



The Bush Telegraph

The quarterly newsletter of The Bushwood Area Residents Association

Also visit us at www.bara-leytonstone.org.uk

FROM THE NEW CHAIRMAN

AS THE year draws to its inevitable end we can look back on a long hot summer marked by cloudless sunny days and the hottest day on record but now, it seems almost overnight, summer has become autumn and T-shirts have become sweaters. Squirrels bury nuts and the starlings have gone south. Of late, chill nights and morning mists have shown that winter is just around the corner.

Winter is a particularly hard time for the elderly so if you have an elderly neighbour – keep an eye on them and if we have snowy conditions how about offering to clear their path for them?

You might have recently celebrated Diwali or Ramadan. You might be preparing for Chanukah or Christmas. Whatever your celebration I wish you all a peaceful and prosperous 2004.

BERN LOWE

BARA SPEAKS AT COMMUNITY COUNCIL LAUNCH

YOU MAY have seen in the local paper or *Waltham Forest Magazine* the formation of Community Councils. The first such meeting in our area was on 27 October.

Among the matters raised by those present for future discussion were:

- ◆ The mobile skip – more visits wanted.
- ◆ Litter bins needed at bus stops.
- ◆ The High Road one-way system isn't working (much applause).
- ◆ More use to be made of Henry Reynolds Gardens.
- ◆ Encourage the village aspect of Leytonstone.

I pointed out that BARA was campaigning on some of these and added that we want a visible police presence. I also pointed out the difficulty I have experienced in getting replies from the Council.

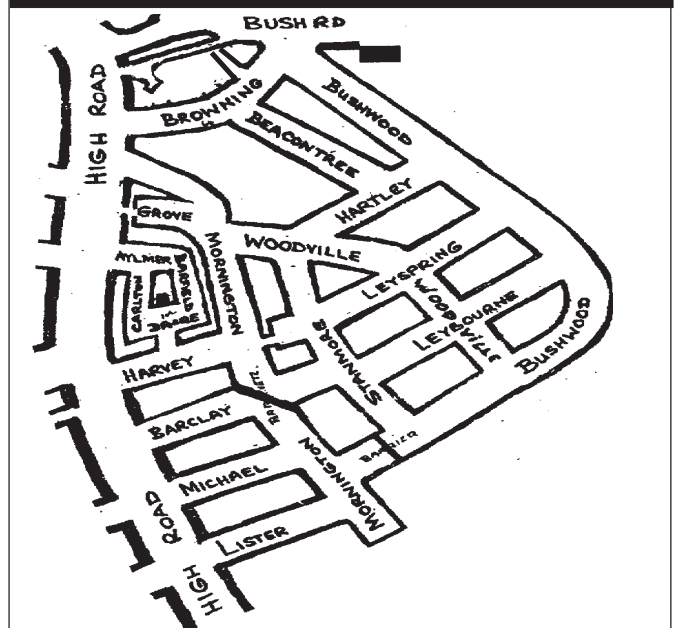
I have requested that BARA be invited to future meetings although anyone can attend in their own right, but if you have any views on the above matters please let me know by email: charlesedensom@hotmail.com or to our website – address above – or put a note in my door (see page two for address).

BERN LOWE

HELP WANTED

ROBERT GAY (phone 020 8539 9783) would be glad to hear about anyone who can be recommended for preparing drawings for building control/planning permission, and also anyone who can be recommended as an engineer to calculate the stresses involved in some building work.

THE BUSHWOOD AREA



Henry Reynolds gets a facelift

THE GARDENS at the corner of Browning Road and Bush Road have been neglected so the **Friends of Henry Reynolds Gardens** has been formed. This organisation has the active support of the Council and once properly formed has access to independent funding, i.e. not under the control of the Council.

The first event was a clear-up day on 27 September when much of the undergrowth and overgrowth was chopped and hacked away. You may have noticed the difference.

On 1 November was a bulb planting and children's Hallowe'en event which was well attended. The results of the bulb planting should be visible in March.

BARA has offered to support this venture which is designed to improve local amenity but if you would like to give active support please contact Alex Williams at alex@hornbeamec.freeserve.co.uk.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single people: £1 per year Households: £2 per year

WHAT'S ON

Forewarning! The annual Spring Drama Festival will next year be held at **Chingford Assembly Hall** instead of **Lloyd Park**, running from Sunday 21 March to Friday 27 March 2004. Many local drama groups will be entering. More details in March *Bush Telegraph*.

Saturday 13 December: *Winter Celebration* at Leyton Mills (by Asda), 12 noon - 4pm. Music, fun and gifts for children of all ages.

Saturday 20 December: *Leytonstone Little Winter Parade*, Church Lane car park, 12 noon - 4pm. Rickshaws, bicycles, dragons, food and drink, wishing tree, music and street entertainers. Stewards and helpers needed - please phone Seema: 020 8539 5256.

Please turn to page six for Epping Forest events

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD!

Three new businesses have joined our discount scheme, all food-connected! See page six for discounts offered, and remember you need to show your BARA card to get the discounts:

Star of India Restaurant – High Road

This restaurant has a chef who was a finalist in the International Indian Chef of the Year competition 2002/2003 held in February this year. They also do a highly rated buffet for £8.50 on Monday and Tuesday nights.

Health Food Shop – Church Lane

This shop has a surprising range of goods. Not just vitamins, aromatherapy oils, and natural remedies that you might expect but also ready-prepared food including vegetarian and organic meals, natural deodorant, organic toothpaste, organic jams and marmalades, and books on healthy living. Some good ideas there for Christmas presents. They also sell 100 per cent natural, non-chemical, non-allergenic washing-up liquid and clothes-washing liquid. Once you have bought the first bottle you can have it refilled, further helping the environment.

Door to Door – ready meals

Two members based in Bushwood are offering a service to provide lunch and dinner on a weekly (Monday to Friday) basis for £10 a day delivered to your door first thing in the morning. This could be a lunch of, say, home-made soup and bread or a filled baguette, and a choice of dinners together with all side dishes (e.g. salmon or chicken main dish with either a salad or a choice of fresh vegetables). Each day's food also includes a fresh fruit platter of usually five or six varieties, and a platter of crudité (slices of peppers, cherry toms, cucumber etc). There is a four-week rolling menu that customers choose from each week. Customers use the service for all sorts of reasons. Some have such busy lives they don't have time to cook properly for themselves. Some others dip in and out when they need to, e.g. when they have been discharged from hospital. All the food is fresh, cooked from scratch, low in fat and salt.

JO PILC

THE BUSH TELEGRAPH ADVERTISER

Members' personal advertisements are inserted free of charge in this column. Please drop your ad in to any committee member (addresses below).

FOR SALE – clarinet (plus beginners' instruction book), £50. Phone Dawn: 020 8558 5777.

FOR SALE – double 12ft aluminium ladder, £50. Buyer collects. Phone Bern: 0780 804 3046.

FOR SALE – mobile phone: Orange SPV Smartphone with MP3, camera and all accessories, in excellent condition. Internet, email, camera, MP3 player, plays movies, Microsoft Outlook synchronisation (Outlook 200 included), MSN Messenger, Triband (so works in USA), hi-fi ring tones. USB cradle and charger, stereo headphones/handsfree, case included. In original box with all manuals, software etc. £80 ono. Phone Tim Hopson: 020 8989 8738.

FOR SALE – threequarter size acoustic guitar, nylon strings. £20 ono. Phone 020 8989 8738.

HOLLY for Christmas - it's growing until it's cut. Male trees only i.e. no berries. Donation to charity required. Phone Bern: 0780 804 3046

LEARN guitar from home. Tuition available for beginners, £10 an hour, weekends only – preferably Saturdays. Phone Jack: 020 8556 3288.

LEARN the art of self defence and tai chi, for men and women. Phone Ron Holt – 8th Dan Black Belt: 020 8539 8147.

STAINED GLASS created or repaired to highest standards. Phone Aleyne: 020 8539 5365.

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.

BARA stall at car free day

THIS event held in September was well attended and most enjoyable. BARA had an impromptu stand, and sold lots of postcards and signed up some new members. It was good to see old friends and we were pleased to meet those of you that stopped by to say hello.

Summer Front Garden Competition results

Winner: 28 John Drinkwater Close; a tiny but interesting and attractive garden, £25 voucher. **Second:** 23 Browning Road; a large flower-filled cottage garden, £15 voucher. (No third prize awarded as not all gardens we liked had up-to-date membership). **Runners-up:** certificates were won by 6 Leybourne Road, 36 Leyspring Road, 9 Forest View and 6 Beacontree Road.

MATALAN will be opening till 9pm each day in the run-up to Christmas.

The BARA committee 2003/2004

6	
Judith Aldridge	35 Leyspring Road
Sue Catten	8 Leyspring Road
David Dowsett	74 Mornington Road
Robert Gay	137 Mornington Road
Brian Hopson	49 Bushwood
Mike Jeremiah: treasurer	47 Beacontree Road
Bernard Lowe: chair	56 Browning Road
Jo Pilc: shops representative	57 Leybourne Road
Judy Scott: planning	34 Carlton Road
Andrew Shields: minutes secretary	9 Hartley Road
Katy Smith: vice-chair and social events	37a Harvey Road
Laura Whitehead: social events	44 Stanmore Road

RESULTS OF BARA'S CONTROLLED PARKING ZONE SURVEY

THANK you to everyone who took the time to complete our survey forms. We received 127 responses which was more than expected. The figures below are percentages of those responding (not everyone responded to every question) and are only given where they are statistically significant:

◆How do you feel about CPZs in your area?

Of those living in the CPZ:

Welcome – 34 per cent
Don't mind – 16 per cent
Unwelcome – 50 per cent

Of those outside the CPZ:

Welcome – 40 per cent
Don't mind – 16 per cent
Unwelcome – 44 per cent

Overall result:

Welcome – 38 per cent
Don't mind – 16 per cent
Unwelcome – 46 per cent

◆Difficulty obtaining a permit?

Yes – 24 per cent. No – 76 per cent

◆The question on fees

In the CPZ:

Too high – 54 per cent
About right – 39 per cent
Too low – 7 per cent

Outside the CPZ:

Too high – 59 per cent
About right – 38 per cent
Too low – 9 per cent

Overall:

Too high – 58 per cent
About right – 38 per cent
Too low – 4 per cent

◆Is the signage adequate?

Yes – 46 per cent. No – 54 per cent

We also invited your comments and these covered a broad spectrum of views, far too many different views to make analysis possible. However, the results are being sent to the Council along with an invitation to read those views. Results of this meeting, if it happens, will be in the next *Bush Telegraph*.

BERN LOWE

BARA NEEDS YOUR THOUGHTS – AND A FEW SPEAKERS

Please see Unitary Development Plan questionnaire enclosed

THE Unitary Development Plan ('UDP') states the principles which the Council will follow in deciding planning applications in our area. It can have a large effect on the amenity of our area, and on the value of your property.

The UDP is revised periodically. The Council drafts the revisions, but they are then submitted to a Public Enquiry. The Council drafted revisions during 2003, and the Public Enquiry is likely to be in February or March 2004.

BARA has commented on a number of detailed points in the Council's draft revisions. However, our chief comments have been on *what Leytonstone is for* and on what are called '*car-free developments*'. On the first main point, the Council is concerned to provide employment locally, and wishes to see the preservation/expansion of 'light industrial' uses in this area. This has seemed to us a mistake. Leytonstone came into existence as a place for people to live who would be commuting into Central London by the railway/underground line. The aim must be to preserve it as an attractive place for people to live, when they are working

in Central London and are able to choose the area they live in. The second point relates to proposals for developments where there will be no parking space on site, and the residents will not be allowed to have permits in the Council's Controlled Parking Zones. However, the residents in these developments will still be able to own cars, and will inevitably keep them on the streets just outside the CPZ. This has not seemed desirable to us.

These comments have been supported by BARA's committee in previous years, and have been discussed at the last two AGMs. However, members of BARA's present committee would like to know the level of support among the membership for these comments.

It would also be very helpful if some members were willing to explain at the Public Enquiry the reasons why they have found the area an attractive place to live, in support of BARA's case about 'what Leytonstone is for'.

◆We would be very grateful if you would fill up the form enclosed and return it through the letterbox of any member of the committee (addresses on page two of this *Bush Telegraph*).

ROBERT GAY



Anyone for local history?

WANT to trace local ancestors or the history of your home? It's interesting, fun and free. After moving to Browning Road I wanted to trace my house history. All the answers were at the Public Records Office at Vestry House Museum – itself a fascinating place, having been a gaol and a workhouse, tucked away in old Walthamstow village. With considerable help and guidance from the staff I found myself digging through photographs dating back 100 years, censuses going back to 1821, voting registers and various maps, from which I found some interesting facts about Browning Road:

- ◆ The oldest houses date back to the 1840s when the surrounding area was inhabited by wealthy families, but exact dates are not recorded.
- ◆ Censuses for the late 19th century show that even the smaller cottages were homes for up to 10 people.
- ◆ Hot water and indoor toilets did not arrive to many of the older houses until the 1970s.
- ◆ Management of the North Star pub has changed at least 26 times since 1861.
- ◆ Henry Reynolds Gardens was once a pond, next to which stood the large homes of a wealthy architect and writer.
- ◆ Many of the houses were also homes to businesses to the extent that the road was virtually a self-sufficient village with farriers, chimney-sweeps, fishmongers, grocers, carpenters, nurserymen/gardeners etc.

Despite learning all kinds of facts I still couldn't work out exactly when my house was first built or when it was apparently rebuilt – but it was great fun exploring.

RENE DIEHL

BARA TEAM WINS AT ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL QUIZ NIGHT

ON 18 October we had another quiz night at the Ex-Servicemen's Club in Harvey Road and in a moment of madness I had offered to set and conduct the quiz but in spite of that, it was well attended with about 60 people in nine teams and seemed to be enjoyed. Of course I had to take some criticisms of some of the answers but if you stick your head up you become a target.

The standard was high and resulted in a tie-break question (*What time is sunset in London on 1 November 2003? Answer – 16.34 GMT*). It was a BARA team that collected the winners' medals. It was also a BARA team that got the lemons. The names have been withheld to protect the innocent.

My thanks go to Katy Smith and Judy Scott who acted as markers and kept the running total display updated but in so doing they gave up any chance they had of winning our much-coveted winners' medals.

It was suggested on the night that we have a quiz in *The Bush Telegraph*. What do you think? If enough people are interested we'll give it a try. BERN LOWE

Getting old website versions? Here's a solution

AS MANY of you will know we have a website. The address is www.bara-leytonstone.org.uk. This has details of the committee on it, *Bush Telegraphs*, news from time to time and a message-board for views. Some members have said they have been surprised to see 'old' information on it and wondered if it was not kept up to date. Well, luckily for us we have a member who is our volunteer webmaster, and does a fine job of keeping it all up to date, other pressures permitting, and our thanks go to **Neil Williams** for this. We asked him why some members seem to be getting old versions when they logged in. Here is Neil's reply:

'It's hard to know quite what is happening here as I see the current version. I can think of two possibilities. One is that the individual's web browser is not set to check for a new version of the page every time they visit a site and an old version stored in the cache on their PC is being used instead. If they click on the refresh button does the current page display? If this is the problem, the browser settings need to be changed. In my version of Internet Explorer, this is under the *Tools* drop down menu at the top of the screen and then the *Internet Options* option. Next make sure the *General* tab on the box that opens is selected and click on *Settings* in the Temporary Internet Files section of the screen. Make sure that the option selected for *Check for newer versions of the page* is set to every visit or similar. This will be different for different browsers and different versions!'

The other possibility is to do with proxy servers, but apart from using the refresh button he cannot suggest an easy answer where this is the problem.

A walk for Remembrance Day

THE Vicar of St John's led a walk around Leytonstone on 8 November looking at the sites that had been bombed in the Second World War. Once pointed out many of them became very noticeable. For example, the Mornington Road flats are built on the site of houses damaged by a V2 rocket on 27 November which amazingly killed only four people. Matalan is on the site of a school destroyed by bombs. Apparently we were a target because of our railway line, and also because there were anti-aircraft guns on Wanstead Flats. It is also said that some of the German spies were turned into counter-spies, who sent back slightly misleading information about the accuracy of the results, so the bombs were targeted to fall slightly shorter which helped Central London but didn't help us in East London!

Other roads in the BARA area which received hits were: Bushwood - four killed by a high explosive bomb. Harvey Road - two killed by a V2 rocket. Leyspring and Mornington Roads - V2 rockets which killed one and four respectively, and a high explosive bomb in Lister Road (then known as Cowley Road).

The vicar (phone 020 8527 2792) has more details if you are interested and may be able to put you in touch with a local amateur historian who has carried out a lot of research into this. There is a good map showing the bombs and casualties.

BARA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Report by Bern Lowe

OUR annual general meeting was held on 24 September at St John’s Church Hall and was well attended.

After receiving and accepting the chairman’s report and the financial statement, a revised constitution was presented and adopted unanimously. (Please see our website).

This was followed by comments from the floor which ranged across many local issues but the liveliest of exchanges involved Zulus. Two of Zulus’ management team were there to respond to complaints and criticisms which became heated at times. We have found that the management are keen to be good neighbours and are sensitive to complaints. BARA will continue to express the views of our members.

When it came to election of the committee we are all surprised that Dwight Wood had decided not to stand for re-election. I hope that all members support the committee’s vote of thanks to Dwight for occupying the chair and giving able leadership to our association. Subsequently Judith Aldridge, our treasurer for three years, relinquished her office and our thanks go to her for playing a vital role that is often unsung and unenviable.

I look forward to your continuing support during the coming year.

WOOLWORTHS RESPONDS TO BARA’S COMMENTS

THE NEW manager for Woolworths, Ian Brown, has been in touch after we delivered a copy of our earlier letter to him. He has been at the store since August, but had not seen our previous letter.

He said he feels a number of points we raised were simply questions of good shop management, and he feels a number of local complaints have already been addressed. They are trying to keep stock levels up and have everything clearly priced. Staff levels are up, too.

Many of you will have seen that the central doors on the High Street are now automatic which should be a good help to people with buggies and to those with disabilities, as well as those just carrying lots of shopping. And all the High Street doors are now in action again. They hope to open the side door for the Christmas period, but in the long term have not yet decided what to do about it, as they do find this exit to be a serious security risk.

Woolworths will be open from 8am to 8pm for the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in Christmas week. They are wondering if early opening would be appreciated generally? If you think so why don’t you let them know?
Ian Brown, store manager: phone 020 8539 1613.

Ian believes Woolworths is committed to Leytonstone, and the shop definitely looks more attractive and welcoming now, so pop along and have a look. JO PILC

THE WOODHOUSE PLAYERS’ Christmas panto is The Pied Piper. Phone 020 8504 3872 for dates, prices etc, or email: woodhouseplayers@hotmail.com or visit www.woodhouseplayers.co.uk. Advance booking is essential.

DAY AND EVENING CLASSES FOR CENTRAL LEYTONSTONE?

THOSE of you who have seen the Waltham Forest Prospectus for Day and Evening Adult Education classes will have noticed that although there are lots of classes in Walthamstow and Chingford, there are none in the centre of Leytonstone. The nearest classes, mostly IT, are held at the Learning Link, North Birkbeck Road or at Asda (neither of which we consider to be central Leytonstone).

We have been asked by Dr Maureen Green, who is in charge of Adult Education in Waltham Forest, if we could consult BARA members about which classes they would like and would be prepared to join, **in the centre of Leytonstone**, and whether they would prefer day or evening. She is anxious to see what support there would be if more classes were on offer.

Bringing back the cattle

IN THE September issue of *The Bush Telegraph* was an item headed ‘Cattle to return to Wanstead Flats’.

While respecting and wishing to preserve traditions, I do not want cows eating the foliage in my front garden nor do I wish to be confronted by their ‘calling cards’ on the pavement as has happened in the past.

How do you feel?

Replies to me please, by email: charlesedensom@hotmail.com or to our website or put a note in my door (address on page two) but please don’t expect me to be available 24 hours a day.

BERN LOWE

If this idea interests you, please fill in the form below and return it to Sheila Dowsett at 74 Mornington Road as soon as possible and she will pass the information on to Dr Green.

Name.....

Address.....

The Adult Education class/es I should like in the centre of Leytonstone are.....

.....

.....

I would prefer morning/afternoon/evening

DON’T FORGET our great BARA postcards. A set of four quality cards showing local scenes for just £1. Phone Jo: 020 8530 3569. Also sometimes available at the library (but at a slightly higher cost).

== EPPING FOREST EVENTS ==

Saturday 13 December: *Looking for Father Christmas.* Self-guided trail through the forest leading to Santa in his grotto. At the Epping Forest Information Centre, High Beach between 11am and 3pm. Cost £1.50 per child. All children must be accompanied.

Sunday 14 December: *A Christmas walk through the Park.* Meet 10.30am at the end of Warren Road, Wanstead. Mince pies and a hot drink will be served in the Temple at the end of the walk. Free of charge.

Saturday and Sunday 20 & 21 December: *Victorian Father Christmas.* At Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge, 1pm to 4pm. Visit Father Christmas in his cosy kitchen. Cost £1.50 per child. All children must be accompanied.

Saturday 17 January 2004: *Indoor Victorian Games* at the Temple, Wanstead Park, 1pm – 3pm. Try games your great-grandparents would have enjoyed. Free of charge. All children must be accompanied.

Who uses seating – disabled people or 'undesirables'?

LAST summer BARA received a number of requests for seating for elderly and disabled people in two places: seats at the end of Grove Road (where the seats were stolen) and on Wanstead Flats. The Grove Road seats were a valued resting point for disabled and frail elderly people in the route to the shops and back. If you can only walk a short distance you need resting points. Several people who live close to the Flats who were unable to enjoy the open spaces because of disability asked BARA to see whether Epping Forest would supply some seating here and there, in the form of logs.

Councillor Clyde Loakes had received other requests for replacement seats in Grove Road and arranged for their replacement. Two residents of Mornington Road then wrote to BARA to voice their strong objection to replacing the seats as these were used by 'frightening undesirables'. Epping Forest asked BARA to consult with nearby residents.

BARA wrote to people who live with views over the proposed sites for logs. Although not all have replied yet, it seems that there are three strong objections to the site closest to the road in case 'undesirables or youth' use it, but none to the other sites. Replies are being sent to Epping Forest end-November.

There is something of a dilemma here. Should elderly people and those of us with disabilities not be provided with resting points if, at some other time of the day, teenagers congregate? Or worse a drunk?

What do you think? Short letters will be considered for publication in the next *Bush Telegraph*. Please drop your letter through any committee member's door (addresses on page two).

Stop Press. We see the seats at Grove Road have been replaced, and we are pleased to see the return of the Leaf Man statue, but he seems to keep changing colour!

JUDY SCOTT

If you would like to join BARA then contact your nearest committee member (see page two). See front page for subscription rates.

◆Published by The Bushwood Area Residents Association

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.*

STAR OF INDIA restaurant 15% on dining in, 10% on takeaways (including deliveries). Discount applicable every day of the week, but does not apply to buffet evenings or other promotions.
875 High Road
phone: 020 8989 4028

HEALTH FOOD SHOP 10% off all items.
47 Church Lane

DOOR TO DOOR (ready meals). Lunch and dinner on a weekly basis (M-F). £10 a day, delivered to your door.
phone: 07870 157392
(Sally or Mary)

BUBBLES (hats and clothes) 10% off everything.
698 High Road

PRIMROSE FLORIST 10% off purchases over £10.
741 High Road

CENTURY 21 (estate agents) ... 30% off standard commission rate.
Church Lane

ZAIN GREETINGS 10% off all cards and gifts (except special offers/sale items).
(cards, gifts, stationery)
48 Church Lane

DOGS DINNER 10% off accessories. Other items 5% off purchases over £5.
(pet and garden shop)
23 Kirkdale Road

DEANNA DONOVAN (beauty... 10% off treatments
and skincare): working from home phone: 8558 7223.

BANSAL OPTOMETRISTS 10% off goods over £50.
775 High Road

NATIONAL SCHOOLWEAR... 10% off general schoolwear. They also stock things like Brownie uniforms.
841 High Road
(Near McDonalds)

IRONICA (ironware and gifts)... 10% off everything (except Sale items).
853 High Road

CHURCH PINE (furniture) 10% off (except promotions).
899 High Road

MONARCH SPORTS 10% off purchases over £100.
815 High Road

MEMORIES 10% off one-hour or 24-hour film processing. 10% off 35mm and APS reprints. 5% off films.
Photographic Services
829 High Road

FRESH WATER FILTER CO.... 10% off all purchases.
Carlton House, Aylmer Road

OCEAN DRY CLEANERS 10% off bills over £50 (eg curtains etc).
801 High Road

THE RELAXATION PLACE.... Free aromatherapy treatment with your first appointment: phone 8539 0001.
(aromatherapy face & body treatments): corner Browning Road and High Road (740A)