



PETERBOROUGH ROAD & AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

PRARA NEWSLETTER

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Since the last PRARA Newsletter in August, we can report some progress in the regeneration of South Park, the curbing of graffiti, and the distribution of Neighbourhood Watch fact file to all members. If any new members need a fact file, please contact PRARA's secretary, Ann Rosenberg.

SOUTH PARK

Groundwork, the company responsible with the council, for the new planting in South Park by Woolneigh Street, called a Press Conference on Wednesday December 18. The event was celebrated by a performance given by a London based New Yorker, Jared Louche, - poet, performer and musician, attended by group of pupils from the Hurlingham & Chelsea School who are in a creative writing group as well as representatives from the council, Groundwork and PRARA. The event was opened by Cllr. Brendan Bird, (who represents Sands End Ward), who planted a silver birch tree to mark the event.

The South-East corner of the park has been transformed to encourage more people to walk through, and seating, made from recycled plastic, has been placed where people can look out over the sports area. The improved surfaces and scented planting make the corner a peaceful contemplative area, and the new trees planted have been chosen for their colourful foliage to give year round interest and encourage wildlife. For those who have an interest in gardens, a list of the plants is attached, their choice dictated mainly by the necessity to be low-maintenance, since the park beds tend locally to be neglected, as PRARA and Groundwork have discussed.

Patricia Hicks was asked for a comment for Groundwork's press release and gave the following on behalf of PRARA: " As the local defenders of South Park we welcome this well-designed new garden from Groundwork West London and will be relying on the borough council to maintain it so that it does not gradually decline as other areas of the park have tended to do."

However the council indicated that they would prefer this quote omitted from Groundwork's press release, so PRARA sent it independently to the local newspapers.

PRARA CONTACTS

Coordinator: Patricia Hicks, 75 Peterborough Road. Tel: 7736 4251

Neighbourhood Watch: Andrew Gray, 65 Peterborough Road. Tel: 7751 0119 Email: graya@aforges.co.uk

Clancarty Road Representative: Anthony Williams, 59 Clancarty Road. Tel: 7736 6045 Email: Gileswill@aol.com

Secretary: Ann Rosenberg, 72 Peterborough Road. Tel: 7731 5151 Email: annony@which.net

Patricia Hicks and the entire committee, on behalf of PRARA, have written to the Director of Direct Services at the council about the regeneration and need for maintenance of South Park in the future, attaching a portfolio of photographs of the areas most in need of attention, plus copy letters from concerned PRARA members. We will keep you in touch, once the council replies.

GRAFFITI

Anthony Williams reports that the Borough has a Graffiti Action Team which is responsible for removing graffiti from Council owned properties. They will also provide free quotations for its removal from private property. Contact the Smarter Borough Hotline on 020 8753 1100.

We also now have a new Street Scene Enforcement Officer, Alan Halford, who deals specifically with graffiti and fly posting. He can be contacted on 020 8753 309 or by e-mail: Alan.Halford@lbhf.gov.uk.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Anthony Gray reports that we are still trying to arrange for NW street signs to be erected but this is proving to be difficult/slow following the withdrawal of the NW sponsor – Yellow Pages. We are hopeful that some signs will be erected in the New Year.

The holiday season is a key time to make sure you have taken all possible precautions against burglary. If you are going away don't forget to tell a neighbour so that they can keep an eye out for any irregular behaviour and also to cancel the papers/milk so that it is not too obvious that you are away.

There is a fact sheet in the Neighbourhood Watch pack with helpful tips, and of course, don't leave gifts near windows, or anywhere visible, and lock all purchases in the boot of the car, out of sight.

FULHAM SOCIETY

This civic society is hoping to deepen and extend its membership in Fulham to attract younger members. It already holds a summer garden party in the grounds of Fulham Palace and a Christmas carol service, (on December 11 this year), at the chapel of the Palace: both open only to members and their guests. It is planning a website and more publicity culminating next year in a 'Fulham Society Week' to include other local groups. It is probably the prime expert in Fulham on planning applications, especially major ones. If you are interested in joining, membership costs £5 and the secretary is Maya Donelan. Tel: 020 7736 0717

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At its recent AGM the society gained the Bishop of London, Richard Chartres, as its new president, replacing Matthew Carrington who stepped down to become vice-president. It occurred to some members that perhaps a bishop – undoubtedly a coup – might not be the most trendy president to appeal to younger persons, but you never know.

GOODBYE TO BACCHUS

One of the more interesting local businesses in Peterborough Road will finally move out in January, taking its wine and history with it. J Chandler & Co, (founded 1927), at the yard at the top end of the street, near the Duke of Cumberland, which has been there since 1940, is moving to Andover in Hampshire, leaving just a chap or two behind to oversee the moving of some gigantic machinery.

Chandlers, which is a wine merchant and tonic winemakers (Buckfast Abbey Wine), occupies a site which is thought once to have been a munitions factory in the Great War of 1914-1918; ball bearings and other military detritus are discovered from time to time. Managing Director Anthony Joyce will be taking the company portraits from the panelled boardroom with him; unfortunately the company's splendid cellar of wines was recently auctioned at Sothebys. Bacchus may be replaced with self-storage: a company who has put in a planning application to the council, who are in favour of continued industrial use of the site.

FESTIVE GREETINGS

Patricia Hicks and the committee wish you all a Happy and peaceful Christmas and a productive New Year.



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