

Cricklewood Broadway

Brent Transportation is hoping to obtain money to provide parking for shops, shoppers and residents in Cricklewood Broadway which at present has none. This should also alleviate some of the residents' parking problems in the many streets at the back of Cricklewood Broadway. Mapesbury Ward Streetcare Officer, Preben Hansen, has raised the money to find eco-friendly bins. They are very smart and are due on the Broadway soon.

Disabled Badges

The scandalous fraudulent use of disabled parking permits is a problem all over Brent and the MapRA Committee would like to support a campaign to encourage residents to help stamp out this problem. We are already working with the Brent Disabled Office but, for it to be properly successful, we do need to work closely with enforcement officers, parking attendants, the community police and residents on the ground to help identify the drivers who abuse these limited facilities which are desperately

needed by the real disabled to give them independence outside their home. If you are interested in helping and are suspicious about the use of a badge, please, do not attempt to confront, make a note of the date, disabled badge number, the Council who issued the badge, a description of the driver and the registration number of the vehicle they were driving. Either contact MapRA or call the Blue Badge Section of Brent Council on 8937 - 4002, 4665, 4869 or fax 8937 4026.

Car City Club

Brent is introducing an innovative Car Club to minimise private car ownership. At present operating from Station Parade, renting a car costs £2.80 per hour and is available seven days a week and 24 hours a day. Brent Council is strongly supporting the initiative as a way of reducing impact on the environment. More spaces are being allocated to make it convenient for residents to pick-up and drop off a car. For further information visit www.brent.gov.uk or meet Gerry Devine and Antony Palourti on the Transportation stall at the AGM

Planning and Conservation

Conservation Subcommittee Mapesbury contains interesting architecture and leafy gardens, but current factors like the high price of properties encourage people to expand and develop their present houses rather than move to larger ones. This means that the work of the Conservation and Planning Subcommittee is more necessary than ever in ensuring that development in the whole of Mapesbury, including the non-conservation area, is sympathetic, and does not break planning rules. The MapRA Subcommittee and Brent Planning are working together to compile current details of architecture, walls and railings in each street to ensure a consistency in planning approval. Another great advance is that Brent Planning is now requiring full landscaping plans before accepting an application. Both Brent's planning officers and the Subcommittee believe that the Article 4 Designation (which specifies permissible development) "needs more teeth" so that loopholes cannot be exploited. Many residents are concerned about the proliferation of ugly satellite dishes and Brent has asked that residents notify the Subcommittee so that they can deal with a whole area at once. It is cheering that residents are now

approaching the Subcommittee directly before making planning applications so that guidance can be given as to what will be an acceptable application and what will give rise to objections. Write to Sheelagh Putnam, 10 Keyes Road or e-mail her at sheelagh@lending-law.co.uk **Conservation Prize** We are proud of Mapesbury which comprises an interesting combination of original Edwardian houses and one of the most outstanding examples of a housing development created and influenced by the Art & Crafts movement as noted by Joseph Kerr in his lecture at the RCA. The Planning and Conservation Committee wishes to encourage sympathetic restoration of Mapesbury's architecture and interior period details. Once destroyed, they are lost to future generations, and therefore we have launched an annual prize for a planning development within the spirit of the conservation area. The first winner is 60 St Gabriel's Road. Maria and John Kearney will receive the 2006 Conservation prize for replacing their inherited metal windows with beautiful wooden bays and leaded lights. Come and see the dramatic 'before and after' photographs at the AGM.

Preben Hansen is getting many complaints about dog fouling. Some dog owners are meticulous about clearing up after their pets, but obviously a lot of owners are unwilling to believe that the faeces of their particular pet are offensive and a health hazard in public places, especially parks where young children play. However several canine parasites can cause problems in humans. The most usual is the common roundworm *Toxocara canis*. A multitude of eggs are released in the faeces of an infected dog. These eggs mix with soil and dirt, and become infective as the faeces disintegrate and can survive in the soil for up

to 3 years. If these eggs get into the mouth of a human – usually a very young child in a playground - the eggs hatch in the intestine. The larvae, after penetrating the intestinal wall, are carried in blood and lymph to organs such as the lungs, liver and eyes. The brain and heart can also be affected. Fortunately the larvae do not usually damage the organs catastrophically, but in very rare cases they can cause complete blindness and even death. However, even one case of partial loss of vision is one too many, so it is important that we all try to prevent dog fouling for health as well as aesthetic reasons.

Cricklewood Homeless Concern

Cricklewood Homeless Concern (CHC) is a charity supporting and providing services to vulnerable people in Brent. Although they work with homeless people, their new Centre will also be available to help residents who need support for issues such as training and employability, substance abuse and mental health. Many of the individuals CHC support experience a wide range of related problems such as drug & alcohol dependency, mental and physical ill health, unemployment, discrimination and social exclusion as they attempt to establish themselves as valued members of the community. Their building at 60 Ashford Road was so run down that the charity was not able to run a complete day service under one roof, damaging the chances of successful recovery of their Clients. Cricklewood Homeless Concern hopes to open its new customised building in October 2007 offering a comprehensive service. The new Day-Centre & Primary Treatment Centre is the only gathering place of its kind in Brent. The redevelopment fundraising programme has still £195,000 to raise, out of 2.2 million. A large amount of the money already donated has come from the Office of the Deputy Prime

Minister (ODPM) and the remainder from Irish construction companies, the Irish Government as well as many Irish individuals both here and in Ireland. All knew that, over the years, the Centre has provided a unique and vital service. A genuine encouragement from residents is crucial to its success and development. This Charity is full of dedicated men and women who are committed to support these vulnerable people. It is hard and difficult work, needing endless patience and time dedicated to dealing with the inevitable day-to-day failures. The dedicated staff never give up on anyone. Feel part of this important endeavour within your community; buy some bricks at £5 each (www.chc.org.uk). Your donation will be used for anything from physical bricks to fittings and computers; the new building will include a medical room, training rooms, and an IT area. Your name will appear on the virtual brick wall on their website and also in the foyer of the new centre. Alternatively bring your chequebook to the AGM on 14th May and chat to Danny & Charlotte who are both dedicated to making this vital project a reality.

Parking Enforcement Changes

MapRA is very concerned that the Council is forfeiting public goodwill and cooperation because recently they have changed their policy and are applying draconian rules for minor infringements in residential areas. MapRA is worried that cars are often being towed away half an hour after receiving a penalty ticket for unimportant misdemeanours and mistakes. Being suddenly towed away can have devastating consequences for an individual and we feel it is unacceptable. Local Authorities are supposed to give reasonable observation times

to establish if a parking contravention has occurred and act reasonably. After discussion with the Chair of Highways MapRA are optimistic that this kind of behaviour will revert to a more suitable enforcement procedure in line with the Code of Conduct laid down for Councils. If you have had any problems in the past, and feel any treatment was not fair, please visit Brent's Transportation & Enforcement stall at our AGM on the 14th May. They will be pleased to talk to you.

Parking Permits

Residents asked Brent to take commuters off their residential streets, so residents get very cross when businesses are obtaining parking permits for their employees to commute and leave their cars all day, often until late in the evening, when they do not need to use the vehicle for their business.

Police Matters

Safer Neighbourhood Scheme Mapesbury's Safer Neighbourhood Team headed up by Sergeant Patrick O'Hara are Constables Philip Pask & John Ryan and assisting are Police Community Safety Officers: Bill Parr; Chris Millar and Nabeela Ahmed. The Team is moving into the old sports shop in Walm Lane with the Brondesbury & Willesden Green Safer Neighbourhood Teams. This will allow a close working relationship between the three teams. All Safer Neighbourhood Teams have been patrolling the streets for the last year and one of their prime concerns is that residents are leaving windows and doors open inviting opportunist crime. You

can contact your Safer Neighbourhood Team as follows: Mapesbury - 8721 2962. Brondesbury – 8721 2961 and Willesden Green – 8721 2052. In an emergency always dial 999. **Police and our Community** MapRA is very proud to be represented on all levels in the fight against crime in our community. Committee members are on the Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panel, Brent Community Safety Board and the Brent Independent Advisory Group. Taking part in these important groups ensures that MapRA is on the cutting edge, influencing at the very highest level the direction of community involvement and policing in Brent.

Other Brent businesses like plumbers, decorators, gardeners etc. desperately need a flexible parking permit if they visit various Brent customers in many different zones in a day. Other Councils have this facility. Residents need good tradesmen and we need to feel that Brent is making the community's needs a priority.

Recycling and Rubbish Collection

A new contract for all Streetcare collections has begun. The good news is that Brent has started recycling plastic. At present only ordinary plastic bottles such as drink, shampoo and detergent bottles will be collected, because there is a good market for this sort of plastic, as opposed to mixed plastic. Remove lids, and if possible labels, rinse, squash and put in your green box or in a carrier bag next to the green box. Within a couple of months you will receive a reusable bag for all your plastic bottles. At present the scheme is for bottles only, but other types of

plastic can still be taken to Sainsburys, Willesden High Road and of course to the Park Royal Recycling Centre. There is a helpful summary of Brent recycling facilities in the April Brent Magazine. Normal refuse bins will continue to be collected weekly by a dedicated team. Another highlight of the new contract is that all streets are to be swept at least three times a week so you should see an improvement in the cleanliness of our streets. Any questions about recycling contact: Lia Colacicco 59 St Gabriel's Road 8452 7272 lia.colacicco@btconnect.com

Syed Hashimi

Many will remember Syed, who was of great support to MapRA. He was tragically killed crossing Walm Lane on 27th December. Kate and Jamie are holding a CND fund-raising social event in his memory in their dramatically beautiful garden on the evening of 17th June. For tickets contact 07813454077.

Dog Mess

Mapesbury Gardens

2007 Gardens Open Day Sunday 17th June

This popular and successful biennial event, organised again this year by the Gardening Club, is held to raise money for charity and local MapRA projects. It also provides MapRA members and their guests with a chance to visit some of the most interesting Mapesbury gardens, and meet their neighbours in relaxed surroundings. As usual there will be the opportunity to buy unusual garden plants at reasonable prices. This year it will be held on Sunday, 17th June from 2pm to 6pm. Tickets, available to MapRA members, are £3.00 per person (£2.00 if bought in advance, accompanied children free), and this includes refreshments. This year the Mapesbury Dell Trust cordially invites you to join them in the Mapesbury Dell Tea Garden from 3.00pm. Tickets will be available to our members from Margaret Mann Tel: 8459 5419, e-mail: mags_mann@yahoo.co.uk or at the AGM on Monday 14th May.

National Garden Scheme:

Miranda & Christopher's garden flat at 208 Walm Lane has again been chosen to participate in this very worthwhile charity. Their magnificent garden is open from 2 to 6.30pm on Sunday, 10th June with £2.50 entry and on Wednesday evening 25th July from 5 to 9.30pm where a £3.50 entry fee includes wine & light refreshments.

Front Garden Competition 2006

Prizes will be presented to all Winners at the AGM on Monday, 14th May 2007 at St Gabriel's Church. Our thanks to the Community Link Gardening Club organisers and judges: Ian Brownhill and Michael Hirschl.

Harlequin Ladybirds.

The Harlequin Ladybird arrived in Britain about three years ago, and I'm afraid has been positively identified in Mapesbury. It's a serious threat to native ladybirds. For more information on how to identify them and to assist with the national survey, come to the AGM.

Britain in Bloom

Brent Parks are proud to announce that Brent has been selected to represent all London in this year's 'Britain in Bloom' competition. Help Brent to win by getting your garden to look it's very best for the June Inspection. Find out more at our AGM Stall.

Local Rugby - Cosmos Club

The Cosmos 1st team is so far unbeaten and promoted to Division 1. The Club has been running tag rugby for children since October. Phil will be at the AGM if your children would like to join or click on to www.kilburncosmos.co.uk.

Mapesbury Residents' Association

	For the year ended 31 December 2006 £
INCOME	
Subscriptions & Donations (for 2006)	573
Sponsorship from local businesses	440
Donations at AGM	95
Bank Interest	19
	1,127
EXPENDITURE	
Annual report & Newsletter	572
AGM expenses	523
	1,095
<u>Surplus for 2006</u>	33

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2006

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES:

Bank balance on main accounts	6,563
Less: Amount owing to Exeter Road residents	(1,633)
Less: Amount owing to St Gabriel's Road residents	(41)
<i>Subtotal after residents' deduction</i>	4,888
Bank balance on gardens accounts	3,260
Cash	20
Less: Subs. in advance for 2007 to 2011	(707)
Less: Sundry creditor	(248)
Net Assets	7,212

Represented by:

UNRESTRICTED FUND

Accumulated surplus at start	2,763
Surplus for 2005	33
Accumulated surplus at end	2,795

RESTRICTED FUNDS:

Net surplus – previous Gardens Open Days	3,801
Income in 2006	23
Less: Grants made	(1000)
Accumulated surplus at end	2,824

Polio Concert 2005 net surplus	304
Polio Concert 2006 net surplus	333

Community Link fund at start	639
Community Link income in 2006	400
Less: Expenses in 2006	(84)
Accumulated fund at end	955
	7,212

*Accounts prepared by A. J. A. Aiken, Honorary Treasurer
Certified a true and fair view D C R Drown, Auditor*

V-Flowers, 80 Walm Lane

We are fortunate in having an elegant new flower shop near Willesden Green Station. The two young owners, Velma and Veronique, specialise in having fresh, unusual, long lasting flowers. Veronique worked for a time as a volunteer in Clifton Nurseries and V-Flowers' brilliant designs are of this standard, but more easily available at reasonable cost. You will see their contract work in several local businesses including the

hairdressers next door and Sushi-Say across the road. Both Velma and Veronique live in Mapesbury and are enthusiastic about supporting local artists and entrepreneurs to their mutual benefit, because it means that V-Flowers can provide unusual cards, pots and vases for sale to complement their flowers, along with well chosen cheaper vases. Pay them a visit and you, too, will become a regular visitor.

Camerons Stiff & Co.
Estate Agents, Valuers, Surveyors and Auctioneers.
275 Willesden Lane, NW2 5JA,
020 8459 1133
www.cameronsstiff.co.uk

Craig Thomson Chemist
70-72 Walm Lane, NW2 4RA
020 8459 0833

Daniel and Harris, Solicitors
338 Kilburn High Road,
NW6 2QN
020 7625 0202

CMS Design Associates
Landscape Practice
Catharina Malmberg-Snodgrass
87 Cricklewood Broadway
NW2 3JG
020 8452 6956
info@cmsdesignassociates.com

**Smooth Cuts
Gents Hair Salon**
65 Cricklewood Broadway,
NW2 3YR
020 8208 3485

Annie Friedmann
Homeopath
38 St. Gabriels Road, NW2 4SA
020 8452 2946

Ms Lidia Amorelli
Piano Tuition
020 8830 5881

Kilburn Flowers Ltd
Kilburn Station
929 7328 5661/2

Elizabeth Dunn AGSM
Piano Tuition
All ages and abilities
020 8830 5881

Waitrose
Brent Cross Shopping Centre
NW4 3FQ
020 8203 9711

Maria Lancaster
Art Classes
020 8450 9057

**Kodak Express
(Quality Photos)**
One hour developing and printing
Wilkesden Green Station
020 8452 1766

travel corporation
7 Willesden Green Station
Walm Lane, NW2 4QT
020 8450 5354
e-mail tony@travelcorp.co.uk

Lunarbac
The recently patented Back
Care & Maintenance product
www.lunarbac.com

Ken at Haircuts
Hairdressers
6 Exeter Parade, Exeter Road,
NW2 3UH
020 8450 2981

The Olive Tree
Organic Food Store
152 Willesden Lane, NW6 7TA
020 7328 9078

O'Farrell's
Traditional Family Butchers,
80 High Road, Willesden,
NW10 2PR
020 8459 2840

V-Flowers
80 Walm Lane
NW2 4RA
020 8451 8989

Committee members attending in 2006

Robert Afia, Andrew Aiken (Treasurer), Andrew Beckman, Ian Brownhill, Susanna Burford, Khalid Dar, David Drown (Auditor), Lia Evans, Chris Gear, David Gee, Clare Gordon, Michael Hirschl, Nina Jayaswal, Judy Langley (Admin sec), Nick Langley, Sheila Lee, Cheryl Lewis, Margaret Mann, Jacqui Pelham, Sheelagh Putnam, Gerry Weston (Chair) Councillors: Chris Leaman, Hayley Matthews & Sami Hashmi.

**If you need to get in touch with MapRA
please contact either:**

Gerry Weston (Chair) 8452 0649 westonj@supanet.com
Sheila Lee (Deputy Chair) 8452 1612 sheila.x.lee@gmail.com
Judy Langley (Admin. Secretary) 8452 7316 judy@lunarbac.com

May 2007

ANNUAL REPORT 2006



Mapesbury
Residents'
Association

Chairman's Letter

Our Annual General Meeting is on Monday 14th May and I would urge you to come and find out what is happening in Mapesbury. The AGM provides a friendly and enjoyable way to meet neighbours and residents over refreshments. The Information Stalls will allow you to find out about local activities and important local services; meet the many Brent Council Officers who affect your day to day life; and query police and politicians. It is important to come and show Brent Council that our members are still active and enthusiastic about local affairs because MapRA has developed an increasingly effective and fruitful relationship with Brent on all levels. All residents are welcome to join at our AGM. Bring your neighbours along. There is an application form on the other side of the Agenda for new members or to renew for 2007.

The Mapesbury Dell continues to provide a much needed haven and organises many interesting events. At the planning stage for one of this summer's projects is an illustrated talk on "How to Paint the Dell" by Susan Hewlett - a talented artist, known by members for her water colour paintings of our park, two of which were kindly donated by Brent Parks for an auction at last year's AGM. Visit the web-site at www.mapesbury-dell.org. Community Link is an important strength of MapRA, bringing together people in the area to form groups who share common interests and hobbies. We are always encouraging new groups. Find out more at our Community Link Stall at the AGM. Members are always welcome to come to our Committee Meetings with any urgent problems or please write, telephone, or e-mail to 64 Teignmouth Road, 8452 7316 or westonj@supanet.com

Gerry Weston
Chairman of
Mapesbury Residents Association

Street Trees

MapRA would like to thank Streetcare for planting 10 plane trees in Lydford Road. Brent Streetcare Officers, Keith Ellis & Neil St John felt it was appropriate to plant plane trees in this wide road without danger of subsidence. This project was possible financially because MapRA donated £600 from Gardens Open Day profits.

There is great pressure on some Melrose residents and Brent Council because Insurance companies are demanding the removal of their majestic plane trees because of subsidence claims. A special stall dedicated to street trees will be at our AGM on 14th May. Following the AGM, MapRA and Brent will work closely together to embark on an extensive consultation with all Melrose residents so that everyone in the street can decide the best way forward.

New Parking signs in Mapesbury

Residents are delighted that Brent has started a pilot to replace the forest of ugly parking signs on long poles in the conservation area. Special sized signs were placed discreetly on walls or short poles at a height which makes them easy to see from a car. MapRA would like to thank Irfan Malik for again listening to the community's needs and finding the budget, and Amir Hosseini, Annesley Tennant, Jatin Dusara, Danny Foran, Simon Finney & Tony Fathers for making it a reality. Roads in Mapesbury changing from MW & MC to MA will soon be included in this pilot scheme. If residents are enthusiastic, Brent Council will extend the pilot to the rest of the Mapesbury Conservation area when budgets allow.

In this issue

2007 Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held at 7.30pm on Monday, 14th May at St Gabriel's Church.

2007 Open Gardens Day

From 2.00pm to 6.00 pm on Sunday, 17th June several delightful Mapesbury gardens will be open to visitors and their guests. There will be three registration gardens to purchase tickets on the day at £3.00; 109 Chatsworth Road; The Old Vicarage, 164 Walm Lane (entrance in St Gabriel's Road); or Mapesbury Dell. £2.00 if bought in advance at the AGM

Misuse of Disabled Blue Badges

Brent is concerned about the amount of fraud and misuse of Disabled Blue Badges. They are making an effort to stop it but need the cooperation of residents to make this initiative effective.

Cricklewood Homeless Concern

This organisation provides services which aim to support people who are either homeless or are in inadequate housing as they attempt to establish themselves as valued members of the community. CHC are planning to open their new day centre in October. For information on how you can help see www.chc.org.uk.