



# E-Newsletter Spring 2020

Dear Fellow Residents, with the postponement of the AGM and the Annual Report, we are sending you a short, interim newsletter. We live in extraordinary and uncertain times, and things change daily. Where possible we have included links to websites where you can find up-to-date information. As and when we have Mapesbury news we will endeavour to keep you informed. We wish you all well and hope to wave to many of you from a safe distance. You are most welcome to forward this newsletter to any fellow residents who are not members of MapRA. With the warmest best wishes from all of us on the committee.

David Freedman  
Chair

Gerry Weston  
Organising Secretary, MapRA

## MapRA's Brent 2020 London Borough of Culture proposal wins top award for

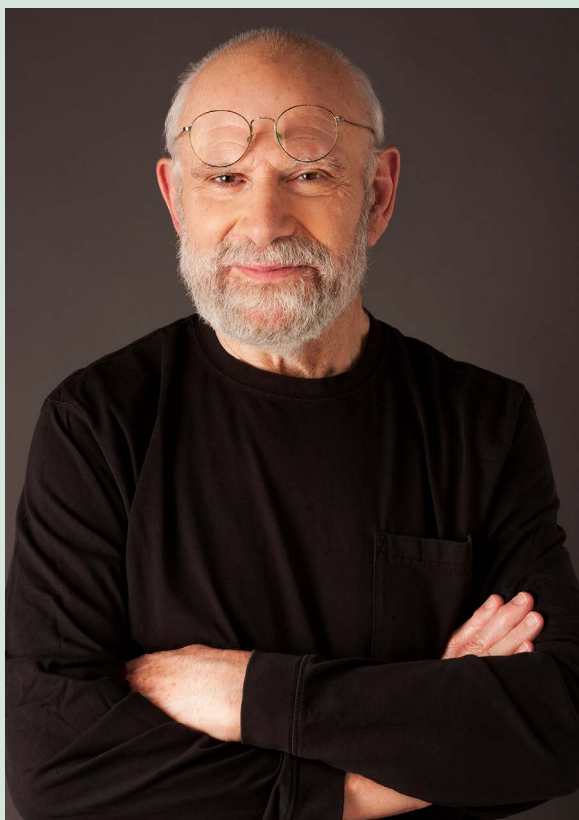
### **Oliver Sacks: Made in Mapesbury**

In a very crowded and hard-fought line-up, we won the top award of £10,000 for a week-long celebration of one of Brent's outstanding cultural figures, the world famous, best selling writer and neurologist, Oliver Sacks.

He was the author of sixteen seminal, beautifully written books, which have been made into award-winning films (eg *Awakenings* – Robin Williams/ Robert De Niro), plays (eg *A Kind of Alaska* – Harold Pinter), operas (eg *The Man Who Mistook His Wife For a Hat* – Michael Nyman).

Oliver Sacks was born at 37 Mapesbury Road on 9 July 1933, the youngest of four sons of Samuel Sacks, a GP, and Muriel Landau, one of the first female surgeons in England. It was his home until he went to live and work in the US in 1962 and his UK base until his father's death in 1990, so he was truly Made in Mapesbury.

Events were due to run over the week of 7 September. We will keep you informed on progress as the entire Brent 2020 programme is rearranged.



## Willesden Green Town Team

Congratulations on being shortlisted in the Great British High Street competition. For more information go to: [www.facebook.com/WillesdenGreenTown/](https://www.facebook.com/WillesdenGreenTown/)

## Cricklewood Town Team

Full information and update can be found: <https://www.cricklewood.net>

## MapRA Gardening Club

The 2019 Open Gardens Day was another resounding success. Club members plus volunteers have made an excellent start to transforming the four triangular flowerbeds that we have at intersections into places that will give pleasure as we walk by, increase biodiversity and help fauna to flourish. A grant of £500 was won from Brent Love Where You Live and MapRA is supporting this work financially and is committed to doing so in the future.



## Cricklewood Library

The opening has been postponed.  
For more information: [www.cricklewoodlibrary.org.uk](http://www.cricklewoodlibrary.org.uk)

## Planning and Conservation

**110 Walm Lane.** Despite objections, the developers finally won their fight to demolish The Queensbury and build a block of flats. One small consolation is that the plans have been substantially modified and the proposed block will be more in keeping with the block of flats next door.

Brent Council plans to renew the **pavements** in Dartmouth, Teignmouth & St Gabriel's Road. Two options were offered; full replacement with asphalt or repairs with paving stones (the cost of full replacement with paving stones was judged too expensive). Of those who expressed an opinion, the majority favoured repair with paving stones. Cllr Lia Colacicco, who fought long and hard for this, is endeavouring to persuade the council to provide replacement paving stones plus some enhancements.

There is a **proposed development of the B&Q site** in Cricklewood that would provide 1,000 homes and include 2 blocks each of 25 storeys. There will also be plans soon for developing into residences the Beacon Bingo Hall and the Matalan/Wickes site. All three sites lie north of the Chichele Road/Cricklewood Lane intersection with the Edgware Road.

## Local Police – Safer Neighbourhood Team, SNT

The SNT has three officers; PC Edward Clements, PC Dhamen Khanna & PC Support Officer Ajay Dhokia. Shared coverage also from Insp Forster & Acting Sgt Collyer. Burglaries were 29% lower in 2019 compared with 2018. Attempts to tackle drug hotspots in Cricklewood Broadway and Chichele Road continue. Cars are still being broken into at a high rate. There were three serious crimes in February locally, one was in Mapesbury, arrests were made swiftly.

The SNT can be contacted at: [mapesbury.snt@met](mailto:mapesbury.snt@met).  
Follow on Twitter - @MPSMapesbury or  
Follow on Facebook – Mapesbury Police

## Mapesbury Dell

The Dell is currently closed. Full information: [www.mapesbury-dell.org](http://www.mapesbury-dell.org)

## Coronavirus/COVID-19, council information

Brent Council has an up-to-date webpage where you can find pages with local information and links to national guidance: <https://www.brent.gov.uk/your-community/coronavirus/>  
Links to all other council services and information can be found on the website: <https://www.brent.gov.uk>

Mapesbury COVID-19 Mutual Aid Group is offering help to anyone in need: call: 020 8914 7950, call/text: 07311 428653.  
Email: [mapesburymutualaid@gmail.com](mailto:mapesburymutualaid@gmail.com) – nothing too small.

Cllr Tariq Dar and Willesden community groups have set up a food bank and mutual aid support group at the Pakistan Community Centre. MapRA is supporting all local food banks by donating money.

For non-urgent health problems phone your GP practice first during its normal opening hours or ask advice from a local pharmacist. Call NHS 111 (24 hour service) for guidance on urgent matters. In an emergency call 999. For dental emergencies phone your dental practice who will offer advice.

## Pharmacies with long opening hours

Chana Chemist, 8.30am-8.30pm, Willesden General Hospital Willesden Centre for Health & Care, Robson Avenue, London NW10 3RY

Bliss Chemist, 8.30am-10.30pm, 50-56 Willesden Lane, Kilburn, London NW6 7SX

## MapRA Guide to traders and services

[www.mapra.org.uk/traders.htm](http://www.mapra.org.uk/traders.htm)

## Councillors

### Mapesbury Ward:

Cllr.lia.colacicco@brent.gov.uk 07721 233 056  
Cllr.Tariq.dar@brent.gov.uk 07467 004 752  
Cllr.ahmad.shahzad@brent.gov.uk 07721 233 055

### Brondesbury Park Ward:

Cllr.Tony.Ethapemi@brent.gov.uk 07467 000 435  
Cllr.Erica.Gbajumo@brent.gov.uk 07467 004 829  
Cllr.Kieron.Gill@brent.gov.uk 07467 004 788

## MapRA contacts

David Freedman (Chair) 020 8452 5720 [depfreedman@gmail.com](mailto:depfreedman@gmail.com)

Gerry Weston (Organising Secretary & Membership) 020 8452 0649 [gerryweston@btinternet.com](mailto:gerryweston@btinternet.com)

The MapRA website is currently being fully revamped and should be checked for up-to-date information: [www.mapra.org.uk](http://www.mapra.org.uk)

Keep safe, keep well. See you on the other side.