



Peterborough Road & Area Residents' Association

incorporating Clancarty Road, Daisy Lane,
Hugon Road, South Park Mews, Sullivan Road
and Settrington Road

www.prara.org.uk

NEWSLETTER

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1- New web site launched

We are delighted to announce the launch of the new PRARA web site on 1st May. It has been created by our Membership Secretary / Treasurer, Luiz Motta. We hope you like it and we will welcome any and all comments.

We send a large thank you to Bill Silvester who was our web master for the old site for very many years and had to deal with an inflexible design.

2 - We have a new Secretary

It is great to be able to tell you that, after a long gap, the role has been filled by Valerie Piddington whom we are very pleased to welcome. Her contact details are in the committee panel at the end of the Newsletter.

3 - Neighbourhood Watch news

Neighbourhood Watch is not just about the community sharing information to reduce local crime but also about looking after and being aware of your neighbours. This is particularly so during these stressful times.

During the Covid-19 lockdown there has been a reduction of 40% in residential burglaries and robberies, which is welcome news, most likely due to the fact potential burglars know most people will be at home! Unfortunately as you will have heard on the News, there has been a considerable increase in the number of cases of domestic abuse. Police advice is that if in doubt and you think it is serious, ring 999 so they can make decision re urgency. Otherwise, for advice the domestic abuse line is: 0808 2000 247.

There has also been an increase in scams, online, on the telephone and on the doorstep. Never pay cash up front to anyone cold calling offering a service on your doorstep. Keep a close eye on your credit card bills. There have recently been increased reports of credit cards being cloned.

Hopefully we will slowly be able to get back to a normal way of life, in the meantime please support your neighbours.

4 - More lockdown help on offer to ALL Local Residents

While we are all in lockdown, if you prefer to avoid shops yourself, are self-isolating or know any elderly or frail local residents who would still appreciate or need help, there is a non profit organisation run from the Hurlingham Club that has the resources to support them. It is called *TLC during COVID* and its web site is www.tlcduringcovid.org

It is able to deliver food to residents in the South West London postcodes shown below. You can shop online with next day delivery. They deliver a good range of food sourced from leading wholesalers who normally serve the top restaurants and hotels – at prices that are usually lower than the supermarkets'; fresh fruit and veg, ready-meals, meat, fish, dairy and bread.

They have also raised funds to give more than 100 goodwill boxes free to people who are in serious need because of COVID-19 but who do not appear on any charity or Social Services radar. Among the beneficiaries of these boxes are young actors and musicians who are struggling through loss of work. TLC would love to hear if you know of a possible candidate for such support.

Orders can be placed online – if you really struggle with online shopping they will take telephone orders; everything is then delivered to your door by volunteers with appropriate social distancing. Due to the wonderful response by volunteers *TLC during COVID* presently covers the following postcodes:

SW1, SW3, SW4, SW5, SW6, SW7, SW10, SW11, SW12, SW13, SW14,

SW15, SW17, SW18, SW19, W4, W6, W8, W11 and W14

5 - Brendan Bird RIP

We are saddened to report that Brendan died peacefully at home at the beginning of April. We send our condolences and deepest sympathy to Viv, his widow. Brendan was honoured by Hammersmith & Fulham Council with the tribute which can be seen by using this link:

<https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/articles/news/2020/04/tributes-ex-councillor-and-sands-end-resident-brendan-bird>

6 - The Castle Centre update

The formal notice granting planning permission for the construction of a new extension to the listed building and its use as a 33 bed nursing home was issued on 26th March. The permission includes 45 conditions many of which provide protection for nearby residents.

7 - Peterborough Road Bollard

Our bollard warden, Penny Mitchell is awaiting information from the Council on the date for yet another re-instatement of the bollard after its latest victim put it out of action again. We will provide an update on the web site when we know more.

8 - Studdridge Street traffic scheme

The *No Right Turn* proposals which received a large number of objections have gone into limbo. This was no doubt due to all the objections that the scheme generated but may also be a result of Cllr. Sue McMillan replacing Wesley Harcourt as Cabinet Member for the Environment. Cllr. Harcourt was the instigator of the scheme.

9 - South Park

The Friends of South Park have quietly been buying various new plants which volunteers have installed. These include 6 large shrubs (cotoneaster) by the East Gate, two small lavender fields in the Woolneigh Street Gate raised beds with a mix of old English lavender and yellow, 'pom pom' Santalina Lavender and the continuation of the scheme to have over 500 whips along the Settrington Road wall run of the park to hopefully create a hedgerow for the future (5-10 years). The lockdown peace seems to have encouraged a pair of Mandarin Ducks to take up residence in the pond. Further information can be found on the Friends' web site which has also been re-designed. <http://www.thefriendsofsouthpark.co.uk/>

10 - Trees

We have two new Council Arborocultural Officers who are working through a backlog of street tree maintenance, some of which should have been undertaken every three years. They would like to catch up on much of the work in the current financial year if they can. In South Park all the trees are being surveyed. It is hoped that one outcome can be a resolution of the problems encountered by residents in some Settrington Road houses whose gardens are badly affected by overhanging trees. All the trees along the east side of the Park are very overdue for selective pollarding.

11 - The new Community Centre

Work on the centre continues but there is still minimal information on how it will function and be managed. Stephen Hollingworth, Head of Leisure & Parks, is now the council's lead on the Arts and Community Centre and is working with the Shadow Board on future operation and use. We have asked the Cabinet Member responsible for the Centre, Cllr. Ben Coleman, to attend an open meeting to explain more and enable you to raise any queries that you have. Although notices on the hoardings surrounding the building works are now announcing a Summer 2020 opening (it was originally shown as Summer 2019) we understand that an opening was actually being planned for this Autumn. The date is now under review because of the uncertainty surrounding the lockdown. It is intended that on the green wall of the main community centre building, which is now visible, there will be climbers and below the climbers will be a layer of flowering shrubs. The planting will tie into the existing community garden.

12 - WRWA Recycling Centre in Smuggler's Way Wandsworth

This facility re-opened on 11th May but with amended hours and restricted access including by odd and even number plates on alternate days. There are also limitations on what you can take. It is recommended that you check the web site before visiting: <https://wrwa.gov.uk>

13 - Report on PRARA 2019 AGM

PRARA's 2019 Annual General Meeting was held at the Tideway Community Information Centre on Carnwath Road, 27 Carnwath Road SW6 3HR at 7.00 pm on 13th November.

As we were there at the invitation of Tideway (who also kindly provided drinks and nibbles) our meeting was kept as brief as possible so that we could enjoy the very interesting presentation by Nargiz Kamalova-Payne and colleague about the progress made in the building of the Thames Tunnel.

After taking apologies for absence, the Minutes of the 2018 AGM were unanimously approved by the members, about 30 of whom were present.

The Co-Ordinator then updated members on current issues under consideration by the PRARA Standing Committee. These included the many traffic issues that blight our area, notably the Council proposal for a no right turns scheme into and out of Studdridge Street, the closure of Hammersmith Bridge, the possibility of a right turn into WBR from the New Kings Road when moving eastbound, the improvement in parking issues around the Ecole Marie D'Orliac but the unfortunate knock-on effect on surrounding streets.

The Sands End Arts and Community Centre's slow progress in terms of build was referenced; originally due for opening in August 2019, it is now due to open 'mid 2020' yet the community management proposal the Council has promised was still not forthcoming. The Co-ordinator advised that the committee had decided not to hold a Christmas party but to find another date in the New Year.

Our Treasurer gave a brief update on our financial situation and presented the information in the following table, after which general questions were taken from members.

Figures for 2018 are for the full year (January to December) and 2019 up to the AGM.

Tin Box	2018 FY	2019 up to AGM
Initial balance	142.30	242.11
Additions	520.00	160.00
Donations	320.00	30.00
Wine Tasting	200.00	130.00
Spending	-420.19	-209.00
Newsletter	-320.19	209.00
Christmas Party	-100.00	0.00
Final balance	242.11	193.11
Membership at beginning	145	141
New members	6	4
Left members	10	5
Membership at end	114	140

We then introduced the committee members, all of whom were standing for re-election and the members duly re-elected. Valerie Piddington very generously agreed to be our Honorary Secretary and she was warmly welcomed by all. The Committee as elected is listed in the panel at the end of the newsletter.

After this the Tideway team gave their presentation which was extremely interesting, the works and progress achieved being highly impressive in engineering terms.

The Co-ordinator then thanked Tideway and the members who attended and drew the meeting to a close.

19th May 2020

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