not take enough notice of local Councillors in this respect.

- Licensing

With respect to the noise caused by drinkers at the Slug & Lettuce in Fulham Broadway, licensing issues now need to be discussed with the Environmental Health Department at the Council regarding noise pollution. The police can no longer object to a license on the grounds that there are enough already.

- Phoning the Police

Sgt. Mick MacDonald explained that all residents should call 999 if they witness a crime or suspect a criminal act and need a swift police response. On other occasions they can call the numbers given below. If answered by a machine he asked PRARA members not to be put off if they do not get an immediate response, as police resources are stretched. However it is important that everyone reports all incidents however trivial or small as all calls are logged and all information is recorded and any trend or pattern of petty crime or anti-social activity can be detected and give the local police a clearer picture of potential criminal activity. Please leave your name number and time of call so they can get back to you if necessary.

The advice is: Urgent calls – 999

For Walham & Parsons Green residents only: non-urgent calls; Safer Neighbourhood Team office: 020 8246 2993 .

For Sands End Ward; The Fulham Control Room is: 020 8246 2902

Currently there is only one SNT team operating in this part of Fulham. There are plans to create two more teams which will probably be deployed to cover Fulham Town Centre and Munster Ward. PRARA will keep closely in touch with these developments and report back to members. Sands End Ward has low crime statistics and is therefore not the focus of the current policing policy. However this will change if there is any rise in crime or anti-social behaviour detected by residents' calls to the police.

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- Other issues

Delivery of phone books during a bank holiday weekend is an open invitation to burglars. The SNT have contacted BT regarding the delivery of phone directories during last August Bank Holiday when householders may be away, and found they were not helpful about the scheduling of deliveries. So all PRARA members are advised to call BT and request that phone book deliveries are made while residents are at home, or not left in view of the street. The BT phone number to call is 0800 833400.

The poor lighting on Parsons Green has now been rectified.

During routine SNT patrols they have noticed windows left open in unoccupied premises. Please remember to lock all windows securely, and double lock doors.

- NEW BURGLARY WARNING

A Peterborough Road member, (in the Walham & Parsons Green Ward), has just suffered two attempted break-ins with the thieves trying to gain entry by forcing the front door – not in the centre near the main lock, but at the top or bottom. The police have advised that this new, (London wide), technique involves one person ringing the bell of a dark house. If there is no reply the door is tested probably using a scooter as a battering ram. If entry seems possible others are called and entry attempted or gained. We are advised to avoid leaving the house dark when out, and at night to secure the front door at the top and bottom either with locks or sturdy bolts, in addition to the central lock.

SOUTH PARK CAMPAIGN - PROGRESS REPORT

PRARA's letter to the Leader of the Council, Andrew Slaughter, requesting a major improvement scheme for South Park, (see Newsletter 14 – June 04), was acknowledged by him and he promised a full response. So far, though, we have only received an extremely non-committal letter from the Director of Direct Services, Roger Khanna, offering a meeting with one of his officers.

Whilst PRARA accepted the offer of a meeting (which will take place on 12th November), the Standing Committee were unanimous in considering Mr. Khanna's response to be totally inadequate. PRARA has therefore written again to the Council requesting adequate funds be made available for a comprehensive park scheme. Letters have been sent to Andrew Slaughter, Roger Khanna and Geoff Alltimes, the Council's Managing Director. PRARA has also sent copies of the letters to our local councillors, Nick Botterill and Brendan Bird.

We are also pleased to announce that Beth Patrick, a recent arrival in Clancarty Road, has agreed to work with Charles Truman with a view to taking over as our South Park representative, and that Lance & Sue Pierson at No 48 (Tel 7731 6544) are now looking after the NW interests of the south end of Peterborough Road.

BISHOP'S PARK FIREWORKS

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The Council are again providing Bonfire Night fireworks displays - but not in South Park!! The nearest display is in Bishops Park and takes place on Friday 5th November; gates open 6.30 pm with fireworks at 8 pm. Admission on the night is £5.00. Pre-book for £3.50 by calling 020 7736 3854. Free admission for under 5's. No animals, alcohol, or personal sparklers or fireworks allowed.

HURLINGHAM CLUB / DAISY LANE

PRARA members in Daisy Lane are very concerned about the possibility of the Hurlingham Club allowing pedestrian access via their back gate in Broomhouse Lane, as they consider this will cause parking and late night noise problems. Guy Nicholson, as the PRARA Daisy Lane Representative, is in correspondence with the Hurlingham Club Secretary to try and discourage such use of the gate.

WANDSWORTH BRIDGE ROAD BUS LANE

The Council is proposing to introduce a bus lane running northbound from Clancarty Road to Stokenchurch Street, with waiting prohibited from 7am to 8pm Monday to Saturday, and is currently conducting a public consultation exercise. PRARA has not been asked for our views, presumably on the assumption that we do not cover Wandsworth Bridge Road. However, some members may be affected and wish to comment on the plans. Although objections to this were requested before the end of October, anyone wishing to make their views known, can either write to: Environment Department, Highways and Engineering, London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, Town Hall, King Street, London, W6 9JU, or telephone the project engineer Henry Morgan on 020 8752 3031.

The shopkeepers in Wandsworth Bridge Road are strongly opposed to the bus lane and fighting the plan, supported by Conservative Councillor Greg Hands. If implemented, the bus lane would be introduced on a six month temporary basis - but supposedly temporary council schemes often seem to become permanent ones.

DRAFT STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

As the Council is particularly keen for residents' associations to be consulted on licensing matters, the Standing Committee considered it important that PRARA should respond to the questionnaire we received about this new policy document. The final version of the policy will govern how the Council deals with all licensing matters from next February, when local authorities takes over all responsibility for them.

PRARA has generally welcomed the proposed policy which is exceptionally well written and comprehensive and appears to provide all the relevant protections we would expect. However, until the new system is actually in use, we will not know how well it is being implemented and whether the policy needs amendment. A review of the policy must, by law, be undertaken every three years.

The policy provides for public consultation before any application is decided, with local organisation, (in our case PRARA), and occupants of premises near the application site being given an opportunity to comment or object. The procedure appears to be similar to that for planning applications. Any

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resident will have the right to challenge a licensing decision by the Council by appealing to the Magistrates Court.

The draft policy encourages complaints about any licensed venue to initially be made direct to the licensee. As this could be daunting to some people, PRARA has requested that complaints can be made to an enforcement officer rather than the licensee, if preferred by a resident. In response to our specific questions, the Council have advised PRARA that they do not anticipate any material increase in the number of licensed premises after they take over responsibility for licensing, and that they have been assured by Government that license fees - which will be set by regulation - will be set at a level sufficient to allow authorities to recover the costs incurred in the administration of the new system, although these figures have not yet been released.

NEW BOLLARD WARDEN

We are delighted to announce that Clancarty Road member, Penny Mitchell, has become our Bollard Warden. She congratulated the Council on the recent very rapid repair following destruction of the bollard after it was hit by a car.

RESIDENTS' PARKING - FULHAM CHRONICLE CORRECTION

The Fulham Chronicle ran a piece about the new parking regulations in Q Zone, which came into force last month, with an interview with two residents, PRARA member Lady Melanie Beaumont and Hon. Sec. Ann Rosenberg. Ann would like it to be noted that the piece did not make clear that the opinions expressed were personal ones and not those of PRARA.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

There have been no further planning developments for the now empty Chandler & Co site in Peterborough Road. Committee member Paul Leonard has a watching brief on this, and would welcome any information on other planning applications in the area from PRARA members.

COMMITTEE NEWS

PRARA still needs more committee members! We continue to search for a new Co-ordinator, someone to take over from Andrew Gray as our NW Representative and a Settrington Road representative. Please do think about helping - it takes up little time and the committee meetings are interesting, social and business-like.

NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL

If you would like to receive newsletters by e-mail we would be very pleased, as this would save money and speed delivery. Just send an e-mail to Ann Rosenberg to tell her.

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