

PRARA NEWSLETTER

PETERBOROUGH ROAD & AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

www.prara.org.uk
Incorporating Clancarty Road, Daisy Lane,
Settrington Road, Hugon Road, South Park Mews & Sulivan Road.

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PRARA is looking forward to a productive 2009 despite the prevailing economic gloom. We are energetically competing with other London parks for the £400,000 grant which will make a great difference to the existing budget for the regeneration of South Park. PRARA has fought long and hard over the last four years to improve the maintenance of the park, and repair the perimeter wall in Peterborough and Hugon Roads. There is still much work to be done and we hope that there will be more visible progress this year.

PRARA is gaining members from other streets in the surrounding area which is encouraging, as although we must remain small enough for our volunteer committee members to administer we are happy to add Associate Members to our list. So if you have neighbours who are interested in our efforts to maintain and preserve the quality of life in our part of the borough, please ask them to get in touch so they can join and receive this newsletter as Associate Members. The membership secretary is Chrissy Stenning – contact details at the end of this newsletter.

The annual PRARA social evening was held at The White Horse on Parsons Green in October and was attended by a small but enthusiastic group of members and friends who enjoyed the opportunity to meet and discuss mutual concerns and interests. We will have another towards the end of this year.

2008 AGM

Nineteen members and guests attended the AGM last June, which was held at the White Horse pub on Parsons Green. In his review of the activities with which PRARA had been involved during the year, Co-ordinator Kevin Kissane stated that they broadly fell into three categories of planning issues, environmental issues and transport/traffic problems. He informed the meeting of the various issues which had arisen in each of these areas and the way in which PRARA had been able to influence them.

Anthony Williams brought the meeting up to date on progress concerning renovation of South Park, a subject which is addressed further in this newsletter.

The meeting also approved some minor amendments to the Constitution and elected officers and committee members for the following year.

Vote for South Park

If you have not already done so, please cast your vote to help South Park win a grant of £400,000 from the Mayor of London. You can vote

- Online at home or work <u>www.london.gov.uk/parksvote</u>
- Online using a computer in Sands End or Fulham Library the staff will help you if necessary, or
- by phoning City Hall on 020 7983 4100 and requesting a postal voting form.

Last date for voting is 30th January, but don't wait - vote now and encourage others to do the same.

South Park News

The tender brief for consultants for the production of the Master Plan has been completed and is now with potential bidders for the contract. An appointment is scheduled to be made at the beginning of February with the completed plan due by the end of October. The intervening period involves considerable local consultation, with PRARA being a key stakeholder. The tender brief includes the results of the PRARA organised Users' Group Consultation that took place in summer 2006.

Four of the six tennis courts have now been completely upgraded and are due to re-open at the end of January. The remaining two will be brought up to the same standard after the completion of necessary ground works caused by tree problems. The railings along the Clancarty Road frontage of the park have been fully and properly repainted - three coats after the removal of all the old paint. Amazing.....

Friends of South Park

The Working Group has now produced the Constitution and a Memorandum of Understanding. The Memorandum specifies how the Friends and the Council will work together. Both can be found on the South Park page of our web site. If you do not have a computer and would like a paper copy of either please call Anthony Williams.

The inaugural AGM will take place at Thomas's School in Hugon Road on Tuesday, 27th January from 7pm to 8pm, when the Constitution and Memorandum will be formally adopted and Officers and committee members appointed. If you could be interested in joining the committee please contact Anthony Williams; we are very keen to find people willing to be the Secretary or Treasurer.

Lycee at Peterborough School, Clancarty Road

A small PRARA delegation met the Head Teacher, Carine Capel, in November to discuss the traffic problems reported in the last newsletter, as well as additional problems that had arisen in the children's play area in South Park and more widely when children left at the end of the school day. Miss Capel was extremely sympathetic to our complaints and undertook to implement measures to deal with the problems, which she did. Traffic marshals were introduced and all parents were requested to be more considerate of local residents. There was a definite improvement which we hope will be maintained now that the new term has started. Please tell a PRARA committee member if you have any cause for complaints.

Neighbourhood Watch

IF YOU SUFFER A CRIME ...

please always report it to the police. You may think it's like locking the stable door after the horse has bolted; but the police need accurate crime statistics to get their funding; and their intelligence is improving all the time, so that they may be able to trace the criminals quickly.

PHONE NUMBERS FOR CONTACTING THE POLICE

If a crime is taking place, or you believe that a crime is about to take place, then you should ring 999 for the speediest response. If it's not an emergency, use the new police number: 0300 123 1212.

THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLES ...

is one of the highest volume crimes in our Borough.

- Always shut your windows and lock your doors, even if you are only leaving your vehicle for a short time.
- Never leave anything on display.
- If you use a SatNav, always remove it from the car, as well as any cradle or suction pads that come with it. There have been many SatNav thefts lately, including from PRARA members.
- Always keep your keys safe and never leave them in the ignition.

Remember - empty your car so that a thief can't!

HACAN

HACAN, the campaigning group working to prevent the building of a third runway at Heathrow and the end of runway alternation, recently reported that the decision on whether expansion was going ahead would be delayed.

Geoff Hoon, the Transport Secretary, will now be making a statement about this in January 2009. The reason for the delay is not stated but it is interesting that around 50 Labour MPs and some senior cabinet ministers have now joined the opposition parties in registering their protest. Quite apart from the wishes of local residents, with recent protests at Stansted making headlines and the world financial downtum, both environmental and economic factors now also mitigate against a yes vote.

HACAN are maintaining their campaign of active protests and actively urge all of us to write to key ministers to encourage them in their opposition. If you feel like joining in, write to Hilary Benn (bennh@parliament.uk), Ed Miliband milibande@parliament.uk, Harriet Harman harmanh@parliament.uk or John Denham denhamj@parliament.uk and let them know how you feel!

Website Editor needed

PRARA needs someone to act as the website editor. It involves keeping the pages up to date, and out of date items archived. You do not need specialist computer skills – just a keen eye. You will liaise with co-ordinator Kevin Kissane on content, and webmaster Bill Silvester who makes things happen on screen.

PRARA COMMITTEE MEMBERS CONTACT LIST

Coordinator.

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