



# Welcome

We would very much like to welcome you to the Mapesbury Residents' Association.

In case you are unaware of our existence, or know little about us, we hope the following may be of interest.

## Mapesbury

As you know, Mapesbury is a desirable area, conveniently located, with excellent transport links to the West End, South Bank & the City and is within easy reach of some of London's best amenities. We are proud of its architectural heritage, an interesting combination of original late Victorian and early Edwardian houses and one of the most outstanding examples of a housing development created and influenced by the Arts & Crafts movement.

In 1982 ten roads in Mapesbury were designated a Conservation Area, These are within the 'triangle' bordered by Anson Road to the North, Shoot-Up Hill/ Cricklewood Broadway to the East, Jubilee line to the South and Walm Lane/Chichele Road to the West. Although some of Mapesbury's residents are not included, their properties also benefit substantially from bordering the Conservation Area.



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## The Mapesbury Residents' Association

The Mapesbury Residents' Association (MapRA for short) has been active for fifty years and covers the Mapesbury Estate plus other areas that were part of the old Mapesbury electoral ward. Our aim is to represent the interests and well being of our residents. We are a non-political association, but work closely with Brent Council officers, our two local Councillors and local police officers, for the benefit of our members and to improve planning, parking, street care, the environment, security and access to health services.

We run community events; encourage local interest group and clubs; watch over planning and conservation developments and generally seek to improve the area.

Our **annual meeting** at the attractive venue of St Gabriel's Church is a popular social opportunity to meet neighbours over refreshments. Many stalls provide information and members talk directly to our local political representatives, Police and Brent Council Officers from several appropriate departments. We publish an Annual Report to members once a year; provide weekly email updates on local information and issues; with regular supplements to those few members not on email.

Our committee members are all volunteers, who work hard to encourage the preservation and enhancement of our environment for the benefit of our members.

There are many substantial, extremely attractive and mature gardens in Mapesbury and **MapRA** runs a biennial **Open Gardens Day** to showcase these. So every other year a wide variety of gardens are open to members, with plants for sale and tea and homemade cakes on offer in one garden. This highly popular occasion is a truly communal event, with contributions from well over a hundred members and local businesses. Our next such event will be Summer 2025.

We have an **active planning and conservation sub-committee**, seeking to protect the area from unsuitable developments, both within and outside the conservation area. In the conservation area people are naturally more limited in what they can do to properties; there is a full Conservation area design guide to cover this – we produce a summary version for convenient guidance.

We work closely with the **local Police** – attending and contributing to the Local Police Ward Panel; supporting members against anti-social behaviour and crime.

We are proud of the development of our **Community Link** project, whereby people are brought together to enjoy common interests: including walking, gardening, book clubs, theatre & film, bridge, and local history. Other interests are welcomed and encouraged.

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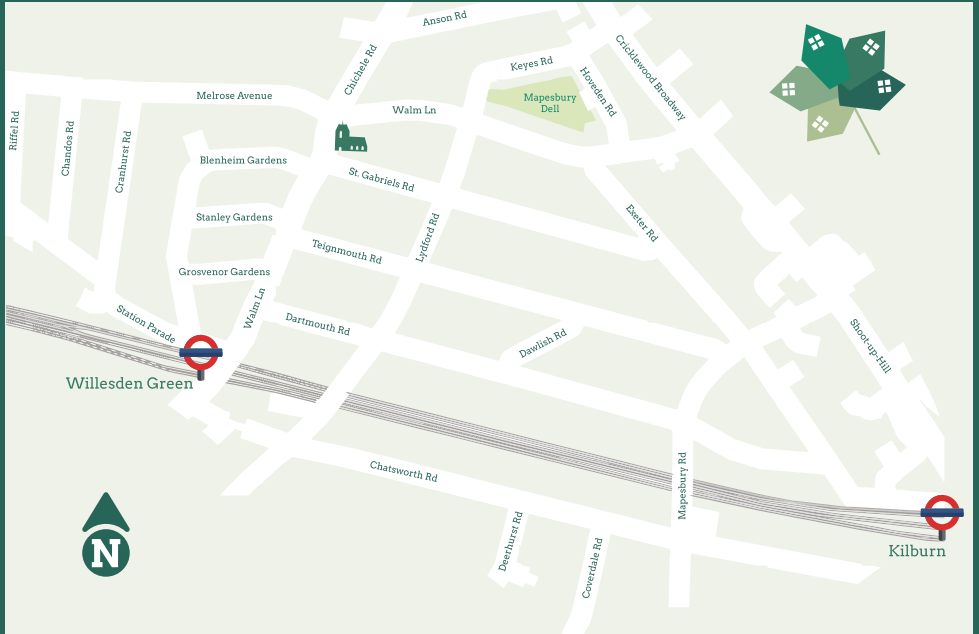
## The Mapesbury Dell

A community project of which we are especially proud, the Mapesbury Dell is the jewel in the heart of Mapesbury. In 2000, a group of local residents determined to transform a neglected piece of land into a real asset. After much imaginative fundraising, plus the support of local residents, MapRA and Brent Parks Department, the Dell was opened in 2005.

This beautifully designed 'pocket park' has won a Gold Award in Britain in Bloom 12 times and provides a children's' area with a pirate ship and other activities within a landscaped garden, where community events are regularly held. These include Christmas Carols, with Father Christmas, mince pies and mulled wine; a summer Wild Day; a September 'Back to School' party and other family-centred events throughout the year. The park is maintained and managed by local volunteers and last year won an Outstanding Award in the It's Your Neighbourhood section. It was also recently featured on BBC Radio London as 'A wonderland . . . a hidden oasis in the heart of this neighbourhood and they've done this all themselves.'

**[mapesbury-dell.org](http://mapesbury-dell.org)**





## Do join us!

MapRA welcomes as members everybody living or working in the area. The more members we have, the better we will achieve our aims - to help with problems and enhance community spirit and the quality of life for all.

Annual membership is £5 per household.

Joining is simple, just send email to [contact@mapra.org.uk](mailto:contact@mapra.org.uk) and join free for the first year, or drop a note to Gerry Weston at 64 Teignmouth Road

MapRA website for information and news: [MapRA.org.uk](http://MapRA.org.uk)

**Gerry Weston,**  
Secretary MapRA