



PRARA

NEWSLETTER

PETERBOROUGH ROAD & AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Incorporating Clancarty Road, Daisy Lane,
Settrington Road, Hugon Road & Sullivan Road.

Volume No. FOUR

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Date: NOVEMBER 2005

PRE-CHRISTMAS SOCIAL MEETING – A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Last year's informal social gathering at the Duke of Cumberland was a great success, and in response to members' requests it was decided to repeat the occasion again this year. The venue will be **Aragon House, 247 New Kings Road**, (next door to the British Legion Club), in their basement room. The date for your diaries is **Wednesday 16 November**, from **6pm-8pm**. It's a BYO (Buy Your Own) occasion. Come along and meet your Safer Neighbourhood police teams who patrol roads in the PRARA membership area, (work permitting), and our two Councillors, Nick Botterill (Parson's Green & Walham ward), and Brendan Bird (Sands End ward), who also hope to be there. It's an opportunity to meet neighbours and other members and talk to the police about any concerns. Exchange of information can be very useful. And greater familiarity with our neighbours makes Neighbourhood Watch more effective. Bring a guest if you wish.

Please let Ann Rosenberg know if you are going to attend, even if only for a short time. We need to know numbers.

SPRING OPEN MEETING

The next Open Meeting will be in February/March (date to be advised). The principal speaker will be the Headmaster of Hurlingham & Chelsea School, Phil Cross, and the meeting will be in the school.

HURLINGHAM & CHELSEA SCHOOL MEETING

As a result of PRARA's complaints, Headmaster Phil Cross invited members of the PRARA committee to the school to discuss issues affecting the local community. He feels that

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there is a need to build a communication network as Hurlingham & Chelsea School has a reputation as a troubled and failing school with discipline problems. Phil Cross acknowledged the problems were real but explained that since his appointment as Headmaster in May 2004 there have been improvements not only in school discipline but also in this year's exam results, which are the best achieved so far.

PC Ferris, who was also at the meeting, replaced PC Sparks in May 2005 as the embedded policeman – the second school in the borough to have this arrangement which is part of the Safer School Partnership. He is a member of staff and also supports the citizenship programme.

The changes initiated by Phil Cross include altering school attendance times for a later morning start, longer breaks, lunch eaten at tables, electronic registers to track truants, and no children allowed out during the school day. There is a policy of zero tolerance regarding standards of behaviour. All misdemeanours however trivial, are reported and all complaints are investigated, and the children taken to task. This applies to all behaviour including dropping litter. Pupils are beginning to realise that they can't get away with bad behaviour.

Phil Cross emphasised that he would like residents to report such incidents or any other concern or complaints to either himself or Nick Ferris, so they can be addressed immediately. Nick Ferris's pager number (during school term) is 07659 115932.

Phil Cross is keen to establish links with the local community. He is happy for residents to visit and walk round the school and meet staff and pupils. He has found that if pupils and residents know or recognise each other, the behaviour of the pupils can improve. He is open to any suggestions as to how to establish links with residents, and welcomes suggestions.

Among the suggestions made by PRARA committee is the recruitment of residents/PRARA members who may be interested in helping children with their reading or act as mentors to individuals. This need not involve much time. Any members who would like to participate can either contact Phil Cross directly or wait until the Open Meeting and speak to him in person.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH UPDATE.

It was reported that there was a rise in crime during the summer when police forces were diverted to other duties because of the security fears after the London bombings in July. Crime figures are now returning to previous levels. Summer burglaries were also up, mostly because of householder's carelessness. But overall, crime figures in the two wards were down, and although not a 'hot-spot', crime in the Wandsworth Bridge area was beginning to creep up.

The SNT will be concentrating their work in the Hurlingham Road area for the next 3 months, after reports of late night disturbance after pub closing time.

On Nov 3 the 3rd Operation Ten-Pin would take place in Fulham Town Centre between 10am-midnight, when all specialist police teams will sweep the area. Council graffiti clearance will also be checked.

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The Pub Watch initiative between the SNT and pub managers has had some success as the hand-bag thefts from the White Horse and Aragon House have dropped, after CCTV footage from both bars was shown to other pub landlords in the area. Although there was no positive identification or arrests, certain individuals were repeatedly seen in the footage. Word must have got around, because since then they appear to have left the scene altogether.

Street robberies – these now involve a couple of thieves acting together, and targeting both men & women.

It also appears that although villains won't pass on information to the police, they are likely to speak to the PCSOs, and the intelligence they gather has proved very useful to the teams.

The Broom Farm problem comes to court in November.

As Christmas approaches, there is a need to raise awareness among residents not to leave goods in cars and their homes in full view of passers-by.

Compared with other parts of the borough, Fulham is one of the safer areas. However householders and residents should do all they can to be aware of the possibility of crime and safeguard their possessions accordingly.

NORTH FULHAM NDC COMMUNITY SAFETY PROGRAMME

If you are concerned or worried that you could be a victim of violence, and want to know how to better protect yourself against threat of attack, the community safety programme would be of help.

The London Centre for Personal Safety, a Charity with over twenty years experience of providing personal safety and self-defence training, is running a Community Safety Programme in the North Fulham NDC area. The Programme of courses and workshops will target Black and Minority Ethnic groups, Older and Disabled groups, Women, Boys (11 to 14) and Young Men (14 to 18). There will also be training Open to All who either live or work in the area.

The training, which is **FREE to all attending**, teaches psychological, social, and self-defence skills, preparing people to respond to a range of situations – from aggressive behaviour to the threat of violence.

If you or members of the family are interested, you will need to complete an Expression of Interest form attached to this newsletter and return to the address on the form, or download it from:

<http://www.londoncentreforpersonalsafety.org.uk/NFNDC/BookingForm.html>.

THE LONDON CENTRE FOR PERSONAL SAFETY (Registered Charity No: 1009482).
PO Box 38883, London W12 9XP

T: 020 8743 7827 or 020 8740 1114 E: lcps@demon.co.uk

Website: <http://www.londoncentreforpersonalsafety.org.uk>

PARKING SURVEY

PRARA registered a strong protest about the organisation of the recent questionnaire and the wrong date printed on the ballot papers, but was unable to obtain any satisfaction.

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Our protests were, however the subject of a front page story in the Fulham Gazette. The outcome of the survey has yet to be published.

NEW LICENSING REGULATIONS

The Duke on the Green (formerly the Duke of Cumberland). Residents living close to these premises registered strong objections to the requested late night extensions mainly on the basis of increased noise and disturbance. We have not yet received a copy of the new licence but it is believed that some of the original requests were modified. PRARA did not make a formal objection but advised we would not hesitate to invoke the Council's complaints procedure should problems occur after the new licence comes into force on 24th November.

CLANCARTY ROAD – RESTAURANT PREMISES

The former 'Little Italy' restaurant on the corner of Clancarty Road and Wandsworth Bridge Road, which has been derelict and an eyesore for some years, is currently being fitted out as a Cafe Nero. This use will hopefully not cause any problems to the residents who were adversely affected by the way the former restaurant was run. The new cafe is scheduled to open in mid-November.

PLANNING – 28 PETERBOROUGH ROAD

A revised planning application for the redevelopment of the former Chandlers bottling plant as workplace units is being prepared. The scheme has been reduced in scale from the one recently refused planning permission and the density is now of the same magnitude as the existing buildings. The architects for the scheme have consulted PRARA about the revised design and we are currently in amicable discussions with them.

DONATIONS – A MESSAGE FROM HON. TREASURER CHRISSY STENNING.

Dear Members,

If you have not yet made a donation for this year and would like to do so, please either put the money through my letter box, 15 Peterborough Road, (in an envelope with your name and address) or give me a ring and I will come and collect.

We have suggested a voluntary donation of not more than £5.00, to cover the cost of paper and printing of newsletters. No cheques please, as we do not have a bank account.

Many thanks for your support.

Chrissy Stenning
Hon. Treasurer.

SOUTH PARK

Beth Patrick is continuing to have meetings with the Council with proposals as to the improvements in the park, and continuing maintenance.

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LIVING STREETS - COMMUNITY AUDIT.

PRARA continues to press the Council for a local audit.

CHELSEA FOOTBALL GROUND LIAISON MEETING

A report was not available at the time of printing but will be included in the next newsletter.

YOUR HELP PLEASE

To maintain and increase its influence PRARA needs to keep its membership vibrant. One way we can do this is for all members to recruit their neighbours, especially new ones who arrive when a property changes hands. Please will you help by inviting any neighbour who is not yet a member to join PRARA. Contact Ann for membership forms or any other literature or information.

NEW BLOOD NEEDED

Anthony Williams agreed to be acting co-ordinator 18 months ago on the expectation that we would be able to find a permanent replacement relatively soon. So far no one has yet come forward and Anthony is now finding it increasingly difficult to be fulfil the role effectively due to his other commitments, both business and family. Please consider volunteering - call Anthony for a chat.

EMAIL ADDRESS UPDATE

Please email anntony@which.net so we can update our records.

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