



The Bush Telegraph

March 2001

From Dwight Wood (Chairman) ...

AT A party several couples were discussing the difficulties of family budgets. "I really don't want a lot of money." said one. "I just wish we could afford to live the way we're living now." (The Lion)

THE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION is running well. Goodwill abounds. We have just had a very successful Quiz Night which was well attended. Our thanks go to Joan Wood (my Mum) for supplying and asking most of the questions. Great team support from the committee.

The Sheepwalk added to the goodwill by not charging us for their lovely room. Raffle prizes were also donated, and what a lovely donkey some lucky person took home! Congratulations to Hazel's winning team from Hartley Road, who won wine and a well-deserved cash prize. No guesses as to who helped with the losing team! Thanks to all.

On another note, great things have been happening. The idea for our new "Leytonstone" postcards came from last year's photo competition, another BARA event. The aim is to promote Leytonstone and show what a great area it is.

Most of the activities we run are not to raise funds but for fun and a chance for members to get to know each other. Nevertheless, from time to time we do have funds in hand and with the generosity of our members and the desire to help others, these funds could be used to enhance the area for all. We would welcome ideas that will benefit facilities or causes locally that the committee can then consider. BARA have just donated £50 to help with bulb planting in the churchyard for next year. We look forward to the blooms, which will be enjoyed by all.

New committee members have joined and the whole of the team are doing their bit in areas where they feel they can make a difference. Please contact me or any of the committee members if there is anything however large or small you would like to help with.

Another great success was the Pub Night, which will definitely be repeated. It was great to see everyone and especially the new faces.

This BT is intended to go on the website www.bara-leytonstone.org.uk (a computer wizard volunteer to help would be appreciated!)

Other regular duties of chasing planning matters and inputting your views to the police, Council and others have also been happening. Read on!!

"TO GAIN self-confidence, you must avoid using negative words such as can't and not," the counsellor advised the client. "Do you think you could do that?" "Well, I can't see why not."(Greg Evans)

Here's more on Traffic Lights - and Other Fiascos

- **Essential equipment for traffic-flow control still awaited**
- **Council plans early review of Town Centre roadworks**

by Robert Gay - Vice-chairman, BARA

FOLLOWING on from the last Bush Telegraph, the current position is that the new traffic lights are all installed but the 'controller', which is supposed to co-ordinate all the signals and make it easier for traffic to get through the junctions, has not arrived. This is a computerised control unit and has to be specifically programmed to fit the individual junctions which it is to control. The last information we had was that it was likely to take another two months.

In the meantime, while the roadworks in the 'Town Centre' are over (at last) the Council has begun on more works opposite Barclay Road, and the works opposite the entrance to Langthorne Park continue.

The Council intends to hold a 'review' of what it has done to the roads in Leytonstone Town Centre in about March. But it will not be sensible to review things until we have had a month of roads working as they are supposed to, with the new controller in place and no roadworks further down the High Road, to give some experience of how much traffic there will be and how it will flow.

What the Council ought to do is:

- **Force** the contactors responsible to make the controller and install it by the end of March
- **Get** the roadworks by Barclay Road and Langthorne Road complete by the end of March and not start any more yet
- **Get** proper signposting on the Link Road before the Green Man and at the Green Man roundabout, telling traffic for Stratford to go down the Link Road as far as Bow flyover and into Stratford from there, by the end of March
- **Wait** a month until the end of April to see how traffic settles down
- **THEN** review what they have done to Leytonstone.

Personally, I expect that a sensible review would show there are still too many vehicles coming down the High Road. Perhaps what is needed is making it easier to get from the A12 to the Bow flyover on to the road into Stratford? Perhaps the flow of the High Road needs to be reversed with traffic going north by way of Church Lane and Lemna Road, and south down the High Road? (At the moment the flow is made more difficult because the southbound traffic has to turn right across the northbound traffic, twice over.)

I hope there is money in someone's budget to pay for putting things right.

Is TESCO a Good Thing?

BARA committee member Raymond Scott asks

LIKE many who live and work in Leytonstone, my first thoughts upon hearing that Tesco's were going to open a new superstore in our under-funded section of the London Borough of Waltham Forest, was "Great! Just what the area needs: a big retailer that should raise the profile of Leytonstone twofold".

The belief was that the presence of Tesco's would 1) give local businesses a boost, and 2) give local people a market-leading supermarket that they do not have to either drive or use local transport to get to.

Sadly, I like many others are now asking ourselves "Is Tesco's a good thing?". Being a local business owner I am experiencing first-hand the damaging effect Tesco's is having on the local shop-owning community. Most

local businesses will tell you if asked that their turnover (trading income) has reduced by at least 20% and this figure is rising month on month.

So what are the causes? Well, having a new traffic flow system that, should you enter Leytonstone from the Green Man roundabout via car or bus, you are directed to the strangely-configured traffic-light filter system that is directly outside Tesco's (unless you fancy a burger of course), will do for a start. You spend at least five to 10 minutes crawling down the highly-unsuitable Kirkdale Road, navigating silent policemen and those misfortunate pedestrians at the junction to Church Lane who dodge cars, lorries (BIG lorries) and buses, the words clearly heard by all being "Someone is going to get run over and killed here soon". Do we want to wait till then? What shall we do? What can we do?

Why do those driving have to endure such a chaotic experience to go a few hundred yards, if one instead were allowed to go straight down the High Road? Probably nothing but wait. Wait in the traffic jam, wait for the time when you are stuck, completely stuck, trying to edge to the side of the road for the ambulance to get through to attend to someone who has just been knocked over by a frustrated, rage-riddled driver!!

I am pleased that new people from other areas of London are moving into Leytonstone, and I am all for the new vibe that is emanating from Church Lane, but I am concerned that this NEW Leytonstone will not be enjoyed by local businesses that have traded in the area for many years.

Beauty and Peace - a look at St John's Church and Churchyard

by Raymond Draper - Vicar of St John's

LEYTONSTONE is fortunate to have a church and churchyard. When the architect Edward Blore was commissioned to design St John's Church he could not have guessed in 1833 what Leytonstone would become!

St John's Church and Churchyard is a resource for the whole community. In a mad and busy world it is a place where we may draw strength and inspiration. A great deal of love and care has been expended by church members in preserving this resource. I hope that working together with many friends in this community we may develop the enormous potential of this site.

So how can we do this? The Parochial Church Council of St John's Church has set up a new Churchyard Care Group. I hope that this group working with Waltham Forest Borough Council may steadily develop the churchyard in the years to come. We are starting an annual bulb-planting programme and are very grateful to BARA for the first gift of £50! Thank you! We have also established contact with the London Wildlife Trust, and with one of their staff working in local schools, they will be conducting a plant and wildlife survey of the churchyard. With a team of eight volunteers from St John's Church and contractors paid for by the Borough of Waltham Forest we have cleared the brambles from the old historic tombs, removed the privet, and pruned trees and shrubs. Visually the churchyard is a lot more attractive.

Waltham Forest Borough Council has also completed wall repairs and produced a very helpful orientation board to help visitors enjoy the churchyard. In St John's Church we have begun a 10-year programme of repair and renovation.

The first two projects begin in March this year. A new stainless steel roof will be fitted to the flat-topped south vestry and minor repairs will be completed to the main roof. Our architect has prepared sketch plans for a new ramp, a new kitchen, and a new toilet in the church with access for people who are disabled. I hope that the ramp will be built by the end of this year.

We have also begun a regular programme of Open Days, when the Churchyard, Church, and Tower are open to visitors. The next open day is on Saturday 14th April from 2 - 4pm. There will be tours of the church and churchyard, a chance to climb to the top of the tower and refreshments will be served. Members of BARA would be very welcome!

BARA'S Pub Socials Get of to a Flying Start

by Melvyn Brown

THE FIRST of the occasional members' social evenings was held in the Walnut Tree and was a great success.

Knowing me well, the committee asked me to be there early to welcome our members. However, it was a quiet start and for the first 20 minutes I sat on my own behind a BARA poster pretending to read a newspaper whilst treading a fine line between trying to look friendly and welcoming without grinning so wildly that the bar staff sent for the men in white coats. The numbers grew and soon we became bold enough to send out raiding parties in search of spare tables and chairs.

The final proofs of the soon-to-be-famous BARA postcards were on show (with the emphasis on final because it was too late to change anything by then). Our chairman nearly bought a round with the words "Would anyone like a drink?" coming only seconds after the final bell. In the end, there was quite a large, varied and - dare I say - sociable group of members and I think everyone enjoyed themselves. I certainly did. I look forward to seeing you next time.

BARA'S Quiz Night is a great Success for All

by Joan Wood

WELL, there has to be a first time, doesn't there? When Dwight asked me "Mum, you'll run it, won't you?", he sounded just like his father. I felt I had to have a go.

I knew Ken Burton was the Quizmaster without equal and to him I went to collect questions for the pre-Quiz Night questionnaire and several rounds for the Saturday night. Happily Judith opted to sort out questions on music and literature so I thought we had a splendid mix.

With Jo's sensible reminders, Freddie my next door neighbour, all-encompassing help and a blackboard, chalk, raffle prizes etc, we arrived at the Sheepwalk function room to find everything beautifully arranged. Loong put the numbers on the tables, the answer sheets and nibbles were distributed, the splendid postcards were set out for sale. Drinks were bought and away we went.

A friendly crowd behaved impeccably, the music in the interval was a lovely touch and I think all of us there - thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. There were even two young ladies from the bar downstairs, who hopefully enquired whether the quiz was a weekly feature as they would love to join in. So here's to the next time!

EVENTS ROUND-UP

- **22 March (Thursday): BARA Pub Social Night.** Walnut Tree pub (opposite McDonald's), 8pm onwards. Look for BARA sign on -table.
- **31 March (Saturday): [BARA Litter-pick in Bush Wood](#).** 11am. Meet in Bushwood, opposite Leyspring Road.
- **8 April (Sunday): BARA Visit to Sutton House,** Hackney.
- **14 April (Saturday): St John's Church Open Day.** 2pm - 4pm. Includes church and churchyard tours, refreshments and visits to the top of the tower.
- **23 April (Monday): Blood Donor Session.** Lister Road Methodist Hall, 2pm to 4.30pm and 5pm to 7.45pm.
- **19 May (Saturday): BARA's Fourth Annual [Plant Sale](#).** Time and venue to be confirmed, so watch out for posters or phone Jo: 8530 3569.

Pick a Peck of Litter and Keep Bushwood tidy

WE ARE holding a litter-pick in Bush Wood on Saturday 31 March, co-ordinating this with Epping Forest and the nationwide Tidy Britain campaign. Sticks, bags and refreshments provided, from 11am at the corner of Bushwood and Leyspring Road.

Our last litter-pick did very well, so we hope to see you all again this year.

Make a Date for BARA's Ever Popular Plant and Garden Sale

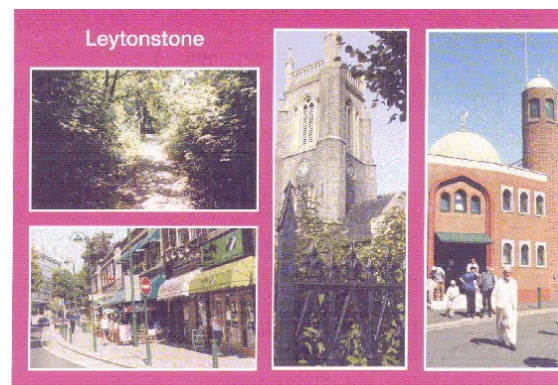
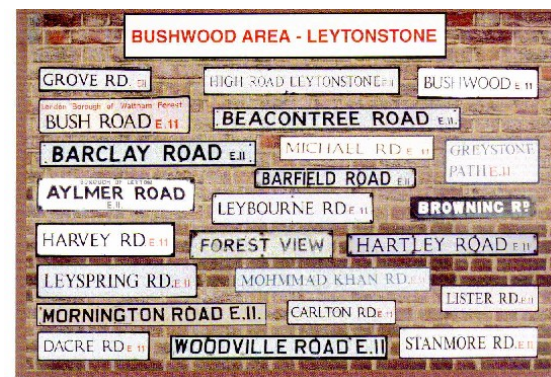
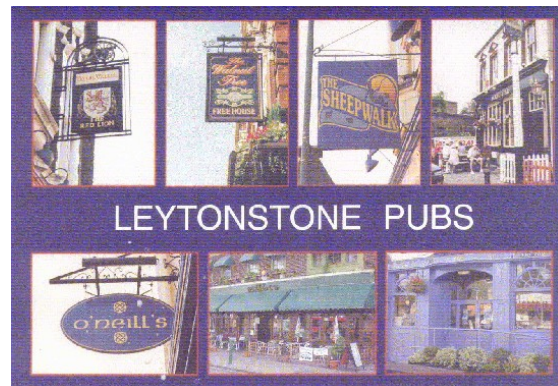
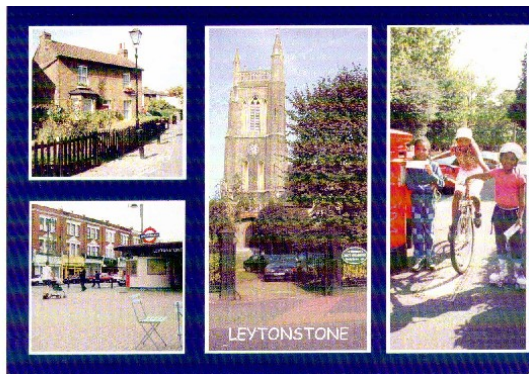
OUR FOURTH annual plant sale is planned for Saturday, 19th May. The Red Lion has changed hands and we await confirmation from the new landlord that we can use the pub garden again this year. If not, we will find a new venue, so please check carefully when the adverts go out!

As always, we hope to have a good range of flowers and vegetables from the ever-popular to the more unusual, garden odds and ends, and Mervyn Baulkwill's renowned jams and marmalades.

Any plant or garden items to donate to the BARA stall? Or if you would like to run a stall, please phone Jo on 8530 3569 (answerphone).

NOW YOU CAN BUY OUR OWN AREA'S POSTCARDS!

EXCLUSIVE TO BARA, FULL COLOUR, PROFESSIONALLY PRODUCED - AND ONLY £1 PER SET OF FOUR!



And now an Apology

Ooops!

APOLOGIES to The Woodhouse Players, whose panto Sleeping Beauty was magically transformed into Cinderella in our December issue. We're sorry for any confusion caused. If you'd like to see what the Players have in store for our future entertainment, keep an eye on their website: www.woodhouseplayers.co.uk

KIDS CORNER - composed by the Wood Sisters

To see the answers to the jokes place your mouse pointer over the joke and the answer should appear at the bottom of the screen. To see the answer to the puzzle, place your mouse over the word "Answer" after the puzzle.

Why did the chewing gum cross the road?

What is black and white and read all over?

What do you call a monster that's pink and fluffy?

Why is there no aspirin in the jungle?

DID YOU KNOW ABOUT LEYTONSTONE??

- The independent newspaper was on the site of what is now the library.
- There are less than 20 McDonald's in all London and Leytonstone has one of them. Or do you know better??
- The High Stone known as "The Obelisk" in the 18th -century, gave Leytonstone its name. The base is supposed to be a military marker from Roman times.

PUZZLING PROBLEM

I have a number. I times it by 12, divide by three, take away nine and add seven. My answer is 22. What is my - original number? (Answer:)

THE BUSH TELEGRAPH ADVERTISER

NB This information is as at March 2001. Check the latest edition of the Bush Telegraph for current information.

Member's advertisements are printed free of charge in this column. Contact Marion, 35 Michael Road, with yours.

CAT PEOPLE - have you mislaid a large black cat with touch of white at throat, no collar, short-haired, slim build, round face, long legs and long tail? Or has yours gone off its food lately? I'm being regularly visited by a bold opportunist who sneaks my three cats' food. (If this saucy scavenger really has no owner I'll willingly adopt him/her when I move house.) Please phone Marion: 8556 6623 with any information. Many thanks!

COLLEGE GOVERNORS wanted: Do you have an interest in young people? In education? In the local community? Do you possess commonsense? Some spare time? Leyton Sixth Form College is looking for some new governors who will guide the College's development over the next four years. Five meetings a year plus annual conference. For further details, contact Mark Carroll, 56 Bushwood, phone 8530 4755.

FIELDSHEER Leather Jeans, black, 32" waist 32" inside leg, armour at hips and knees (hard blue plastic foam type), good condition, £60 ovno. (For sale because now too small for owner.) Would also sell together with

Rhino Jacket, black, 40" chest, similar armour, good condition, zips together with jeans at back, for £120 jacket and trousers together. (Jacket not for sale separately, because it still fits owner.) Contact Robert Gay, 137 Mornington Road, phone 8539 9783.

LARGE pine kitchen dresser for sale. Cupboards below, plate racks above. £200. Phone Dianne: 8518 8785.

PIANO/RECORDER tuition - beginners to diploma level. Experienced teacher, excellent exam and festival results. Reasonable rates. Contact Joanna Brown, 23 Hartley Road, tel: 8989 2535. **Waiting List currently closed**

STAMPS for charity. Used postage stamps - UK and -foreign - wanted for animal charities and Guide Dogs for the Blind. Thank you! Dawn, 46 Michael Road.

TWO-BEDROOM detached holiday bungalow to let in coastal village of Crantock, near Newquay, Cornwall. Sleeps 4/6. All year round. Enquiries and brochure: phone 01637 830310.

BETTER VALUE FROM BARA!

BARA'S committee has been working to obtain worthwhile discounts for members

Our discount scheme:

- Is yet another benefit of belonging to BARA
- Pays you to shop locally
- Supports local shops so it helps to improve our area.

You can get these discounts from the following local businesses - but you must show your membership card.

JESTERS RESTAURANT 682 High Road	10% off Tues, Weds, Thurs evenings (food only).
PROSPERO (books, coffees, cakes, sandwiches) Church Lane	10% OFF all books.
BUBBLES (hats and clothes) 698 High Road	10% OFF everything.
PRIMROSE FLORIST 741 High Road	10% OFF purchases over £10.
CENTURY 21 (estate agents) Church Lane	30% OFF standard commission rate.
DOGS DINNER (pet and garden shop) 23 Kirkdale Road	10% OFF accessories. Other items 5% OFF purchases over £5.
DEANNA DONOVAN (beauty and skincare): working from home	10% OFF treatments.

[DEANNA DONOVAN has reluctantly closed her salon in the High Road due to a very large rent increase. The good news is that she will be working from home in Leytonstone for the time being and is still happy to give discounts to BARA members. Her telephone number remains the same - 020

8558 7223.]

**BANSAL
OPTOMETRISTS**

775 High Road

10% OFF goods over £50.

IRONICA

853 High Road

10% OFF everything
(except Sale items).

CHURCH PINE

(furniture) 899 High Road

10% OFF (except
promotions).

MONARCH SPORTS

815 High Road

10% OFF purchases over
£100.

MEMORIES

Photographic services 829
High Road

10% OFF one-hour or 24-
hour film processing. 5%
OFF films.

**FRESH WATER FILTER
CO**

Carlton House, Aylmer
Road

10% OFF all purchases.

OCEAN DRY CLEANERS

801 High Road

10% OFF bills over £50
(eg curtains, etc).

SOUNDS + VISION

777-779 High Road

10% Off purchases over
£50. 5% OFF all other
items (except computer
games/consoles).

**THE RELAXATION
PLACE**

(aromatherapy face &
body treatments): corner
Browning Road and High
Road (740A)

Free aromatherapy
treatment with your first
appointment: phone 8539
0001.

The BARA Committee 2000/2001

This is the committee as published in the March 2001 issue of the Bush Telegraph. Please see the [BARA homepage](#) for the current committee including email addresses.

NB This information is as at March 2001. Check the latest edition of the Bush Telegraph for current information.

Judith Aldridge	Treasurer	35 Leyspring Road
Tanja Dorlas		1 Aylmer Road
David Dowsett		74 Mornington Road
Robert Gay	Vice-chairman	137 Mornington Road
Ruth Greene		30 St. Augustine's Court
Parvez Hussain	Planning Representative	4A Bushwood
Jo Pilc	Membership Secretary	57 Leybourne Road
Raymond Scott		185 Mornington Road

Janice Wilson

2 Barfield Road

Dwight Wood

Chairman

Carlton House, Aylmer
Road

If you would like to join BARA then contact your nearest committee member.

BARA subscription rates: Households £2 per year. Single people £1 per year.

Committee members wanted

THE committee needs more people to help with the many things it would like to do. With work and domestic commitments, committee members are often unable to participate as much as they would like. If you are interested in helping BARA in any capacity on the committee, please contact Dwight Wood. **Phone 020 8558 1280.**
