

WERA newsletter

Warner Estate Residents Association June 2014

Support for Palace Parade shops and businesses

In the winter, WERA was approached by some of the shopkeepers in the Palace Parade, at the corner of Park Road and Priory Road, asking for support over their proposed rent rises. WERA wrote to the Warner family, which still owns the freeholds, saying:

"The shops are extremely important to the local community – not just the Warner roads but Cranley Gardens, the Rookfield estate and the surrounding area... Unlike many other small shopping parades which have empty units, ours has almost always had a full and varied complement of shops and businesses.

We consider them an integral part of our community and would hate to lose any of them. If there is anything you can do to ensure that these businesses will be able to continue, we request that you do so."

We received a friendly response and understand that negotiations are continuing.

Palace Parade (see photo) was designed by John Farrer in 1905. It is locally listed and well maintained by the Warner family. It creates an attractive frontage for the thousands of people coming down Alexandra Palace Way.



WERA MEMBERSHIP

The WERA subscription is £3 per household per year. We hope you will be happy to pay your 2014/15 subscription.

Please give your subscription to your road representative (see insert).

WERA

Since 1996, **WERA** has represented the residents of nine roads at the bottom of Muswell Hill: Redston Road, Danvers Road, Warner Road, Park Avenue North, Priory Avenue, Linzee Road, Clovelly Road, Baden Road and Priory Road (north side).

WERA acts on behalf of residents and monitors local issues which affect the area, including those concerning Alexandra Palace and Park, road safety, and planning development proposals.

WERA is affiliated to the Haringey Federation of Residents Associations and to Sustainable Haringey.

WERA contact
Secretary Joyce Rosser
020 8347 7684
jrosser@lineone.net

WERA website
www.wera-n8.co.uk

21st Century Homes

Knowing the interest WERA residents have shown in making their homes more energy efficient, we asked the Muswell Hill Sustainability Group to organise a 21st Century Homes event locally. The Highgate Society held the first of these in 2012, then in 2013 there was one in Muswell Hill.

So in March the Hornsey and Crouch End 21st Century Homes event was held at the Moravian church in Priory Road. On the Saturday afternoon, there were speakers and displays by architects and technical experts. Topics explored included renewable energy, insulation, heating systems, solar power and government grants. On the Sunday, there were visits to local homes. Over the weekend more than 150 people attended, including many WERA residents.

(For report see www.mhsgroup.org)



PHOTOS: TOP: Adrian Thomas from Warner Road, one of the speakers; BOTTOM: A view of the exhibition area in the Moravian church hall (PHOTOS Peter Noble)

Wild flower garden

Last year we asked the Parks Department to put topsoil in the large planter in the middle of the Muswell Hill/Priory Road junction so that we could plant flowers. We planted daffodil bulbs, which came up in the spring. But it wasn't necessary to do summer planting because the planter has filled up with wild flowers. Some groups in Haringey have spent years trying to create wild flower gardens without success; we did it without trying, helped by the poor-quality topsoil (which wild flowers prefer) and the judicious sprinkling of poppy seeds by a local resident.



Alexandra Palace and Park

There is more encouraging news for the future of Alexandra Palace with Duncan Wilson as Chief Executive. A successful Stage 1 bid was made to the Heritage Lottery Fund to restore the Victorian theatre as a new cultural and performance space and the former BBC TV studios as a visitor attraction.

The Alexandra Palace Trust is seeking private sector partners to invest in a hotel and the events business.

There have been lots of events at the palace and the park. Sometimes residents have had concerns about noise but the palace and park management have responded quickly to problems. An active Friends of Alexandra Park group (www.friendsofalexandrapark.org) organises work sessions and other activities to improve the park.

Farewell to Neil

Over 50 people came to a farewell party in September at the Three Compasses pub for Neil Gunnery, who had been postman for the WERA area for eight years. Much to his sorrow, he was moved to another round. WERA organised a collection and we presented Neil with a cheque. We do still see him occasionally because his new round includes Barrington Road, and we are very fortunate that we still have Neil's colleague, Charles Kwarteng, as one of our regular local postmen.

Local health services

Last July about 40 members attended the WERA Annual General Meeting to hear Dr Peter Christian, a local GP and member of the Haringey Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), talk about NHS organisational changes. CCGs, made up of GP practices, have taken over from Primary Care Trusts and are now responsible for planning, paying for and monitoring health services.

Dr Christian explained that GPs have a good understanding of what patients need and will use this knowledge in commissioning services.

Hornsey Depot site

After 15 years of plans and protests, another planning application for the Hornsey Depot site in Hornsey High Street got planning permission (by the planning committee chair's casting vote) in March. The development will include 438 housing units and a large Sainsbury's store (for full details see the council website reference HGY/2013/2019).

There were four well-attended public meetings to discuss the planning application. Most local people are in favour of the site being developed but have serious concerns about the housing density, the height of the residential blocks, the size of the supermarket, the extra traffic and the loss of the former public baths frontage and the view of Alexandra Palace. The Reuse and Recycling Centre will move to Western Road.

Priory Common Orchard

Priory Common Orchard at the bottom of Redston Road is thriving, with weekly work sessions. Because it is by the bus stop on the main road, it gets lots of visitors inspecting the plants and reading the explanatory notices. Thanks to Gemma Harris and other volunteers for their work.

HornseyN8

Some WERA members are involved with HornseyN8, a network of groups around the Hornsey High Street and Priory Road area. HornseyN8 organised a photographic exhibition called 'Hornsey High Street 2013' at the Three Compasses pub in November. After Christmas, there was a well-attended walk around the Hornsey High Street and the Hornsey Water Works and Filter Beds conservation areas. The group was invited to see the inside of the Turkish cultural centre and mosque (formerly the Magic Flute Banqueting Suite) – they were impressed by the restoration work.



Obelisk and The Great Northern Railway Tavern
(PHOTO Ed Hardy)

Local activities 2013/14

Traffic

A number of traffic issues were taken up by WERA and by Jim Jenks, our excellent ward councillor (who is also a WERA committee member):

Inappropriate 'build-outs' on Danvers Road were removed and appropriate ones installed on Warner Road.

There was a follow-up review of the impact of the South Hornsey CPZ.

The council carried out a consultation for a borough-wide 20mph speed limit (as introduced in some other London boroughs). No decision has yet been made about this.

Ongoing concerns relate to the speed of eastbound Priory Road traffic (the police have been doing speed checks) and general parking pressures.

WERA as a community

WERA activities help

to bring local residents closer together. So too does the WERA Yahoo email group, which now has nearly 250 members and is a lively forum for exchanging information about recommended tradespeople, unwanted goods and local events and concerns.

To join the Yahoo email group, email Dick Hudson at dick@ling.ucl.ac.uk. The archive of past messages is at www.groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/wera-n8/conversations/messages

In addition to WERA events, there are several street parties organised in our patch. Thanks to everyone involved for making our community such a great place to live.

Crime and policing

There has been a spate of postal thefts in the area.

Lindsay Fowler of Redston Road convened a meeting of those who had had chequebooks or

bank cards stolen. She compiled a spreadsheet of these incidents which was forwarded to Lynne Featherstone MP to take up with Royal Mail.

We get useful weekly crime reports from the Muswell Hill Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT). WERA representatives attend SNT ward panel meetings and Neighbourhood Watch meetings. This enables us to put forward concerns and hear about local developments.

OUR MP AND LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Lynne Featherstone MP
lynne.featherstonemp@parliament.uk

Hornsey ward councillors
Adam Jogee, Jennifer Mann, Elin Weston

Muswell Hill ward councillors
Mark Blake, Pippa Connor, Gail Engert

Write to councillors at River Park House, 225 High Road, N22 8HQ or email using firstname.lastname@haringey.gov.uk

Metropolitan Police
If a crime is currently taking place and you are in immediate danger, dial 999. If you wish to contact the Metropolitan Police Service and it is not an emergency, call the non-emergency number, 101.

Our local Safer Neighbourhood Teams
Hornsey SNT 020 8721 2905
Muswell Hill SNT 020 8721 2765
content.met.police.uk/Borough/Haringey

WERA COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Chair
David Liebeck
19 Danvers Road
020 8348 0457

Secretary
Joyce Rosser
46 Redston Road
020 8347 7684

Alexandra Palace and Park Statutory Advisory Committee
David Liebeck

Alexandra Palace and Park Consultative Committee
Dick Hudson

Alexandra Palace and Park Conservation Area Advisory Committee
Antonia Denford

Website and Yahoo Group manager
Dick Hudson
dick@ling.ucl.ac.uk

ROAD REPRESENTATIVES

Clovelly Road and Baden Road
Jim and Ros Jenks
2 Clovelly Road
020 8340 3130

Danvers Road
Jeff Probst
Upper Flat, 2 Danvers Road
020 8341 9517

Linzee Road
Jason Beazley
8 Linzee Road
07957 143 352

Park Avenue North
Jack Noutch
54 Park Avenue North
020 8340 6377

Priory Avenue
Robert Giles
2 Priory Avenue
020 8340 0913

Priory Road (north side)
Joanne Barrett
24 Priory Road
07855 528 707

Redston Road
Ursula Maestranzi
88 Redston Road
020 8340 2668

Warner Road
Adrian and Robyn Thomas
30 Warner Road
020 8348 4897

ADVANCE NOTICE

WERA Annual General Meeting 8PM THURSDAY 10TH JULY

MORAVIAN CHURCH HALL, PRIORY ROAD, N8

Derek Drew-Smith

Flood and Surface Water Manager, Haringey Council will speak on 'Water and Sustainable Drainage Systems'

Followed by AGM business