

A Rainmeadow for Priory Common

At last year's WERA AGM we had a presentation on "sustainable urban drainage systems" (SuDS). The speaker explained why they are necessary and what they do. Little did we think then that WERA would get its very own SuDS. But that is what looks likely to happen. For some years Love the Lea (www.thames21.org.uk/LovetheLea) has been working on reducing pollution in the River Lea and its tributaries. SuDS are a natural way of managing urban drainage. Priory Common has been identified

as a flow pathway. A SuDS here will intercept rainwater and divert it into a "rainmeadow" that will slow the water down. This will help to reduce the risk of flash flooding and will also allow natural cleaning of the water.

There will be three elements in our area: Priory Road Rainmeadow, Rectory Gardens Rainpark and Dale Court Raingarden. The Priory Road Rainmeadow will be located on the stretch of common between Redston Road and Danvers Road (see diagram below). Work is expected to start soon.

WERA

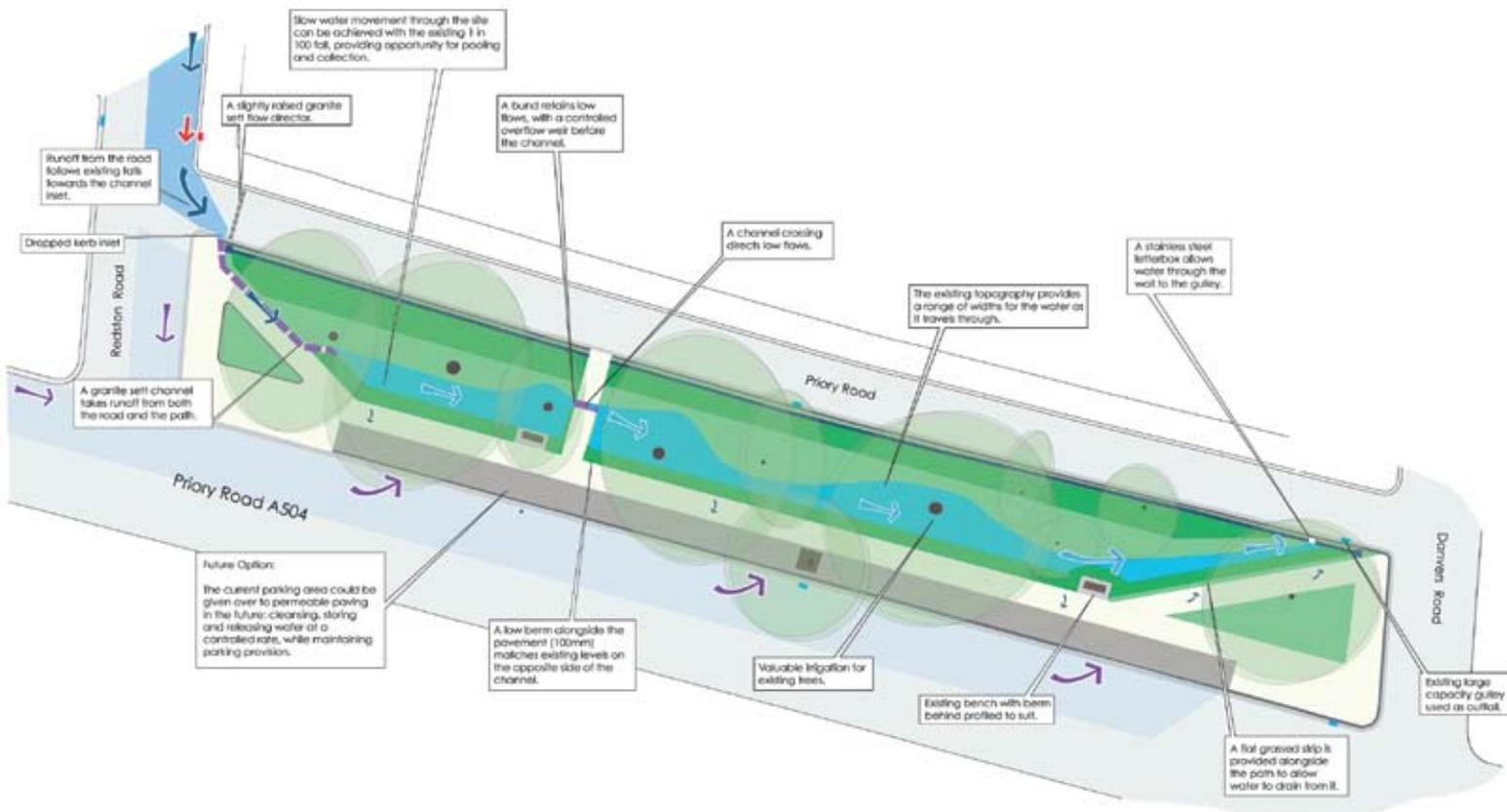
Since 1996, WERA has represented the residents of nine roads at the bottom of Muswell Hill: Redston Road, Danvers Road, Warner Road, Park Avenue North, Priory Avenue, Linzee Road, Clovelly Road, Baden Road and Priory Road (north side).

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
joyce.rosser13@gmail.com

WERA website
www.wera-n8.co.uk



Local activities 2014/15

Alexandra Palace gets regeneration funding

The good news is that the Heritage Lottery Fund has awarded Alexandra Palace £18.8 million to restore the Palace's most significant historic spaces. Under the plans, the eastern end of the Palace, comprising the BBC studios and the Victorian theatre, will be repaired and refurbished, together with the glazed East Court in which a new and more welcoming public entrance hall will be created.

The award of £18.8m HLF funding contributes towards the total project cost of £26.7m, with the London Borough of Haringey having pledged £6.8m and the Alexandra Palace and Park Charitable Trust committing to a fundraising target of £1m before the start of the project in 2016.

There has also been an expanding and wide-ranging programme of sporting events, exhibitions, cultural events and trade shows taking place in the Palace and Park.



Duncan Wilson at a tree-planting ceremony for the 150th anniversary of Alexandra Park

Much of the success in getting the HLF grant and increasing the number of events is due to the work of Duncan Wilson, who has been Chief Executive of Alexandra Palace and Park since 2012, having previously worked at Somerset House and the Greenwich Foundation. Sadly, he has now left to take up a new post as head of Historic England. We wish him well and thank him for everything he has done for Ally Pally.

Campaign to get John Farrer building listed

In December, WERA was approached by the Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery (FOKGC). They were campaigning to save the E.M. Lander & Co. showroom on Harrow Road near the main gate of the cemetery. This 1927 building is the work of the architect John Farrer who, of course, laid out the Warner Estate and designed many of our houses and other local buildings, including the Three Compasses pub and the National Hall in Hornsey High Street.



FOKGC wanted to get more information from us about Farrer's work to support their listings application to English Heritage. They were already familiar with Janet Owen's excellent biography of John Farrer. Janet, as many of you know, lives in Park Avenue North. Her book is available from Hornsey Historical Society.

The eventual listings application was most impressive, with a whole series of organisations and individuals giving expert opinions on the architectural and historical significance of the building. They even enrolled Glenda Jackson MP and various prospective parliamentary candidates. For more information about their research and campaign see http://www.kensalgreen.co.uk/documents/FOKGC76_Lander.pdf.

In February, they contacted WERA again to say that the Lander Showroom building had got Grade II listed status and so was saved.

Priory Common Orchard

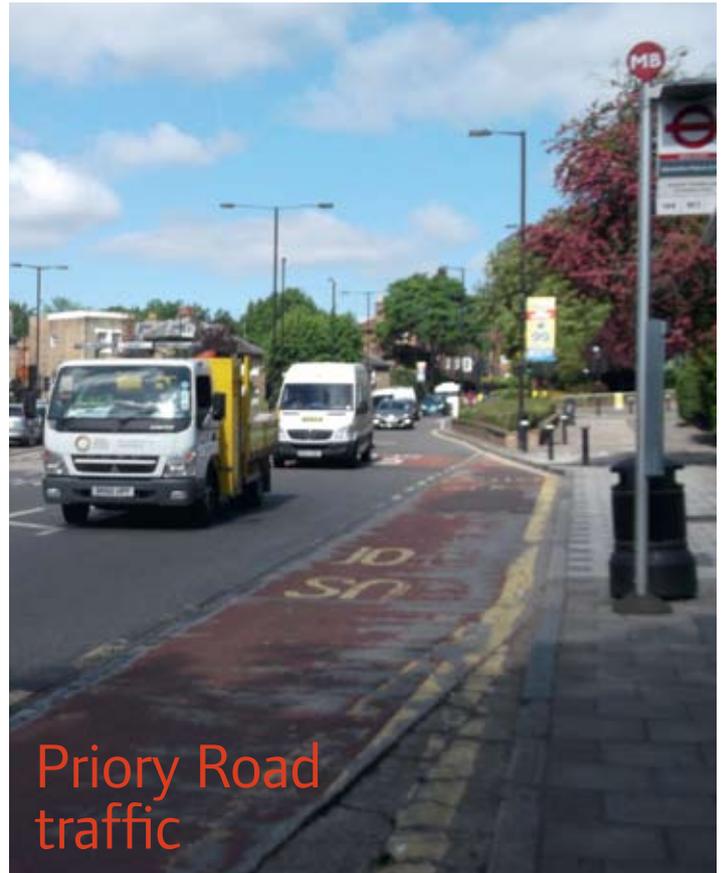
A group of volunteers continues to work on this “edible landscapes” project. It is open for anyone to see what is going on (this year we got a council grant to pay for lots of notices explaining what is growing), but the best day to go along is Tuesday when volunteers work in the morning and then have lunch. There was an informative article about Priory Common Orchard in a recent *Ham & High* (<http://tinyurl.com/wera-orchard>).



Goodbye to Joachim Kreusel

The Rt Rev Joachim Kreusel has been the minister of the Hornsey Moravian Church since 1998. Last year he was made a bishop. A local resident, living in Warner Road, Joachim has given support to WERA and other community groups. He has been responsible for much restoration work on the church buildings as well as the installation of PV and solar panels.

In September, he will be leaving London to work for the Moravian Church in the Midlands. We wish him very best wishes. We will miss him.



Priory Road traffic

In January, a young woman died after being hit by a car in Priory Road. This tragic accident led to further discussion about traffic speeds on this road. In 2005, WERA had borrowed a speed gun and carried out a speed survey which found that many vehicles were doing over 30mph. Following this, 30mph signs were painted on the roads and two warning signals installed (not speed cameras). More recently, the pedestrian crossing was installed near the Park Avenue North junction.

The most dangerous part of the road now is probably at and to the west of the junction with Redston Road where many people cross this wide stretch of road to get to the shops or to switch bus stops. Eastbound traffic from Muswell Hill often triggers the 30mph warning signal by the Danvers Road junction.

The present road layout encourages drivers to speed. When the traffic lights are green on Muswell Hill there is nothing to stop vehicles sweeping at high speeds into Priory Road. When the lights are red, the two lanes encourage competitive starts as soon as the lights change.

WERA has set up a working group to look at various traffic-calming proposals. We will be discussing these ideas with our local councillors.

Local activities 2014/15



WERA as a community

WERA activities help to bring local residents closer together. So too does the WERA Yahoo email group, which now has over 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 archives of past messages can be accessed on <http://tinyurl.com/wera>.

In addition to WERA events, there are several street parties organised in our patch. Another local initiative is the Redston Road Playing Out scheme run by Lesley Salem and some other parents (see photo). They got some funding which enables them to close a section of the road to traffic and provide play activities for children in the street. See www.wera-n8.co.uk/calendar.

Local residents are also involved in borough-wide community activities and campaigns involving many organisations, including the Antwerp Arms, Haringey Shed and the Haringey Migrant Support Centre.

Thanks to everyone for making our community such a great place to live.

OUR MP AND LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Catherine West MP

catherine.west.mp@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

Haringey Council

www.haringey.gov.uk
020 8489 0000

To report problems – dumped rubbish, graffiti, etc., email frontline@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
<http://content.met.police.uk/Team/Haringey/Hornsey>
Muswell Hill SNT
020 8721 2765
content.met.police.uk/Borough/Haringey

WERA MEMBERSHIP

The WERA subscription is £3 per household per year. We hope you will be happy to pay your 2015/16 subscription. Please give your subscription to your road representative (see insert).

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

Alison Walker,
14 Linzee Road
020 8348 4133

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 9 JULY

MORAVIAN CHURCH HALL, PRIORY ROAD, N8

Speaker: Mark Evison

Alexandra Park Manager

Followed by AGM business