



The Bush Telegraph

The quarterly newsletter of The Bushwood Area Residents Association

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

Chair's statement

◆ **COMMITTEE** — 2008 HAS BEEN AN EVENTFUL YEAR for the BARA Committee. We have seen quite a few changes starting with the resignation of Katy Smith as Chair (but luckily for us, not as a Committee member) and followed by the untimely death of long-serving member Bern Lowe and the resignations of Susan Gann and Dwight Wood. We have also had new additions to the Committee; in the spring we were joined by Desirée Clarke-Noble, and I am now very pleased to welcome Kate Duffy to the Committee. Kate has lived in Leytonstone for more than 15 years and currently lives in St Augustine's Court. She is an enthusiastic supporter of live music in the area and further afield and you can read her first piece for *The Bush Telegraph* about the **What's Cookin'** events on page seven. Kate has kindly agreed to be the Road Representative for Mornington Road and St Augustine's, St John's and St Mary's Courts.

◆ **EVENTS** — This year has seen all the usual events; quiz nights, litter picks, the summer fete and the bike ride. It has also seen the introduction for the first time ever of the BARA Dog Walk. The Dog Walk has yet to become as popular as some of our other activities, but we're determined to persevere and will be making it a regular event in the BARA calendar. Keep your eyes peeled for the posters and do feel free to come along, whether you have a dog or not!

Another new event this year was the meeting with LBWF Councillors in June. This event was very well attended and we hope to repeat it in the future.

Following a suggestion from a BARA member the Committee decided to replace the annual July litter pick with two litter picks, one in spring and one in autumn. I am pleased to report that this has been extremely successful and, despite wet weather on both occasions, the number of people turning up to help was far greater than anything we had experienced on the litter picks held in previous Julys. As a result, we'll be sticking with this new twice-a-year approach in the future.

Our final event of the year will be an informal gathering in the bar of Seebo's Bar and Grill on the High Road, from 7.30 to 9p.m. on Monday 15 December. Do come along and join us for a drink, we would really love to see some new faces as well as all our favourite regulars!!

◆ **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT** — In April BARA made a donation of £225 to the Youth Bus project. This project provides a mobile youth centre where young people can socialise in a safe environment. The project is still in need of help and support so if you would like to volunteer some help in any form please contact the Project Development Co-ordinator on 020 8279 2922 or by email at:

leytonstoneyouthcafe@googlemail.com.

In November BARA made a donation of £50 towards the

cost of redecorating St John's Church Hall. The Church Hall is a venue for many events, not least the BARA AGM, and is of benefit to residents of the whole area not just those who worship at St John's. The Committee felt that a small donation towards its regeneration was something which would benefit the community as a whole.

◆ **THANKS** — I would like to thank all the BARA Committee members for all their hard work during 2008, which has enabled us to serve Bushwood residents by keeping members informed, representing their interests in dealings with LBWF and other external bodies, and providing local events that bring us together as a community.

I would also like to thank all those who help the Committee or who have made donations to BARA. Most of these are listed under Membership on **page two**, however I would especially like to mention Marion Roper, Lynn Coles and Brian Hopson. Marion has continued in her role of designing and type-setting *The Bush Telegraph* and Lynn Coles (Hinga Design) has dealt with the design and administration of the BARA website. Brian has done a fantastic job of representing BARA in the negotiations with Thames Water over the laying of the pipeline along Bushwood. You can read Brian's final instalment of the saga on **page four**. In addition, Brian is responsible for administering the BARA email list, and keeping you all informed between editions of *The Bush Telegraph*. If you would like to be added to the email list please send an email request to either:

bushwoodra@hotmail.co.uk or brianhopson@lycos.com

Finally the Committee would like to thank all our members for their continued support and wish them a peaceful holiday season and a happy new year.

LIZ HAYMAN

e11bid
business improvement district

Take a look at e11bid's exciting Christmas events

THE E11BID COMPANY have arranged the following events during the run-up to Christmas.

Late night shopping on Wednesday nights during December (except Christmas Eve) together with two hours' free parking in the Church Lane car park to coincide with the late night shopping evenings (please check signage before parking).

Christmas Market – between 8am and 8pm from 4 December to 20 December in St John's Churchyard (except Sundays). The churchyard trail will be illuminated and lined

with stalls selling special gifts for Christmas and free information on local groups and events. Do come along for a unique shopping experience!

Seasonal decoration competition

Help the e11bid company choose the Leytonstone business that has best captured the festive spirit. If you like the effort a store has made to decorate please let the e11bid company know by email to festive@e11bid.co.uk. There will be £1,000 in prizes for the stores that most impress the e11bid judges.



HAPPY THIRTIETH BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

IT WAS 30 years ago that Boshir Ahmed opened the Star of India at 875 High Road Leytonstone. Boshir, who trained as a chef in the West End and Tonbridge, had run the restaurant for the previous two years under the name The Curry Centre. At that time there was only one other curry restaurant on the High Road, the other being The Golden Curry. The Curry Centre itself had opened in 1966 when it was the only Indian restaurant in the area.

When the Star opened in 1978 it had the same frontage as you see now and was only a 50-seater restaurant. In 1998, following his father's death, Shah Ahmed took over running the restaurant and in 2005 he undertook the restaurant's first major redevelopment, increasing the capacity to 104 seats.

Special events

Shah runs the restaurant as well as Zafran, a satellite take-away establishment in Highams Park. He is continually looking for ways to improve and expand the menu with delicious new dishes from India, Bangladesh and Pakistan and to train his staff to higher and higher culinary standards. He is also very innovative in attracting people to the Star for special events, for example wine tastings, quizzes, fashion shows and the recent establishment of The Curry Club, which provides cookery demonstrations in the afternoon (see below for details).

Indian-style tapas

Plans are now afoot to expand the restaurant again with the first stage being the doubling of the size of the kitchen. Once this is done the restaurant will be extended to double its current size with the addition of a bar and lounge serving drinks and Indian-style tapas.

Charitable trust

In addition to these ambitious plans Shah is setting up a charitable trust called The Star Trust. The aim of the Trust is to raise money for local charities and community groups. Although the establishment of the Trust is only taking place this year, it is really a continuation of the charity fund-raising which Shah has undertaken for a number of years. The Trust is expected to attain its charity status in January 2009 and will be run by four Trustees and a Board of 15 local dignitaries. Applications for funding from The Star Trust can be made from next June by emailing Shah for an application form at: shah@starofindiauk.com

On enquiring of Shah to what he attributes the success of the Star, he modestly puts it down to the support of his loyal customers. But we think he must take a huge amount of credit for running his business in an imaginative and innovative fashion, especially with developments such as selling gift vouchers for meals in the restaurant and the publication of *The Star* magazine.

We congratulate Shah on his achievement in running what is regarded by many as the best Indian restaurant in the area and for his continuing charitable work for the community. We wish him all success for the next 30 years. LIZ HAYMAN

Now join Shah's Curry Club!

THE CURRY CLUB takes place on Wednesdays and Saturdays on alternate weeks. The session lasts about three hours and the £20 per person per session price includes food and drink. Book early on 020 8989 4028 to avoid disappointment.

COME ONE, COME ALL!

GREET OLD FRIENDS AND MEET NEW FACES!

ALL BARA MEMBERS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO A GET-TOGETHER AT SEEBO'S BAR AND GRILL ON THE HIGH ROAD, FROM 7.30pm TO 9pm ON MONDAY 15 DECEMBER. DO COME – WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

IT'S CLOSER THAN LAPLAND

CONTRARY to popular opinion, you don't need to book a flight to the frozen north to meet the fellow in red. On Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 December, you'll find Father Christmas in Epping Forest.

Take a short self-guided trail around High Beach to discover Santa in his 'Forest Themed Grotto'. It's £5 per child and presents are suitable for babies and older children up to 10 years. And if it all gets a bit chilly, there'll be hot non-alcoholic punch and mince pies served in the Epping Forest Visitor Centre.

There are timed slots between 10am and 4pm, so booking is essential. To find out more, and to book your place, call 020 8508 0028. GARETH DIMELOW

MEMBERSHIP

BARA MEMBERSHIP for 2008/9 currently stands at 354, around 28.5% of all households. Last year our members numbered 384 by the end of the year so we will be making efforts to sign up those who have forgotten to renew and also to recruit new members.

The annual collection of subscriptions is one of the most time-consuming tasks that the Committee undertakes during the year. So we are very grateful to Brian Hopson, Jo Pilc, Cyril Robson, Andrew Shields, Joyce Quarrie and Sue House, who, although not Committee members, lighten the Committee's load by acting as Road Representatives, collecting subscriptions and delivering copies of *The Bush Telegraph*. Their continued support is much appreciated.

The Committee is also grateful to members who have made donations to BARA over and above the normal subscription fee. Thanks go to:

Rob & Karen McRitchie, Yolande Ternouth, George Katritsky, Margaret Maskey, Mr Farrow, Jonathan Orford & Leigh-Anne Hartje, Connie & Len Price, John & Judy Flanagan, Simon Wainwright & Richard Johnson and Reg & Linda Standen

All members should by now have received their membership cards. Anyone who hasn't should contact their Road Representative or any Committee member (see list on page five).

LIZ HAYMAN

A SIGHT FOR POOR EYES

ARE YOU partially sighted and have trouble reading *The Bush Telegraph*? If so, perhaps you'd like us to send you a large print copy instead of the normal standard size. You just need to get in touch with a Committee member (see page five) who will arrange it all for you.

..... **WINTER IN FULL BLOOM**

IT'S BEEN a long while coming, but we're happy to finally report the results of our Summer Front Garden Competition. And if that seems a little late, we think that it's the perfect tonic at this time of year as our gardens turn brown and sparse for the winter months.

On a sunny afternoon in late June (there were a couple, apparently), two members of the Committee walked around

the area to view the selected finalists. We found it very difficult to select an overall winner because of the variety and difference of gardens on show. So in the end we decided on three joint winners, each offering a different perspective. Our congratulations go to the proud owners of these three gardens in Beacontree Road, Barfield Road and Woodville Road, who will be receiving their vouchers very soon.

JANET LEE



TALKING TRASH

OCTOBER 19 was the date of our Autumn Litter Pick, so we took our gazebo, some light refreshments and a load of bin-bags and picker-uppers into Bush Wood. Despite the ominous clouds and constant threat of rain, we were delighted that 21 people came out to lend their support. That was a record turn-out, and results speak for themselves.

If you've ever wondered what difference an hour or so would make, just look at the 30+ large bags we managed to fill with discarded rubbish that we found on our communal green spaces.

It just goes to show that a little time and effort can make for impressive results – and the more people get involved, the more we can accomplish.

We hope to see you all again in the spring.

GARETH DIMELOW



Here's a blast from the past!

ONE OF THE GREAT THINGS about being part of an organisation like BARA is that you get to meet people who've lived in the area all their lives, and hear all about how much things have changed.

One of our oldest and most dedicated members, Cyril Robson, shared a picture with us that we thought we'd include in this issue of the BT.

If you've read Brian Hopson's article overleaf about the Thames Water roadworks and marvelled at how they managed to minimise traffic disruption, take a look at the picture (right). This was the first car on Browning Road, and belonged to Mr and Mrs Smith at number 41 in the early 1930s. I think anyone who's taken part in any of the heated discussions on the CPZ will find it amusing to imagine a time where a street had only one car on it. Thanks for the picture, Cyril! And if anyone else has a pictorial memory of Leytonstone that they'd like to share, please do send it in to us.

GARETH DIMELOW

Could you take pity on these poor 'orphan sites'?

DO YOU KNOW of any uncared-for pieces of land in the Bushwood Area?

LBWF are running a project to identify areas of land in the borough which have an uncared-for or unkempt look. Besides being visually unappealing, such areas of land can attract vandalism and other forms of anti-social behaviour.

Improve the site

The objectives of the project are to improve these areas of land by either identifying the owner and working with

them to improve the site, or, if no owner can be found, then taking control of the site and improving its look and feel.

The project will run over the next 12 months. The first stage will be identifying potential sites and this will run through December, to be followed by a two-month evaluation period. From February onwards, action to improve the chosen sites will commence.

So if there is an area of land which is uncared for or which attracts fly-tipping, litter, graffiti and other forms of anti-social behaviour or vandalism and you would like to nominate it for inclusion in the project, please contact Megan Collins, Project Officer, Environment and Regeneration on 07846 510481 or email:

megan.collins@walthamforest.gov.uk.



Thames Water's plans to construct a pipeline from a new desalination plant in Beckton to the reservoir at Waterworks Corner in Woodford have been closely followed every step of the way by BARA member and email host Brian Hopson. Brian had constructive meetings with Thames Water's Project Manager and their Project Communications Consultant regarding their proposal to put the pipe across Wanstead Flats to Bushwood and onwards, and he has reported on developments for *The Bush Telegraph* and the BARA email group. Here Brian updates us on this massive project which is now, at last,

WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE

WELL, IT'S OVER. The anticipation, the excitement, the hard work, the confusion and (occasional) conflict..... all finished until the next time. No, I'm not talking about the American elections – they were much less traumatic for most of us, although perhaps slightly more significant in a global context. What I'm referring to is the laying of the Beckton to Woodford water pipeline along Bushwood.

Let's be honest, we would all have preferred Thames Water and their friends at Murphy's to be anywhere but here, in spite of the fact that they were working to protect generations of future residents of this side of London from severe dehydration and probable death. (Have you noticed that one of the major social and health developments in recent years is the inability of almost anyone, and certainly anyone under 30, to survive for longer than 10 minutes without water intake, hence the proliferation of little bottles of water in almost every hand and every handbag?).

To return to the pipeline, I must confess to a feeling of trepidation when it first became clear that Mayor Ken's refusal to allow the work to be done unless there was a special, secondary, pipe laid to facilitate the free movement of newts across the Newham/Waltham Forest/Redbridge borders (sorry, I made up that last bit) had been overturned, first by the courts and then by Mayor Boris. (What a pity, incidentally, that Mayor Ken couldn't have been succeeded by a female candidate. How wonderful Mayor Barbie would have sounded.). But I needn't have worried. Thames Water were more than pleased to talk to us and were keen to co-operate and deal with the delicate concerns of BARA members.

The significance of BARA

The most obvious results of our many meetings with Thames Water and J Murphy's were Thames Water's agreement to pay for detailed structural surveys of the houses lining the route of the pipeline in Bushwood, and their willingness to part-fund the resurfacing of the road by LBWF. The surveys, done before work commenced, were vital in that they provided a starting point for any claims of damage which might have been caused and thus benefited both Thames Water and residents. However, residents were also left with a report setting out detailed and valuable information on the state of their houses.

The value of the resurfacing of Bushwood speaks for itself, as those of us with cars small enough to fall into the now vanished craters in the road can testify.

But perhaps more important than either of these tangible benefits were the intangible results of our discussions. As Thames Water realised the significance of BARA in the local

area, they delayed the start of work until the Murphy's team with the best record for working in residential areas was available. They made it clear to the team that they were expected to be extra-considerate towards local people and local sensitivities and Murphy's responded admirably. We had a few instances of work starting before the hallowed hour of 8am but a few phone calls soon put a stop to that and apologies were forthcoming. Some new drivers turned up early and sat in their lorries with their engines running outside permitted working hours but again, a few quiet words (when they could be heard over the sound of the engines) put matters right. And of course, once we realised that no-one was going to be buried alive by the workmen, we all became fascinated by the work that was going on, none more than the children on their way to school.

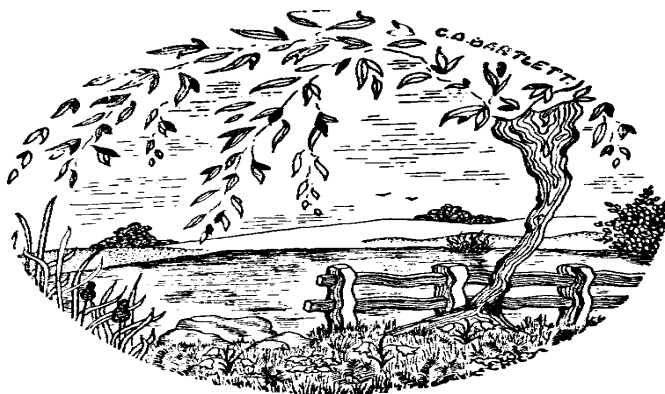
The Murphymen

Pretty soon the Murphymen, as one child named them, were local heroes. Sales of plastic imitation yellow hardhats in Leytonstone soared, getting to school took longer as kids chatted to the workmen and peered into the depths of the excavations, and toy diggers and earthmovers flew off the shelves of local toyshops. The engine-driving and footballing fraternities lost many potential members as the career of choice for our kids soon became digger-driving.

Inexhaustible patience

There was, of course, dust and noise – it would have been impossible for there to be no disruption at all – but we'd like to thank Thames Water and the Murphymen for their successful efforts to keep the disturbance down to a minimum and for their inexhaustible patience in chatting to our children and opening roads to allow residents and delivery drivers in and out (and in and out and in and out...). We're grateful that they managed to do their jobs without making our lives miserable.

Normal service is now resumed in Bushwood. Let's hope that British Gas, Virgin, and the electricity companies don't decide that they need to dig up our gleaming black tarmac for a while. That's one "normal service" I think we can do without for the next few years...



DREAMING OF A GREEN CHRISTMAS

THE WOODLAND TRUST would like to encourage people to recycle their cards after Christmas, and we think it's a great idea. Last year alone they collected over 73 million Christmas cards as part of their recycling scheme, which was enough for them to plant over 17,000 native trees. So please do support them again this year and help them plant even more trees in 2009. You can find collection bins throughout January in WH Smith, Tesco, TKMaxx and M&S stores across the UK. And if you have a birthday during the holiday season, make good use of those cards too! For more information visit :

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/cards

CYRIL ROBSON

DRAG QUEENS, MOSAICS AND BRIDGES

THESE WERE JUST THREE of the wide-ranging topics covered by our most recent Quiz and Curry Night on 15 November. We had a great turnout, with every place taken well in advance. Shah and his team at the Star of India created another mouth-watering buffet, and your BARA Committee pulled out all the stops for a truly diverse range of brain teasers. Where else would you find the history of ice cream, Alfred Hitchcock's cameo appearances and the best in 1980s Europop?

Bittersweet night

Despite some impressive scores and plenty of fun, it was a bittersweet night as we were raising money to buy a memorial bench in memory of Bern Lowe, who was a long-standing member of BARA and firm friend of many in the area. The good news is that the quiz and raffle together made enough money to make the bench possible. Bern's daughter and son-in-law were on hand to give their heartfelt thanks, so we wish them well and look forward to being able to unveil a new bench very soon.

GARETH DIMELOW

Music of the season

THE London Forest Choir has been based in Waltham Forest since the 1960s, and rehearses regularly at the Cornerstone Church in Leytonstone. They would like BARA members to know that they'll be performing a concert at St Mary's Church in Walthamstow on Monday 22 December. To find out more visit www.londonforestchoir.org



A CHRISTMAS CAROL by Charles Dickens (adapted by Cathy Love).

This year, the Woodhouse Players have adapted Charles Dickens' much-loved seasonal tale of festive spirit and the power of redemption, in a production that promises thrills, chills and plenty to warm your heart.

7 – 10 January at the Welsh Church Hall, 879 Leytonstone High Road.

For further details please see www.woodhouseplayers.co.uk
£7.00 / £4.00 (concs)

Tickets available in advance on 020 8504 3872 or: tickets@woodhouseplayers.co.uk
Tickets also available on the night.

The BARA Committee 2007/2008

Karen Bateman: <i>Social & Retail Liaison Representative</i>	4 Barclay Road
Desirée Clarke-Noble: <i>Community Council, Social</i>	48 Leybourne Road
Gareth Dimelow: <i>Editor & Social</i>	11 Barclay Road
Kate Duffy	29 St Augustine's Court
Robert Gay (leave of absence)	137 Mornington Road
Liz Hayman: <i>Chair, Membership, Planning & Safer Neighbourhoods</i>	54 Leyspring Road
Janet Lee: <i>Secretary</i>	27 Beacontree Road
Doug Sheedy: <i>Treasurer</i>	11 Barclay Road
Katy Smith: <i>Deputy Chair & Social</i>	37A Harvey Road

BARA SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single people: £2 per year Households: £3 per year

ROAD REPRESENTATIVES

BARA has an individual responsible for each road falling within our area. That individual should be your first point of contact for issues affecting you. S/he will pass on your comments, concerns, subscriptions etc to the Committee member most able to help. The list below shows who is responsible for your road. Can't find your Road Representative? Then take your query to your nearest Road Rep.

Aylmer Road	Karen Bateman, 4 Barclay Road
Barclay Road	Doug Sheedy, 11 Barclay Road
Barfield Road	Karen Bateman, 4 Barclay Road
Beacontree Road	Cyril Robson, 49 Beacontree Road
Browning Road	Janet Lee, 27 Beacontree Road
Bushview	Karen Bateman, 4 Barclay Road
Bushwood	Brian Hopson, 49 Bushwood
Carlton Road	Karen Bateman, 4 Barclay Road
Colt's Yard	Karen Bateman, 4 Barclay Road
Dacre Road	Karen Bateman, 4 Barclay Road
Forest View	Janet Lee, 27 Beacontree Road
Grove Road	Doug Sheedy, 11 Barclay Road
Hartley Road	Andrew Shields, 9 Hartley Road
Harvey Road	Katy Smith, 37A Harvey Road
High Road	Doug Sheedy, 11 Barclay Road
John Drinkwater	Janet Lee, 27 Beacontree Road
Leybourne Road	Jo Pilc, 57 Leybourne Road
Leyspring Road	Liz Hayman, 54 Leyspring Road
Lister Road	Joyce Quarrie, 42 Lister Road
Michael Road	Sue House, 32 Michael Road
Mornington Road	Kate Duffy, 29 St Augustine's Court
St Augustine's Court	Kate Duffy, 29 St Augustine's Court
St John's Court	Kate Duffy, 29 St Augustine's Court
St Mary's Court	Kate Duffy, 29 St Augustine's Court
Stanmore Road	Desirée Clarke-Noble, 48 Leybourne Road
Woodville Road	Desirée Clarke-Noble, 48 Leybourne Road
Woodbridge House	Doug Sheedy, 11 Barclay Road



BUSHWOOD AREA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THANK YOU to all who attended the BARA AGM on 22 September. For those of you who missed the meeting, the audited accounts were presented and accepted as a true record of BARA's financial transactions for 2007–2008. As for the Committee, all existing members were re-elected to their positions, and joined by newly-appointed member Kate Duffy. Congratulations and thanks were given to Doug Sheedy and Liz Hayman for their hard work and effort as Treasurer and Chair respectively. Marion Roper was also thanked for her work on *The Bush Telegraph*.

A number of issues of concern were raised at the meeting, including the lack of adequate seating for elderly people in Henry Reynolds Gardens; the number of cyclists using the pavements; lack of lighting on Bushwood; the increase in people placing wheelie bins on roads to 'save' parking spaces; people parking on yellow lines near street junctions and the

parking vouchers scheme. Action on all of these issues has been taken by the Committee.

The most hotly-debated topic was the Bushwood Area Controlled Parking Zone. It was proposed at the meeting that BARA should canvass residents about whether to ask LBWF to conduct a further survey of Bushwood residents on their views of the success (or not) of the current CPZ system and whether it should be extended to the rest of the area. Differing views, positive and negative, were expressed by attendees who live within and out of the current CPZ zone, and BARA would like you to continue sharing your feedback on this controversial subject. If you live in the roads that are not in the scheme please send your thoughts on the CPZ, and whether you feel it should be extended, to:

committee@bara-leytonstone.org.uk

DESIRÉE CLARKE-NOBLE

LEYTONSTONE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

The next Leytonstone CC Meeting is at Leytonstone Library on 12 January 2009

APPROXIMATELY 65 PEOPLE from the Leytonstone, Cathall and Cann Hall Wards attended the Leytonstone Community Council meeting at the Epicentre on 20 October.

The main item on the agenda was the allocation of Community Council funding for local projects, amounting to £9,000 this

year across all three wards with an additional £10,000 for each individual ward. All attending residents were eligible to vote on the across-ward spend as well as for the activities proposed for their specific ward. These votes were taken into account by the Councillors who took the final decision on the successful activities.

Leytonstone Film Club

THE LEYTONSTONE FILM CLUB was launched at a sold-out screening of Alfred Hitchcock's silent classic *The Lodger* during the Leytonstone Festival in July. It's been our guiding principle to bring quality, original cinema to the area, looking to cater to tastes that are not generally met by the mainstream cinemas at Stratford and South Woodford.

So far things have gone fantastically well. The first film of our 2008—2009 season was the Oscar-winning German film *The Counterfeiters*. This was followed by the extraordinary *Persepolis*, Marjane Satrapi's acclaimed animation of a young girl growing up during the Iranian Revolution. Both films saw Leytonstone Library packed out with highly appreciative audiences.

In November we screened the astounding British documentary *Man On Wire* about the French wire-walker Philip Petit's legendary walk between the twin towers of the World Trade Centre in 1974, and we were delighted to be joined by the film's producer, Simon Chinn, for a lively 40-minute question and answer session following the film.

Our December films will be the Ben Affleck-penned *Gone Baby Gone* on 3 December, and a special Christmas screening (with seasonal cheer in the form of mulled wine) of *It's A Wonderful Life* on Monday 22 December.

We're always keen to welcome new members to get involved in the club, and are open to your suggestions for films to screen. You don't need to be a member to come to our screenings though, just turn up on the night. We're taking a break in January but will be back on the first Wednesday of every month starting 4 February 2009. Please get in touch with us at info@leytonstonefilmclub.com to sign up for our emails or just to let us know what you'd like to see. And visit our website at www.leytonstonefilmclub.com

JOHN ROGERS: *Chair of Leytonstone Film Club*

The following projects received majority votes from both Leytonstone residents and Councillors and will be funded for 2009:

- ◆ Hanging baskets near Leytonstone station and along Church Lane, £5,000
- ◆ Notice boards, £3,000
- ◆ Resurfacing near St John's Church and Matalan, £1,300
- ◆ Leytonstone Film Club, £700

The following projects were successful in voting taken across all three wards:

- ◆ Leytonstone Festival, £4,000
- ◆ WorkBase Supported Employment, £3,372
- ◆ LiveAbility Waltham Forest, £1,628

The Council would also like to be kept informed of any 'orphan sites' in our area. If you know of any local areas of land that are poorly maintained and there appears to be no clearly apparent owner then please contact megan.collins@walthamforest.gov.uk or call 0208 496 3000 extension 6852. (More details of 'orphan sites' on page three.)

The Community Constables also gave an update on police activity in each ward, with a focus on anti-social behaviour, drugs, alcohol, fly tipping, street crime and warned of bogus builders operating in the local area.

◆ **The Community Council meetings are open to all local residents, so if you wish to attend future meetings please visit: <http://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/index/council/community-councils.htm> for more information.**

DESIRÉE CLARKE-NOBLE

Viva Las Leytonstone

"If country and folk are your things, head out to Leytonstone, home to the excellent What's Cookin' club"

Sharon O'Connell: *TIME OUT*

..... A LITTLE BIT COUNTRY, A LITTLE BIT ROCK'N'ROLL, WITH THE BEST DRESSED LITTLE STAGE IN LONDON....!!

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE that this gem of a club happens outside the West End, but it does and best of all, it's right here in Leytonstone!

The rock 'n' roll baby of Stephen and Ali was inspired by Alan Tyler's legendary *Come Down And Meet The Folks* in Camden. The entrepreneurial pair decided it was time East London had its own bit of Americana and that they were the guys to be bringing it to Waltham Forest. Stephen approached many pubs around the East London area, checking out their suitability as venues and selling them his musical vision. The Plough in Wood Street were sold on the idea and on 28 April 2004 the first incarnation of What's Cookin' was born.

With its policy of no admission charges and a voluntary whip round for the bands, What's Cookin' quickly built up a good following and requests from bands and artists to play came rolling in. In 2005 What's Cookin' successfully relocated to the upstairs room at **The Sheepwalk** on Leytonstone High Road establishing a residency every Wednesday evening and the first and third Saturday evening of the month. In the first year, artists such as Hank Wangford, Sid Griffin and The Coal Porters, Jason Ringenberg and, of course, Alan Tyler

and The Lost Sons of Littlefield played, giving even more kudos to the club.

With its ever-growing musical reputation and bands vying to play, 2006 to 2008 saw such legends as Tommy Womack, Steve Hooker, Andy White and Pete Molinari gracing the club. In 2007, What's Cookin' provided the musical entertainment at The Walthamstow Festival and The Big Menu Festival at Millfield House. In April 2008 What's Cookin' hosted a fund-raiser for Love Music Hate Racism with Pete Molinari headlining. And this event proved so popular that nearly 300 people were turned away! After the success of this year's Leytonstone Festival, where What's Cookin' hosted a Sunday picnic in Henry Reynolds Gardens, next year hopes to see a whole What's Cookin' festival. The most recent accolade to add to the already long list is Cookin' In The Yard, which is an acoustic and unplugged club at the **North Star** on Browning Road, on the third Sunday of every month.

A range of merchandise including the What's Kickin' Vol3 CD, as raved about by Radio 2's Mark Lamarr, is available at all club nights and also from the What's Cookin' website:

www.whatscookin.co.uk

To keep up to date with forthcoming artists send a blank email to:

whatson@whatscookin.co.uk

DECEMBER'S MENU

(correct at time of press)

- ◆ **Wed 3 Dec - Ryan O'Reilly Band / Ted Russell Kamp**
- ◆ **Sat 6 Dec - Otis Gibbs**
- ◆ **Sun 7 Dec - Justin Rutledge**
- ◆ **Wed 10 Dec - The Epstein / Dan Raza Band**
- ◆ **Sat 13 Dec - Errol Linton Blue's Vibe**
- ◆ **Wed 17 Dec - Pete Molinari**
- ◆ **Sat 20 Dec - The Jim Jones Revue**

From your hosts Ramblin' Steve & Rockin' Al and great guest DJs, What's Cookin' is a jumpin' night dedicated to bringing you all that's



SIGNS OF THE TIMES

IN THESE DIFFICULT financial times, it's understandable that Estate Agents need to do what they can to drum up business. However, all too often this means leaving up their sale and letting signs for weeks and months after the event, which looks messy and gives an unrealistic idea of how often people are coming to and leaving the area.

The fact is, estate agents are required by law to remove most boards within 14 days of a property being sold or let. Those companies that ignore this rule can be fined £100 for each offending board, and if they fail to pay this can increase to as much as £1,000. So if you've seen signs that have been left long after a property was sold or let, please report it to Waltham Forest Direct: 020 8496 3000.

GARETH DIMELow



good in Americana, the new and the old country, bluegrass, rockabilly, Cajun, pub rock, Western swing, garage, rock'n'roll, and a whole lot more besides...

KATE DUFFY

LOCAL SHOPPING/SERVICES DISCOUNTS

Don't forget to take your BARA membership card with you when you claim your discount

- Adult Literacy** 10% discount
Qualified adult literacy tutor:
020 8530 3484
- Artistry Loyal** 20% discount
Hair and Day Spa salon
9 Church Lane
020 8556 4348
- Bansal Optometrists** 10% on goods over £50
775 High Road
- Billingsford**..... 10% discount
General builders including Corgi
plumbers and certified
electricians
020 8503 0404
- Bumblebee Florists** 10% discount when you spend
829-837 Leytonstone High Road £10 or more
- The Eatery** (ground floor cafe).... 30% discount
Church Lane
- Deanna Donovan** 20% discount
Beauty and skincare from home:
020 8556 0133
- Door to Door**..... 10% discount
Meals delivered to your door
(lunch and dinner M-F)
07870 157392 (Sally or Mary)
- Faz Fashions** 10% discount when you spend
Ladies' and children's wear £10 or more
654 Leytonstone High Road
- Fresh Water Filter Co** 20% discount
Carlton House, Aylmer Road
020 8558 7495
www.freshwaterfilter.com
- Marc Fletcher Photography** 10% discount
Weddings a speciality
07951 048819,
www.marcfletcher.com
- Mark Rahaman Dip PT, MRNT, IHHT** Negotiable
Fully qualified personal trainer
and sports therapist:
07956 239690
- Melvyn Brown** £10 (20%) off first hour's
Photocopier and office labour in local area
machinery repairs:
020 8530 3569
- Monarch Sports** 10% on purchases
815 High Road over £100
- Ocean Dry Cleaners** 10% discount when you spend
801 Leytonstone High Road £10 or more
- One Stop Shop for Business** 10% discount
841 Leytonstone High Road
- Star of India** 15% on dining in (except buffet
875 High Road nights and other promotions),
020 8989 4028 10% on takeaways
- Trading Places Ltd** 10% off standard sales and
Estate Agents, Letting Agents letting fees for BARA members
and Property Management
Specialists
020 8558 1147 or email
jennifer@tradingplacesproperty.com
- Zain Greetings** 10% except special offers/sale
Cards, gifts and stationery items
48 Church Lane

BARA has a list of local tradespeople. If you would like to see a copy of the list (or to add any local tradespeople to it) please contact a member of the Committee. Visit our website – address on page one – or see page five for Committee addresses.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Please send your advert to any Committee member – see page five

AVON. Patricia Roche: 020 8989 9728 (eve).

AVON. Yetta Omole 07960 513892 or 020 8556 4653 (eve).

BENEFITS ADVICE. Confidential advice and support on welfare benefits and housing. John: 07904 712171

CAT carrier for hire. Donation to BARA. Helen: 020 8989 5845.

DIGITAL CAMERA. Fuji Finepix 55700, 7MP, 10x optical zoom with instructions, around 1 year old, excellent condition, £100. Dawn: 020 8558 5777.

DIGITAL HOMES. Consultancy and installation of TV/plasma/surround sound/Internet networking/scene lighting/CCTV. Free consultation. Ian at Gemini AVL: 07905 352972.

DJ TUITION. Experienced DJ offers mixing/scratching tuition plus discounts on equipment. Ian (DJ Blaze): 020 8558 5870.

ELECTRIC KEYBOARD. Yamaha PSR-170 with instructions and songbook, around 4 years old, hardly used, £50. Dawn: 020 8558 5777.

FACE PAINTER available for children's parties etc. Jessica: 07817 880741 or 020 8556 7801.

FACIAL TREATMENTS using Dermalogica products. Surprisingly therapeutic! £5 discount with this issue of *The Bush Telegraph* for limited period. Yumiko: 07980 488568.

FOOTBALL GOAL (inflatable) for BARA members to borrow free of charge. Katy: 020 8556 5162.

GARDENER. Willing worker will dig, lift and carry. Graham: 020 8989 1681. References available.

GAZEBO. BARA gazebo available to borrowers for free. Also available is BARA's new gazebo for a deposit of £90, fully refundable if new gazebo is returned undamaged. Katy: 020 8556 5162.

GUITAR TUITION. Forget air guitar and learn the real thing from a specialist guitar teacher with a 100% pass rate. All ages welcome. Jack: 07940 402024 or visit www.EM-Records.com

LAKE DISTRICT HOLIDAY HOUSE. Stylish and comfortable house in Keswick, sleeps 8. 10% discount for BARA members on holidays in 2008. Jocelyn: 020 8539 8119 or see www.borrowdalehouse.co.uk.

LOCKSMITH. Richard Boynton: 020 8989 8532 or 07963 713506

MAID OF ALL WORK. Early retired professional woman seeks paid employment. Anything moral and legal considered. Specialities: gardening, writing, shopping, fetch/carry service and dog walking. Jennie: 07916 329595.

PC SOLUTIONS. Having trouble with PC networking? Has your Wi-Fi gone pear-shaped? Want to share a broadband Internet connection? PC specialist with over 15 years' experience. Roger: 020 8530 5656 or email: roger@gann.com

PHYSIOTHERAPY. Back and neck problems? Sports injuries? Full range of treatments available including acupuncture. Baxter Physiotherapy Clinic, 2 Bushwood. Jeff Minns: 020 8989 2292.

PIANO/KEYBOARD TUITION. For all ages and abilities. Stephen Packe: 07515 702853 or email: s.packe@btinternet.com

PSYCHOTHERAPY. Hypnotherapy and cognitive behavioural therapy. Jeanne: 020 8989 3111.

SCOUTING MEMORABILIA. Boy scout/girl guide badges/uniforms/memorabilia wanted by ex-group scout leader/assistant county commissioner. Please phone Keith Thomson: 020 8989 9685.

SELF DEFENCE AND TAI CHI for men and women from a 9th Dan Black Belt. Ron Holt: 020 8539 8147.

SHIATSU MASSAGE, excellent for neck/shoulder and back-aches. Yumiko: 07980 488568.

SPANISH HOLIDAY HOME for rent. www.ownersdirect.co.uk Ref S2506.

STAMPS. Used postage stamps wanted for animal charities and Guide Dogs for the Blind. Dawn, 46 Michael Road.

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE. Experience the bliss of being pampered, feeling relaxed and releasing stress. 22 Stanmore Road. Helen: 020 8989 3840.

TUTOR – ENGLISH & MEDIA STUDIES. Experienced teacher currently employed in a Redbridge school. Amanda: 07795 277654.

TUTOR – MUSIC. Piano, recorder and clarinet from beginners to Diploma level. Jo Brown: 020 8989 2535.