



# PRARA

## NEWSLETTER

PETERBOROUGH ROAD & AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

[www.prara.org.uk](http://www.prara.org.uk)

Incorporating Clancarty Road, Daisy Lane,  
Settrington Road, Hugon Road, South Park Mews & Sullivan Road.

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### ***A HAPPY AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!***

**All PRARA members and their guests are all invited to our annual Social Evening, 6.30pm-8.30pm at Aragon House, New Kings Road , opposite Parsons Green Lane), on Tuesday 5 February 2008.**

**It's an opportunity to meet the committee, our local police SNT teams and fellow PRARA members and discuss any concerns you may have. It's also useful feedback for the Committee.**

**It's a BYO occasion (buy your own), so you may purchase your drinks at the bar and bring them down to the basement room where we all gather.**

#### **1 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN MEETING**

The November open meeting held at Hurlingham & Chelsea School was devoted to the forthcoming Borough Open Spaces Strategy and South Park, and was addressed by the Parks Development Manager, Rob Kelly.

Mr. Kelly stressed that he was personally committed to securing a major improvement scheme for South Park as was the council. South Park is now the only major open space in the borough without a master plan and Mr. Kelly considered that the park is a prime candidate for Green Flag status.

Mr. Kelly explained how the new Parks Department, which has three strands and is headed by Linda Reynolds, fitted into the new Residents' Services Directorate. The strands were development, sport and maintenance. He announced that a new maintenance contract had been awarded to a specialist contractor called Quadron who are scheduled to take over from Direct Services in March 2008. Quadron's other contracts include those for Holland Park and Kensington Gardens.

Mr. Kelly explained why the Open Spaces Strategy was necessary and used the meeting to hear comments from PRARA members as part of the current consultation he was conducting which

would guide the final version. He anticipated that a draft Master Plan for South Park would be produced in 2008 with all residents asked to comment on it. He was optimistic that the plan would be actioned in 2009.

## **2 SOUTH PARK UPDATE**

The first phase of the restoration of the Peterborough Road external brick wall has been completed by specialist contractors. This repaired section runs from the council yard to the pedestrian gate. The disused avery and derelict raised beds in the centre of the park have all been removed and the area grassed, pending re-use as determined by the master plan.

As reported at the Open Meeting, new specialist contractors have been appointed to look after all the borough open spaces and are scheduled to take over in April. It has since be learned that the council Direct Services staff who currently do the work will be transferred to the new contractor but the council believe that a tight specification and better management will produce a much higher standard of maintenance.

PRARA Campaign Chairman Anthony Williams continues to lobby Councillors to provide funding and he and Beth Patrick toured the park in December with Cllr. Paul Bristow, who is the new Cabinet Member responsible for Residents' Services. The Parks Department is part of Residents' Services and Cllr. Bristow was very positive about the priority need for South Park improvements.

## **3 PRARA MEMBERSHIP**

Chrissy Stenning Hon Treasurer and Membership Secretary reports:

There has been a very satisfactory response to requests for donations, so thank you to everyone who has contributed their fiver. The membership continues to expand and we are regularly welcoming new members.

Please urge your neighbours to join if they are not already members. More members increase our power and effectiveness .

## **4 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

### **E-mail crime alerts**

If you not already receiving the e-mail crime alerts put out by our SNTs, and have e-mail, please advise Chrissy Stenning and Lance & Sue Pierson and we will add your name to the distribution list. Their contact details are on the back page and on the web site.

From: Lance and Sue Pierson  
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators

The encouraging trend of lower crime figures year on year suffered a nasty reverse over the Christmas / New Year period. There was a spate of burglaries in the PRARA area, and some of our members were among the victims. The police have made some arrests and have other suspects under observation; they were given permission to work extra hours to patrol our area, and thankfully the wave of crime has receded again.

But we need to revive our vigilance. The rash of break-ins comes as an unwelcome, but perhaps necessary wake-up call. We all need to check whether we are observing the basic precautions that the police have been urging on us for so long.

One of the gangs was looking particularly for spare keys to cars, motor-bikes, etc, in order to steal them as well. So:

- (1) Front and rear doors must have a 5-lever mortice deadlock BS3621. Most insurance policies insist on this. Banham locks have stood up well to recent burglary attempts. For advice on communal doors contact the police crime prevention officer on 020 8246 2509.
- (2) Ground floor and accessible windows must be lockable. Always close the windows and lock your home when you leave it, however briefly.
- (3) Do not leave keys near your front door, or in any 'obvious' place where burglars are likely to look.
- (4) Keep on the look-out for your neighbour's property. That is what Neighbourhood Watch is for.
- (5) If you see anything suspicious, call 999. Better to cause a false alarm than to enable a crime by holding back.

These basic precautions make us all much safer. Let's work together to bring those crime statistics back down again.

**Below is the latest SNT report sent out to Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators.**

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Michael.MacDonald2@met.police.uk

**To:** undisclosed-recipients:

**Sent:** Monday, January 14, 2008 12:30 PM

**Subject:** Parsons Green & Walham Update and Crime Summit information.

Dear All,

**BURGLARY:**

Unfortunately the whole borough seems to have suffered quite heavily from residential burglaries between Christmas and New Year. Parsons Green & Walham did not escape unscathed I'm afraid with a total of seven burglaries or attempts. That said, the total number of burglaries on the ward between 1st November and 11th January has decreased from 34 last year to 31 this year. The area around Clancarty Road was worst hit and initial indications are that one or two very active teams of burglars were operating in this area.

We have now seen this trend stop. In addition, on Thursday 10th January the borough held a "Day of Action" in respect of burglary suspects and handlers. A series of warrants were executed and it seems that these were fairly successful. Several of our most active offenders were arrested and stolen property recovered.

One of my colleagues on the Fulham Town team has identified a series of burglaries on his ward whereby entry has been gained/attempted by breaking or removing a small piece of stained glass from the door or the glass panels beside the door. This allows access to the interior door lock. Fortunately the doors on three of the five offences he has identified had been double locked, so entry was not actually gained. I am not aware of this method having been used on our ward yet, but please bear it in mind if your door has stained glass panels. **Don't forget to use the double locking facility!**

**CON MEN OPERATING:**

We have also received several reports from residents in different parts of the ward regarding bogus callers. At Brightwells in Clancarty Road we have had a tanned male in his early thirties purporting to represent Talk Talk. His claim was that Talk Talk was merging with BT and was asking for bank account details in order to arrange "a 25% discount". Enquiries have shown that this is not a genuine offer. In addition the "salesman" disappeared very quickly when a resident decided to take his picture on his mobile phone.

We have also been advised that two males, one white the other black, aged 20 and 18 respectively, have been calling at addresses in Sir Oswald Stoll Mansions. This predominantly houses the more elderly and vulnerable members of the community. These two claimed to be from Carphone warehouse and wanted to see the account statements of residents. Once again, this has been shown not to be genuine.

Both of these reports now tie in with information that has been passed to my colleagues in passing conversation, regarding "pushy" Talk Talk salesmen operating on the Peterborough Estate. At this stage we are not aware of any of these incidents leading to anyone being left out of pocket, but please be extra careful when unsolicited callers come to your door. Insist on seeing their identification and don't hesitate to call the police if you are not happy. After all, if they are genuine they will understand and will wait around. The telephone number for Hammersmith and Fulham control is **020 8563 1212**.

**5 PLANNING: DEVELOPMENT OF 28 PETERBOROUGH SITE**

PRARA's preferred option for the design of the buildings has been accepted by the planning committee.

**6 SALE OF THE CASTLE CLUB**

The Castle Youth Club in Broomhouse Lane is currently under offer to a private buyer for £5m. The Council has not yet informed the South Fulham community of a replacement for the lost facilities.

## **7 PRARA WEBSITE**

Pressures on Standing Committee members have meant that some parts of the web site have been out of date for longer than is desirable. Nearly all the necessary amendments have now been made with the remainder to follow shortly. The web site is a useful reference source and includes information about South Park and Neighbourhood Watch, past newsletters and contact details for PRARA committee members and the Council. Please e-mail the web master if you spot any anomalies.



### **PRARA COMMITTEE MEMBERS CONTACT LIST**

#### ***Coordinator:***

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***Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator & Parsons Green & Walham Ward & Sands End Ward:*** Lance & Sue Pierson, 48 Peterborough Road Tel: 7731 6544 email: [lance@lancepierson.org](mailto:lance@lancepierson.org)

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***Hon. Treasurer & Membership Secretary:*** Chrissy Stenning, 15 Peterborough Road,  
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***Hugon Road & South Park Mews Representative:*** Allan Kelly, 28 Hugon Road, Tel: 7731 3303 & 077465 98944 email: [wak2@talktalk.net](mailto:wak2@talktalk.net)

***Sullivan Road Representative:*** Brendan Bird, 1 Sullivan Rd. Tel 7736 8722  
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***Planning Representative:*** Paul Leonard, 21 Peterborough Road Tel: 7610 6827  
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#### **Non-Committee members**

***Chelsea Football Club liaison:*** Simon Champion, 14 Settrington Rd Tel: 07887 692918  
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