

update

The free newsletter of the St John's Society

St John's Society

The Society is a voluntary organisation formed by local residents who care about the area in which they live.

All residents are encouraged to attend meetings and are invited to contribute to the work and focus of the Society. New **input is always welcome**.

St John's Society Meeting; Tuesday 8th June 2004 at 8pm

Join us at Tanners Hill Residents Association, Pearson Avenue (corner of Tanners Hill).

Agenda items include:

- Ravensbourne River Cleanup
- Wheelie bins and pavement clutter
- Residents Parking ...*more suggestions*

welcome! please ring the number at the back of this issue, email us or attend our next meeting.....



Dates for your Diary: St John's Society Meeting, Tuesday 14th September 2004 at 8pm
St John's Society Meeting, Tuesday 30th November 2004 at 8pm

We are especially keen to recruit people to provide articles for inclusion in future 'Update' leaflets. The deadlines for articles are as follows:

- September 2004 issue - Deadline is August 14th 2004
- November 2004 issue - Deadline is October 30th 2004

Deptford - Did you know!

Deptford was the home until 1961 of the UK's most important naval supply yard. The yard's biscuit bakery introduced the first factory assembly line in the world and the world's first monorail opened in 1826 to transport stores around the site.



Sponsored by Deptford Challenge Trust

FOR SALE - BARGAIN !!!

Sterling Star 4 wheel mobility scooter
- A1 condition, range @25miles,
recharger, basket etc. etc.

Cost as new £2500!! Will take **£900!** **!Or** very nearest offer
Contact: Liz on e-mail address
Nanscooter3@yahoo.com or call us
on 020 8265 3086

River Cleanup

On a glorious morning on Sunday 16th May, with blue skies overhead and the sun shining upon us, volunteers gathered at Brookmill Park to take part in a clear up of the Ravensbourne River.

In conjunction with Thames 21 and Glendale, waders and gloves were donned and people descended the banks into the water. Other volunteers manned the bank edge retrieving items removed from the water and transporting to waiting vehicles.

All involved performed a fantastic job - so much rubbish was removed an extra vehicle had to be ordered!!

It was amazing what we found - numerous discarded wallets and purses, old clothes, carpets, cans, plastic and glass bottles, tyres, road signs, motorway cones, golf balls and the all too familiar shopping trolleys.

As well as the rubbish clearance it was also a good opportunity to see what wildlife was living in and around the river. Crabs, eels, some small fish and leeches were seen, as well as Moorhens, Coots, Canadian Geese and Mallards on the water.

Unfortunately there were no signs of the Kingfishers or the Heron which are so often seen in the park.

Early one evening in May one user of the park even saw bats flying around and they looked to be roosting in nearby trees!!



ANOTHER SUCCESS!!

After seeing lots of other areas in Lewisham benefiting from the appearance of green boxes in order to recycle- the St John's Society pushed hard to be included. We had tried for months to get boxes without success. It was decided therefore to spend one week vigorously campaigning all Councillors, the Mayor and the local MP (who actually is quite vociferous in her support for recycling bins) -within 1 week they arrived!!

We hope all residents are taking advantage of recycling cardboard and paper in these bins. We also have additional recycling bins on Brookmill Rd for glass, paper and cans. There is a recycling point for old clothes close to the Lewisham roundabout -all plastic products can be taken to the Landmann Way recycling centre, Off Surrey Canal Road, New Cross, London, SE14 whose opening times are: April 1 - September 30: Sun to Fri: 8am to 7pm Saturday: 8am to 12 noon

October 1 - March 31 Sun to Fri: 8am to 4pm - Saturday: 8am to 12 noon

BE AWARE:

IT COULD BE COSTLY TO YOU!!!!

Living in a conservation area places certain restrictions on the works on property that can be carried out without planning permission.

Lewisham Council recently delivered a leaflet to residents of Brookmill Road Conservation area to remind them of the planning regulations generally arising from the Article 4 Direction which covers the Conservation area.

This means that planning permission may be required for works like replacing windows or doors, changing roof coverings, painting the front of a building, installing of satellite dishes or altering all or part of a boundary wall or fence.

It is costly to improve or make changes to your property - however it can be even more so if the council insist you put it back to how it was before.

Check with the Council before you make any alterations to the outside of your building. **If you would like further advice, you can call:**

020 8314 9787 or 020 8314 8533. You can

also write to: Design and Conservation, Planning Service, Lewisham Council, Laurence House, 1 Catford Road, London, SE6 4RU. Email: planning@lewisham.gov.uk

Trolley facts:

28th August 2003 saw the 66th anniversary of the shopping trolley

Each shopping trolley costs on average £80

Currently, around 100,000 trolleys are stolen from supermarkets each year

The problem of trolleys clogging up waterways has raised concerns over flooding on many of the UK's rivers.

This was one of the reasons behind our river cleanup on the 16th May!!

Letters of complaint

It would be helpful to the St Johns Society if all correspondence written to the Council and others when complaining, lobbying etc on behalf of the St Johns area were copied to: enquiries@st-johns-soc.org This enables us to keep a file of what people are complaining about and we will try to support where possible.

St Johns Directory;

We would like to compile a directory based on residents' experiences in the local area. If you feel that you would like to give us your recommendation of a plumber, electrician, plasterer, carpenter etc etc, a local shop, a visit to a restaurant/pub/bar which resulted in a pleasant meal and good atmosphere etc etc - please let us know!!

BBQ for hire

Suitable for big parties or community events.

£5.00 per day, £10 weekend

Tel. 0208 691 0298



Letter - as published in "The Evening Standard" Thursday 29th April 2004

Off with their trolleys

How nice for Tesco shoppers in Kensington that they can get in<shape with the help of swanky new "trim trolleys " (Shop till you slim, 27 April). Here in South-East London, we tone up by pulling out Tesco trolleys dumped in the local river.

This river is home to swans, herons, kingfishers - and trolleys, the source of which is Tesco's Lewisham branch. A nearby Asda recently fitted magnetic strips which stop trolleys leaving their store, but Tesco has refused. So on May 16, local residents will be keeping fit by wading waist-high to retrieve Tesco trolleys. We would be delighted if Tesco managers joined us so they too can benefit from fresh air and exercise without the benefit of trim trolleys.

Aidan Fenton, St Johns, SE8



As a result of this letter the Manager of Tesco's trolleys Worldwide decided the bad publicity demanded some action.

On the 15th May a Tesco's contracted firm arrived (a few hours before our river cleanup) and removed all the offending Tesco Trolleys.

A promise of a weekly inspection of the river and removal of any trolleys was made - although no promises to try to prevent the trolleys leaving the store grounds in the first place were given.



We shall monitor the situation closely - but it's nice seeing the occasional letter getting results!! - Thanks to Aiden!

Sebastian^ roche

Sales, Lettings and Property Management
Free market appraisals, 24-7 Internet advertising
Competitive Sales and Lettings Fees
Knowledge of the local area!

MEMBERS OF THE NAEA

With property you should only deal with members of the National Association of Estate Agents (NAEA) - We are bound by their rules of conduct

SPECIAL GUARANTEE* - *We will find you a buyer within 4 weeks or we will reduce our fees to 1%!!!*

*(*Subject to status & conditions)*

020 8690 8888 Lewisham Office

020 8291 9441 Forest Hill Office

Website: www.sebastianroche.com e-mail: info@sebastianroche.com

Useful Numbers:

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Community Beat Officer (PC Craig Knight) | 020 8284 8553 |
| Antisocial Behaviour Officers..... | 02083146233 |
| Noise Nuisance (daytime)..... | 02083149035 |
| NoiseNuisance(5pmon)..... | 02083146000 |
| Abandoned Cars..... | 02083142057 |
| Graffiti..... | 02083142019 |
| Housing issues/neighbour disputes | 020 8314 6923 |
| Confidential Drugs Hotline (24 hrs) | 02083143656 |
| St Johns Society | 07010700610 |

The Cranbrook Post Office is now: Cranbrook General Stores.
John wishes to let all his customers know that he is still there!



If you wish to advertise your business in future issues of this newsletter then please telephone 07010 700610 or e-mail us at: newsletter@st-johns-soc.org