

Report on July Open Meeting

This was again a successful evening, with a talk on preliminary First Aid from Paddy O'Gorman (St John's Ambulance) and a question and answer session led by Cllr Jan Leigh.

Many of the concerns from our last Open Meeting remain the same: noise level; unsocial behaviour by a number of young people; graffiti; discourteous parking (eg not noticing that you've hit the smaller car behind you when reversing into a space!).

The level of policing in this ward (seen as a area of low crime level) is still a cause of much frustration and there was was, and is, still considerable anxiety about the time it can take to get a doctor's appointment at some surgeries.

What has been said before, and is worth repeating, is that the majority of people want quality local services – schools, surgeries, hospitals, and police – rather than inaccessible 'centres of excellence' based miles away.

Following the success of our First Aid talk, a number of people have expressed an interest in attending a short course on First Aid (probably three sessions over as many weeks) – perhaps held at St Michael's School. Do let your co-ordinator(s) know if you would be interested in such a course.

Neighbourhood Watch Awards

We are once again delighted to announce that we have won a further award in the Wandsworth Neighbourhood Watch awards. This year, we have been given £160 with which to purchase a dedicated mobile phone and electrostatic window display sleeves. The mobile phone will be manned on a rota basis by members of the Committee (see page 4) and the display sleeves are for keeping residents up-to-date on local matters via Sunny's shop window. The rota will be fully operational from Monday 7 November 2005 so now you will only need to make a note of one number to call your Committee members for advice.

We shall shortly be circulating a credit-card-sized Emergency Contact Card which will list helpful contact numbers (including our mobile phone) – please look out for this card and keep it safe.

We still have a small number of personal alarms – please contact your road co-ordinator (see page 4) if you or someone you know would like to have one (there is no charge for these alarms as they were paid for with a previous Award).

Pam Davies (Chairman)

Annual General Meeting and Open Meeting

This will be held on Thursday 17 November 2005 at 7pm at St Michael's School. This is the meeting at which we elect our Officers and Committees for the next year as well as receiving reports of the last year. We shall also be welcoming Cllr Jan Leigh who will be leading a question and answer session on items of local concern and interest.

This is an important meeting in the life of the Association, so please come along if you possibly can.

Environment matters

“Action on the Environment” is a brochure available from the Council by phoning 020 8871 6182 or emailing agenda21@wandsworth.gov.uk. It shows how residents can save energy and water and boost their recycling in the home. You can also learn how to improve gardens without using chemicals, cut vehicle journeys and protect local wildlife and habitats.

An end to junk mail...

Those residents who have applied “NO JUNK MAIL” stickers to their letter boxes have reported a noticeable decrease in the amount of unaddressed items being put through their letterboxes (eg take-away menus and gardening/decorating/domestic services). The stickers are produced by Western Riverside and free copies are available from libraries.

You can also reduce the the amount of addressed junk mail that you receive by registering with the Mail Preference Service by phoning 0845 703 4599 or visiting their website www.mpsonline.org.uk - this is a free service.

...and unwanted phone calls?

To help stop unsolicited direct marketing telephone calls, you should register with the Telephone Preference Service - call 0854 070 0707 - again this is a free service.

Tackling anti-social behaviour

Youths hanging around street corners, noisy neighbours, graffiti, low-level violence and intimidation - they can all blight people’s lives and disrupt our community.

It sometimes seems that people can do little to combat this behaviour but the Council and local Police are taking steps to tackle these problems.

As a result of this partnership, Wandsworth has the second lowest crime rate in Inner London. But any level of crime is unacceptable, and anti-social behaviour can be especially stressful for its victims - particularly over an extended period of time.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, run by Council staff and a police officer, co-ordinates action against offenders and monitors the problem and the way it is being dealt with.

Alarm systems

If you have an alarm system fitted to your house, do you realise that it is a legal requirement to have keyholders who can respond to your alarm 24 hours a day?

The keyholders’ details must be registered with the alarm company and the Metropolitan Police keyholders database (0870 060 1212).

You can register either two personal contacts (eg friends/family/neighbours) or a professional keyholding company.

Burglary risk highlighted

Several burglaries have been reported where entry has been gained by slipping the latch or inserting an implement through the letterbox to open the door from the inside. Remember that your home is vulnerable if you do not secure your door with either bolts or a deadlock or if you leave your keys in the lock. Do not leave handbags, wallets, keys etc on view in your hallway.

Shop a “tagger” - earn a grand

Residents who can help identify graffiti vandals in the borough could earn themselves rewards of up to £1,000 if their information leads to an arrest and conviction. Contact the Council’s Graffiti Hotline on 020 8871 7049.

“Message in the fridge” scheme

This simple scheme encourages older people to keep a note of important medical information and next of kin in a plastic bottle in their fridge. Stickers are put on the fridge and near the front door so that emergency services know where to find the information - it saves critical time and could save lives. For more information on the scheme contact Wandsworth Council.

TELL IT TO THE POLICE!

Please, please let the police know of any crime that happens in our area – it is most important that even minor crimes are logged otherwise the police do not have a true picture of crime in our area.

If they don't know they can't fix it!!

Use the following telephone numbers and e-mail addresses to report any problems to the Council. Make a note of when you make contact.

| | | |
|------------------|---------------|--|
| Abandoned cars | 020 8871 6709 | abandonedvehicles@wandsworth.gov.uk |
| Fly tipping | 020 8871 8558 | flytipping@wandsworth.gov.uk |
| Graffiti | 020 8871 7049 | graffiti@wandsworth.gov.uk |
| Pavement defects | 020 8871 8710 | highways@wandsworth.gov.uk |
| Road defects | 020 8871 6708 | highways@wandsworth.gov.uk |
| Street lights | 020 8871 6718 | highways@wandsworth.gov.uk |

Parking for tradesmen and visitors

In response to requests from residents and in recognition of the need to provide parking for tradesmen undertaking repairs and renovations, the Council now provides weekly visitor and trade permits. These permits remove the need to arrange parking on a daily basis.

More information on the permits can be obtained from the Parking Helpline on (020) 8871 8871 or an application form can be downloaded from www.wandsworth.gov.uk/parking.

Protect your mobile phone

You can help protect your mobile phone if you:

REGISTER your phone with your network operator.

RECORD your IMEI number and your phone number and keep these in a safe place separate from your phone.

Your IMEI number (a 15 digit serial number) can be accessed by keying *#06# into most phones or look behind your phone's battery.

REPORT the number of your stolen phone to your network operator and police as quickly as you can. It can now be cancelled immediately, just like a stolen credit card.

In addition, the mobile phone industry, together with the police and Home Office backing, has launched a initiative to compile a national database to enable you to be reunited with your phone if it is stolen and then recovered. A stolen phone can also be blocked.

Registration is free at www.immobilise.com and a call to 08701 123 123 will allow you to report the theft and block it.

Don't let noise get to you



We all make noise at times – from our TVs, children, lawn mowers – noise is a fact of London life and at one time or another we're all going to be subjected to annoying domestic sounds from other people.

Even in the autumn, many of us enjoy eating and drinking outside but need to remember that on a still night low levels of noise travel further and seem louder. We do however have to accept our neighbours' right to enjoy their gardens in this way and put up for a while with any extra chat or laughter that's caused.

But at the same time if we're the ones out in the garden with friends, we have to respect our neighbours' right to peaceful enjoyment of their property and keep any music or other noise to a reasonable level. After all, surely it's neighbourly good manners not to disturb those around us too much?

Thankfully, if things get too noisy, there is help available from Wandsworth Council. A phone call will summon the Noise Patrol and if necessary it will ask for the noise to be reduced. Should the problem re-occur there is a range of measures which can be taken including police involvement and ultimately prosecution or confiscation of any music systems.

The law also recognises that the use of loud fireworks can be anti-social and prohibits their use after 11.00pm (apart from special occasions such as New Year, Diwali and Chinese New Year when the timing is extended to 1.00pm). Breach of this prohibition will attract a substantial fine.

So, we don't have to suffer other people's noise passively, thinking no-one else is bothered. And we shouldn't leave it for someone else to complain; the more complaints received by the Council, the quicker the response by the Noise Patrol and we will all ultimately benefit.

The Residents' Association recognises this is something which concerns a lot of people and is actively working with the Council on different measures to tackle this issue. If you have any comments or on-going noise problems you would like to discuss with us please contact your street rep.

Nick Devonald

Noise Patrol

Telephone number in office hours (020) 8871 6170.

Out of office hours

(Monday to Thursday 1700 – 0200, Friday 1700 – 0300,
Saturday 1300 - 0300, Sunday 1200 – 0200)
the number is (020) 8871 7869.

This service is not just limited to the evening or night: unreasonable noise levels at other times can be reported.

USEFUL CONTACTS

LOCAL POLICE

Constable Darren Hunt
(020) 8785 8874
E: southfields.snt@met.pnn.police.uk

Police Community Support Officer
Jacek Zebracki
(020) 8785 8874
E: southfields.snt@met.pnn.police.uk

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Helena Jones
Al Busa
(020) 8871 7696

YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Jan Leigh
T: (020) 8789 1989
E: jleigh@wandsworth.gov.uk

Simon Roberts
T: (020) 8874 0203
E: simonroberts@wandsworth.gov.uk

Richard Vivian
T: (020) 8875 0887
E: swansea@wandsworth.gov.uk

YOUR LOCAL MP

Justine Greening
E: greeningj@parliament.uk

FREE ADVICE

Safe & Secure Advice Desk

- Want to report a crime and not sure how to, or can't get to the police station?
- Is your home secure when you go out?
- Want to pick up useful tips on how to deal with unexpected callers?
- Want to find safer places than your home in which to keep your money?

We are here to help you...

Come and speak to a Police Crime Prevention Officer, Victim Support Worker or a Community Safety Officer from the council at the new **SAFE AND SECURE ADVICE DESK** open every Thursday from 10.00am to 1.00pm in the Age Concern Wandsworth Office Southside Shopping Centre. You can book an appointment on (020) 8870 2020.

Free low energy light bulbs for residents

We have received from the Energy Efficiency Commitment Team a supply of low energy light bulbs that are available free of charge to eligible Triangle residents.

These bulbs are not only economic to run but also aid home security because they can be left on to deter burglars with a minimal effect on household budgets.

To qualify for free bulbs you must be in receipt of one of the following:

- Income Support
- Housing Benefit
- Council Tax Benefit
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Attendance Allowance
- Disablement Pension Benefit (which must include constant attendance allowance)
- War Disablement Pension (which must include the mobility supplement or constant attendance allowance)
- Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit (where income is £14,600 or less)

Supplies of the bulbs are held by Pam Davies; contact her (8870 6293) to apply for bulbs.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR AREA?

We'd very much like to publish information about what's going on in our area – news from faith groups, social groups, local historians etc would be very welcome – please do let us know if you would like to contribute an item for a future Newsletter.

YOUR COMMITTEE CONTACTS

GATWICK ROAD

Wendy Scott
(Secretary)

GRANVILLE ROAD

Mike Smith
Carole Dale

HAMBLEDON ROAD

Aslam Javaid
(Vice-Chairman)
Gill Habershon
Nick Devonald

PULBOROUGH ROAD

Viv Evans
Phyllis Farnell
Hilary Taylor

WIMBLEDON PARK ROAD

Sunny Patel
Beth Willatts
(Treasurer)

WINCANTON ROAD

Pam Davies
(Chairman)

Please note the new contact number to reach Committee members:

**07949
681311**