



The Bush Telegraph

The quarterly newsletter of The Bushwood Area Residents Association

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

IT'S OUR SILVER JUBILEE

THE INAUGURAL meeting of the Bushwood Area Residents Association – BARA – took place on 4 July 1979 which means we are approaching our 25th anniversary and we are planning some celebrations to mark this. We would very much like to hear from any founder members, whether still living in our area or having moved away. Without the seed that these people planted there would not exist the active and enthusiastic association that I am proud to represent.

Please pass the word to your neighbours who might not be members to join our celebrations and perhaps plant the seeds that will be celebrated in another 25 years.

Ex-Servicemen support BARA's Jubilee

In recognition of our 25 years, the Ex-Servicemen's Club in Harvey Road is offering our members **free entry to the club for the entire month of July**. The Club offers a friendly ambience, attentive staff and drinks prices lower than most pubs in the area, e.g. ales at £1.65 and J20 at 80p. To enjoy this generous offer you only have to produce your membership card and sign the visitors' register. The Club is open Monday – Thursday (12 noon – 4pm and 7.30pm – 11pm), Friday and Saturday (12 noon – 11pm) and Sunday (12 noon – 10.30pm).

4 July is Jubilee Day

To celebrate our 25 years we are holding a **Family Fun Day** in the Henry Reynolds Gardens from 2.30pm to about 4.30pm on 4 July. Among the attractions we are planning a bouncy castle, face painting, a nature trail/treasure hunt, a static display from the police and food from the Star of India. This event is being held in conjunction with and support of The Friends of Henry Reynolds Gardens who will be inaugurating the changes made there so far. I look forward to seeing you on the fourth.

BERN LOWE

QUIZ NIGHT

ANOTHER fun time was had at BARA's latest quiz night, held once again at the Ex-Servicemen's Club. More than 40 people attended and formed 10 teams, three of which were from the Club. However it was a BARA team that collected the winners' medals. Thanks go to the Club for their hospitality and to Laura and Katy for marking and keeping the scoreboard updated.

BERN LOWE

Clothing collection for charity?

BUSHWOOD residents have been leafleted with a series of requests to "Help those who really need your support" asking us to donate our unwanted clothes etc for needy families and people in Eastern Europe. Waltham Forest Trading Standards confirm that this is likely to be a profit making business if the small print does not give a **charity** registration number. So if you want to help people in need with your donations, get out the magnifying glass before you put your bag out! WF Trading Standards on 020 8496 3000 can advise.

Want to learn about more scams or report a rogue trader? Go to www.ripofftipoff.net which is run by the Department of Trade and Industry.

Further delays to Unitary Development Plan enquiry

CAREFUL readers of *The Bush Telegraph* may remember that the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) is the list of the Council's policies which it applies to planning applications, and so it may affect the character of our area a great deal. We are very grateful to those members who expressed their willingness to give evidence at the Public Enquiry into the new UDP.

This Public Enquiry was originally scheduled to take place in about February, and was then put off to about May. The latest news is that it is now likely to begin about 25 October, and to last for three or four weeks.

We will be in touch again with those members who kindly volunteered to give evidence in support of BARA's objections when we have a definite date.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

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).

AVON. If anyone wants to order Avon products just give me a call and I will be happy to drop a catalogue through your door. Phone Patricia Roche: 020 8989 9728 (eves).

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 – 9th 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.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Laura: 020 8532 9553

Katy: 020 8556 5162

15 June: The Annual Front Garden Competition will include hanging baskets and window boxes etc. Several members of the committee will tour Bushwood on the evening of 15th to judge the gardens – so you only have a week to get your garden into shape.

27 June: Annual Litter Pick (12 noon – 2pm). Meet at 12 noon at the edge of the forest at the end of Leyspring Road. This has proved a great success in previous years and very rewarding for those taking part, so do come and join us. Cold drinks will be provided.

3 July: Charity Night in aid of St Joseph's Hospice. 7.30pm till late at the Ex-Servicemen's Club featuring The Village Green Preservation Society (rock & blues band) plus disco, raffle and quiz. Lots of fun in a good cause but only if you are there.

4 July: Family Fun Day. BARA's **25th Anniversary Celebrations** will take place in Henry Reynolds Gardens 2.30pm – 4.30pm. Attractions will include a bouncy castle, face painting, story-teller, barbecue etc. Bring your family along and enjoy the afternoon.

8 July: Introduction to the History of Bushwood. Meet at St John's Church gates 7.30pm. Rev. Draper has kindly offered to lead a walk of about two hours around Bushwood introducing and relating historic places and facts. Please do come and join us – and maybe learn something about your house or street.

In **October and November** we hope to organise a trip to Walthamstow Dogs and another Quiz Night at the Ex-Servicemen's Club. Further details will be printed in September's *Bush Telegraph*.

ANOTHER VICTORY FOR BARA CRICKET TEAM

BUSHWOOD'S CRICKETERS once again proved too strong for the North Star XI, making the tally 3-0 in the series of annual matches. This time the game was played on an excellent pitch at Walthamstow Cricket Club, just off Wood Street. Unfortunately, the weather didn't play ball: on a cloudy evening, the light disappeared quickly and the last few overs were completed in near-darkness. However, all credit to the North Star for being good sports and seeing the game through to a finish.

BARA batted first and, after losing an early wicket, reached a handsome 163-4 from their 20 overs. Iqbal and Nasir, both of whom play for Leytonstone CC in the Gujurati Muslim Cricket League, scored hard-hitting 50s and were called back to the pavilion in order to give others a bat. A highlight of the rest of the innings was an enormous six hit by Matthew House, who hadn't played for the best part of 20 years but got his 'eye in' very quickly!

Deteriorating light meant the BARA bowlers were unable to operate at full pace. Although wickets fell steadily, captain Andrew Shields' policy of giving everyone a bowl meant the runs were also flowing – and North Star skipper Martin Parker batted superbly to finish on 73 not out from a final total of 135-6.

The North Star team plays in the North London Pub League, while almost all of the BARA side are connected to various local clubs. If anyone around Bushwood wants to play cricket, whether social or serious, get in touch (020 8530 2200/andrewshields@ukgateway.net) and I'll point you in the right direction.

ANDREW SHIELDS

STAR OF INDIA EVENING

AROUND 25 BARA stalwarts got together in March to sample the delights of one of our most popular local Indian restaurants, the Star of India. The restaurant is an associate member of BARA and the owner, Shah Khan, and his staff made us very welcome. The food was excellent (with vegetarians well catered for, as always), the atmosphere was good and to mark the nature of the event, BARA members were given a special discount of 20 per cent, even more generous than the 15 per cent discount we enjoy at other times. Thank you Shah, and thanks to all who attended for making the evening such a success.

BRIAN HOPSON

The BARA committee 2003/2004

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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: <i>treasurer</i>	47 Beacontree Road
Barbara Lond	42 Bushwood
Bernard Lowe: <i>chair</i>	56 Browning Road
Judy Scott: <i>planning</i>	34 Carlton Road
Andrew Shields: <i>minutes secretary</i>	9 Hartley Road
Katy Smith: <i>vice-chair and social events</i>	37a Harvey Road
Laura Whitehead: <i>social events</i>	44 Stanmore Road

SPARE ANY CHANGE GOV?

A NEW SLANT on an old trick has been reported by some of our members. Apparently a gentleman in a grey BMW, licence no. K706 ???, has taken to stopping next to pedestrians in our area and asking if they have change for a £20 note. One member's assumption is that he hopes that those accosted will pull their wallets out so that he can grab their cash and zoom off. So far at least, our members have been too sharp for him, refusing to reveal their riches. One member told him

that of course he would be happy to change the note, but just wanted to record the number of the gentleman's car first. The car sped off before you could say "Cashier of the Bank of England", but not so fast that our member couldn't note down the first part of the number, as recorded above.

So as Shaw Taylor (remember him?) used to say, keep 'em peeled!

BRIAN HOPSON

THAMES WATER SURVEYORS VISIT BUSHWOOD

BARA to be consulted fully on pipeline plans

AS SOME members may have noticed, surveying has been taking place along the length of Bushwood. No, it's nothing to do with gold being discovered in the area (it hasn't, unfortunately). Rather, Thames Water surveyors are plotting the possible route for a new water pipe which will run between Barking and an existing reservoir in Woodford, from where water will be supplied across the whole of north-east London.

If the company concludes that the best route for the pipeline is indeed through Bushwood, the options for the pipe are under the pavement (already jam packed with electricity, TV, telephone and gas supplies), under the forest (which may be protected and which in any case could suffer significant damage from such work) or beneath the roadway. If the latter option is chosen, at

least Bushwood would be resurfaced – and about time, some might say!

If they decide they want to go ahead, Thames Water will submit planning applications to all the Councils concerned (Newham, Redbridge and Waltham Forest). Our local councillors are aware of all this from a presentation made to them recently by the company, and Thames Water has undertaken to consult fully with BARA on their plans when they are properly formulated, probably in mid-June. BARA committee members will be invited to inspect the plans and visit the site office for discussions with the planners.

We'll keep everyone informed of developments.

BRIAN HOPSON

GOOD NEIGHBOURS

ONE OF our longest-standing members was burgled the other day. Fortunately, she was out with one of her sons at the time and not much was taken, but the shock of returning to a house with a smashed door and glass spread around would have been a nasty shock for her, especially since she is 87. Thanks go, therefore, to our wonderful postman, Brett Davies, who has for many years provided a social service for customers in the area as well as delivering our letters, and who alerted neighbours to the problem. Brett stayed around until the police had been informed and other neighbours were in place to guard the empty house. Thanks also to Dave Smokcum, a member from Mornington Road as well as an excellent local carpenter, who dropped everything and raced around to secure the door and make the house safe. By the next day, Dave had bought, prepared and hung a new door and no-one could have guessed that there had ever been a break-in.

Burglaries such as these are perhaps part of the price we pay for living in a quiet and secluded area. But the established nature of our community means that there is usually someone on hand to help when problems arise. So, thanks again to Brett and to Dave and please do remember to keep an eye open for your neighbours – they'll do the same for you!

BRIAN HOPSON

Results of BARA social survey

IN THE last *Bush Telegraph*, we asked members to fill in a questionnaire to help the committee decide what social events would be likely to attract most support. Thanks to all those members who responded - *et voici les votes du jurée* BARA!

The idea that we should set up a BARA Gardening Club came 10th, equal with the ever-popular BARA litter collection. Racing ahead of these, however, was support for visits to Walthamstow Dog Track and, in equal 8th place, talkative BARA members voted for the creation of discussion groups. Next, in 7th place, came general music events, with classical concerts favoured in 6th position. Theatre visits proved popular, securing 5th place, and just outside the top two were quiz evenings (4th place) and in 3rd position, pub visits.

Ahead of everything else, however, in equal first place, came restaurant visits and barbecues. Our members clearly like their food!

The committee will now give some thought about how to meet members' wishes but in the meantime, if anyone would be interested in helping to organise any of these clubs/events, please do let a committee member know. All offers of help will be gratefully received!

BRIAN HOPSON

Write on!

Readers' letters and comments are always most welcome. Drop yours in to any committee member – addresses on page two.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL!

BRING BACK THE CATTLE – WANSTEAD FLATS AND BUSHWOOD GRAZING RIGHTS

THIS HAS been raised in recent issues of *The Bush Telegraph*.

We have forest land as an open space on our doorstep because it is protected by The City of London Corporation, Conservators of Epping Forest, under the Epping Forest Act 1878. Landowners illegally enclosed the flats in the 19th century and took the land from the common people. The Commoners fought back and won the fight to keep the land in its natural state. The most deadly weapon used to win the fight was – a cow! The Commoners' rights of grazing cattle saved the forest. In the 1870s the courts decided the 1,000 year grazing rights allowed cattle to wander freely in any part of the forest which had to be left open and the enclosures were removed.

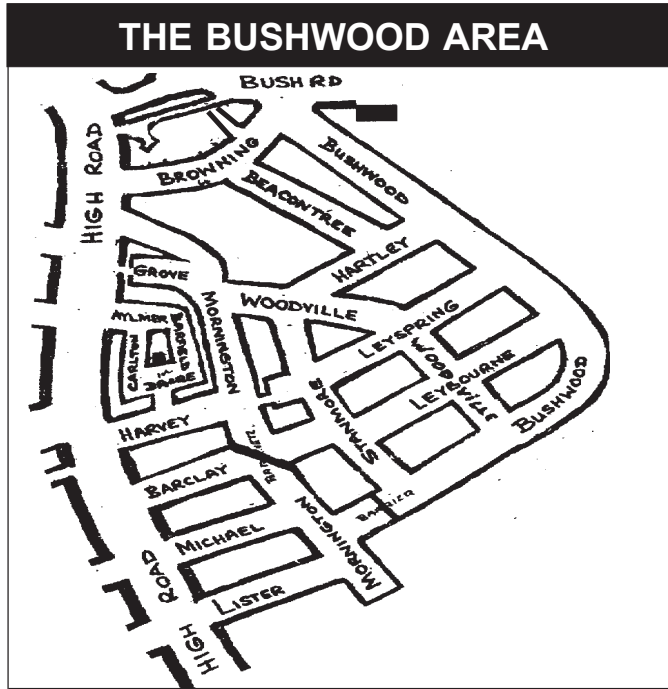
from BARA member
JOHN BUNIAK

Any Commoner (someone who owns a half-acre in a Forest parish) has the right to graze cattle on the Forest in summer and cows featured in the Bushwood area until the BSE (mad cow disease) crisis in 1996.

The Conservators believe cattle grazing created a unique landscape that should be preserved. In 2002 they encouraged a holder of Commoners' rights to reintroduce cattle on Chingford Plain using corrals at night to prevent straying onto roads. The Conservators hope this will form the basis for a larger project and cows may return to this area.

The presence of cows on the flats (and in our front gardens and roads!) created a unique atmosphere in this area in contrast to the traffic noise and pollution. Lazy summer family picnics on the Flats in the nearby presence of a docile herd of cows is a memory few would forget. The return of cows will enhance the attraction of living here. We should approach The Conservators to encourage Commoners to exercise their grazing rights in this area and remember we have the cattle to thank for saving the forest.

JOHN BUNIAK, a Governor of Davies Lane School, has written to *The Bush Telegraph* to correct some points we made last time about the plans for Davies Lane School. John tells us that the rumour about redevelopment involving the possible rebuilding of the school under the Private Finance Initiative was wrong. Neither is the school to be amalgamated with Newport. The position is that last year the Governors decided the Infants and Junior Schools would pool their resources and collaborate to help raise standards in the Juniors. The Head of the Infants, Cathy Dunleavy, took over the additional headship duties of the Juniors. Following the success of this strategy, Waltham Forest LEA announced the proposal to amalgamate the two schools into one with Cathy as the new Head from September 2004. John has assured us that the future of the school is secure and reminds us that the children of BARA residents will achieve excellent results at Davies, where standards are high and constantly improving. So support your local school - Davies has a few places available in most classes and John suggests that those interested phone Cathy: **020 8539 4928**.



Local history walk – Thursday 8 July

AS PART of the celebrations for BARA's 25th anniversary, Raymond Draper, the Vicar of St. John's Church, has kindly agreed to lead a local history walk dealing with the history of the Bushwood area.

Rev Draper is a keen local historian, and in preparation for this walk he is researching the history of our area in the Waltham Forest and Redbridge archives, and also with the records of the firm of auctioneers who dealt with most of our area when it was first sold for building land.

The walk will meet at the gates of St. John's Church, so that Rev Draper will be able first to show any auction particulars of the land on which our houses are built, or photographs of the area, before the walk moves off.

In recognition of the vicar's time and effort, BARA will be making a donation to the Church Restoration Fund, and the walk will be free for those attending.

The walk will assemble at St. John's church gates on Thursday 8 July at 7.30pm; it will last about two hours.

BARA travellers enjoyed another grand day out on Bob Cheek's latest

DAY TRIP TO BOULOGNE

WE LEFT Leytonstone at 6.30am on a dull May morning and as we travelled down to Dover the weather worsened until the rain was quite torrential as we waited to board the ferry. Our departure was delayed by the weather but we also had two visits to immigration and security as one of our fellow travellers required a visa for entry into France so sadly was left in Dover.

After a slightly wobbly crossing we hit the shores of France at midday French time and headed off towards Boulogne with the weather improving every minute.

We had an hour and a half tearing round the hypermarket filling up with pâté, cheese, beer, wine and – for some – “soap powder”. What is it with the men on these trips that they have to buy large boxes of soap powder?!!

Next stop Boulogne. Some of the party decided on culture and visited the old town, castle etc and others were dropped off down by the quayside to explore the restaurants and shops. For my friend and I it was a quick shop and then a wonderful meal before collapsing back on the bus for the trip home. I didn't see the journey back to the ferry as I was catching up on some zzzzzzs.

We had a lovely trip back across the Channel in the sunshine to Dover and then onwards to Harvey Road, arriving at 9.30pm. As always we had a wonderful day out, great food and stocked up with goodies in the food and drink department. Oh, and not forgetting the soap

As it's our Silver Jubilee Day on 4 July, we reprint from The Bush Telegraph archives the recollections of two of our founder members, Mrs Violet Eddy and Mrs Sheila Dowsett. Here's how they remembered

THE BEGINNINGS OF BARA

From Violet Eddy:

“IN THE mid-1970s the late Joan Dearth of Leybourne Road (and later Bushwood), myself and a few others decided we'd had enough of 600 cars an hour using Bushwood and Lister Road as a rat-run before the two 'temporary' barriers were installed. One pedestrian had been fatally injured by a car in Bushwood and there were numerous accidents.

“One very cold January/February a group of us took a petition round to every household in the area asking them to protest against the planned removal of the barriers.

“Our people eventually went to County Hall a couple of times when the subject was on the agenda. We won the day and were congratulated by the Court Chairman for being such a 'well-behaved group' – the best they'd had in years, with no interruptions during the proceedings.

“I feel so proud that BARA has flourished over the years. Long may it carry on.”

And from Sheila Dowsett:

“TWENTY-FIVE years ago, when we first moved into the area, there were no barriers across Bushwood or Mornington Roads and traffic, including heavy lorries, used these two roads, together with Lister Road, as a 'rat-run' from the High Road to the Green Man Roundabout.

The Chairman's column

Help Wanted (1)

We have a problem publicising events that are arranged between issues of *The Bush Telegraph*. If any members are willing to display an A4 size poster in a ground floor front window from time to time, could they please contact any committee member.

Help Wanted (2)

As you can see, *The Bush Telegraph* has for the last few issues gone from four pages to six. This reflects the increase in the work being done by your committee. We could use some help to cope with this increasing workload. Can you spare a couple of hours a month to attend meetings and bring along your ideas, knowledge and expertise? If you have some spare time we can use it.

Fascinating Fact File

The fuselage of a Boeing 747-400 is longer than the Wright Brothers' first flight. Not a lot of people know that!

BERN LOWE

powder. I recommend that you book with Bob Cheek for the autumn outing to Boulogne. We will print a reminder in our September *Bush Telegraph* with the date and contact details.

KATY SMITH

PLANNING

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Kirkdale Road

An application for outline planning permission for a five-storey block of flats in Kirkdale Road on the lower part of the Matalan car park was granted last year. Wimpy's have now made a full planning application covering 50 one bed flats and three live-in work units. BARA has suggested more parking, as 34 units have none provided, and the appointment of a more imaginative architect by the developers to improve the design since the building will become a Leytonstone feature for people arriving by tube or bus.

Five mini-houses proposed

Behind 682 High Road and sandwiched between Carlton Road, a row of five mini-houses is proposed. The houses are much narrower than other terraced houses and are planned to face onto the yard behind the Thai restaurant and the grand old gates (which will be removed). Following an initial rejection by the Planning Department, partly because of problems of overlooking, no windows are planned for the rear of the buildings. This application follows the granting of planning consent for two terraced infill houses on Carlton Road, directly behind the mini-houses. The combined effect of these applications would be very high density with the rear wall of the mini-houses just a few metres from the rear walls of the Carlton Road terraced houses. BARA is objecting.

Zulus

Zulus pub has applied for its Public Entertainment licence to be renewed. BARA has asked for effective soundproofing to be installed before this is granted.

PLANNING DECISIONS

Zulus

Zulus pub's application for a decked exterior drinking area along Harvey Road and substantial interior extensions for drinking and public entertainment was rejected by WF Planning on the grounds of likely disturbance to residents, many of whom had complained, and unacceptable alterations to a locally listed building. BARA welcomes the success of Zulus, but not an unacceptable level of noise.

New Bushwood garage

Planning permission was sought recently for the erection of a two-storey garage in the rear garden of a house in Bushwood. Following rejection of the application by LBWF, there was an appeal. This has not succeeded. The Planning Inspector refused permission on the grounds that it would be out of character.

JUDY SCOTT

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

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.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>STAR OF INDIA restaurant
875 High Road
phone: 020 8989 4028</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>HEALTH FOOD SHOP.....
47 Church Lane</p> | <p>10% off all items.</p> |
| <p>DOOR TO DOOR (ready meals).
phone: 07870 157392
(Sally or Mary)</p> | <p>Lunch and dinner on a weekly basis (M-F). £10 a day, delivered to your door. 10% discount.</p> |
| <p>BUBBLES (hats and clothes)
698 High Road</p> | <p>10% off everything.</p> |
| <p>PRIMROSE FLORIST.....
741 High Road</p> | <p>10% off purchases over £50.</p> |
| <p>CENTURY 21 (estate agents) ...
Church Lane</p> | <p>30% off standard commission rate.</p> |
| <p>ZAIN GREETINGS
(cards, gifts, stationery)
48 Church Lane</p> | <p>10% off all cards and gifts (except special offers/sale items).</p> |
| <p>DOGS DINNER
(pet and garden shop)
23 Kirkdale Road</p> | <p>10% off accessories. Other items 5% off purchases over £5.</p> |
| <p>DEANNA DONOVAN (beauty...
and skincare):working from home</p> | <p>10% off treatments
phone: 8558 7223.</p> |
| <p>BANSAL OPTOMETRISTS
775 High Road</p> | <p>10% off goods over £50.</p> |
| <p>NATIONAL SCHOOLWEAR...
841 High Road
(Near McDonalds)</p> | <p>10% off general schoolwear. They also stock things like Brownie uniforms.</p> |
| <p>IRONICA (ironware and gifts)...
853 High Road</p> | <p>10% off everything (except Sale items).</p> |
| <p>MONARCH SPORTS
815 High Road</p> | <p>10% off purchases over £100.</p> |
| <p>MEMORIES
Photographic Services
829 High Road</p> | <p>10% off one-hour or 24-hour film processing. 10% off 35mm and APS reprints. 5% off films.</p> |
| <p>FRESH WATER FILTER CO....
Carlton House, Aylmer Road</p> | <p>10% off all purchases.</p> |
| <p>THE RELAXATION PLACE....
(aromatherapy face & body treatments): corner Browning Road and High Road (740A)</p> | <p>Free aromatherapy treatment with your first appointment: phone 8539 0001.</p> |