



MORA

MONKS ORCHARD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Save the date for our AGM: 30th April 2019

Non Party | Croydon | Independent

A Peaceful
Christmas
and
Prosperous
New Year



AUTUMN/WINTER 2018

MAGAZINE

IN THIS ISSUE



Chairman's Introduction.....	01	Local Events	25
Photos from the MORA AGM 2018	02	Local Activities/Clubs	26
Précis of the Minutes of the 94th MORA AGM.....	03	Past Times on the River Wandle	28
Report from the 94th MORA AGM	04	NEW! MORA Planning App	30
Childhood Times Recalled	10	Planning Applications	31
Shirley Town FC	11	Be Aware	34
London Fire Brigade	11	Shirley Library	36
2019 AGM	12	In Memory of Michael John Nash.....	37
		Executive Committee 2018-2019	38

Thank you for supporting MORA

CONTRIBUTING TO MORA

To help keep the MORA magazine interesting and current we really need your help to fill it with local news and events. It's your magazine for our area, so please don't be shy; send us some information about a performance, workshop, sports contest, bowls clubs, sale or fayre, an article about something that interests you, or if you go to a Zumba class in the neighbourhood, or a parent and toddler group tell us all about it.

Editorial

We welcome articles and contributions from all MORA members. Please send all material via email to media@mo-ra.co Without articles there wouldn't be a magazine!

Advertisements

To advertise in the MORA Magazine please contact our Advertising Manager, **Mary Jennings** on [REDACTED] Please confirm which size advert you would like to book and if you will need your advert designed.

Local Activities/Clubs

MORA has a new local activities page. If any members could let us know of local activities or clubs in the MORA area we will try to include them in the next issue. Anything from indoor bowls, Martial Arts, Zumba, Mother and Toddler groups etc.



The Monks Orchard Residents' Association was founded in 1923, and represents approximately 2,000 households.

CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION



What a great summer we had but winter is finally coming! I hope this magazine finds you warm, well and in good health.

This will most likely be the last edition of the MORA magazine in its current format. As discussed at the AGM, we are working on getting a new format that can be distributed to every household in the MORA catchment reaching more residents than are members. An updated website theme from the current simplistic design is also in the pipeline. The committee have started working on how we can move to our proposed method of delivery. As you can imagine there is a fair amount of effort and planning going on to ensure we transition to this – no mean feat for a small group of volunteers. We will also be posting more regular articles on our website and social media channels (Facebook and Twitter) – it's a quicker (and free) way of getting important news out to you. News travels so quickly these days by those mediums, we find "print" is often outdated by the time it gets to the reader. You will hopefully have seen our articles on our website regarding the proposed Ashburton Playing Fields development proposal. It's great that we can get information and updates out to residents

using our digital channels. However, the planning committee didn't approve the application and therefore is being amended (again!). We therefore haven't included it in the magazine it would not be relevant and we would be sending you old news. Some details can be found the planning report on Page 32. We expect an updated plan to be re-submitted sometime in December and we will post details on our website so keep a watch out for it. We are not sure how much the plans will change from the original because discussions led us to believe that numerous options have been looked at and it had been determined the pitch locations were in the Woodmere end to counter flood issues near the Bywood end of the fields.

A quick reminder that you can keep an eye out for planning applications in the area using the MORA Planning App on our website. It's a great way to track applications specifically in our catchment area without having to search and filter the Croydon Planning website. Turn to page 30 for a handy guide on how to

access and use it.

In an unexpected turn of events, Paul Scott, the Chair of Croydon Planning stepped down at their last committee meeting! He was however, voted in by peers to take the Vice Chair position. With a new Chair in place though, I hope there is a positive change to the meeting proceedings going forward and intensification by developers challenged fairly. As ever, our planning specialist Derek, will be keeping his eagle eyes on major applications in the MORA area and Shirley.

Please save the date in your diary for MORA's 95th AGM to be held on Tuesday 30th April 2019 7.30PM at Orchard Park High School. We hope you can join us.

I hope you have a merry Christmas with your loved ones, and wish you a happy and prosperous new year.



SONY NAIR
Chairman

Note: No member subscriptions will be charged or collected for 2019

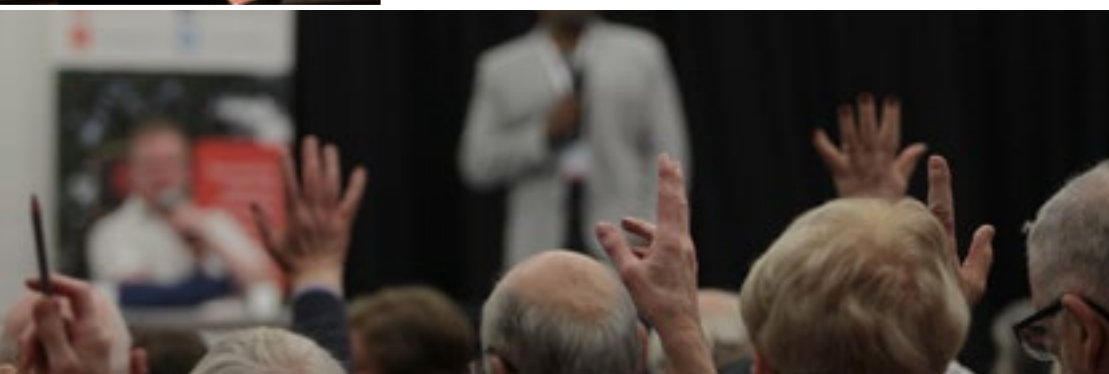
NOMINATION FOR 2018-2019 MORA COMMITTEE

If there are any nominations to join the committee, please send the name and details to our Secretary (hello@mo-ra.co) before the the AGM, along with details of the seconder.

The Executive Committee meets on the evening of the second Wednesday of each month to discuss issues of relevance to our members and local residents.



PHOTOS FROM THE MORA AGM 2018



PRÉCIS OF THE MINUTES OF THE 94TH MORA AGM

25 APRIL 2018 AT ORCHARD PARK HIGH SCHOOL,
ORCHARD WAY, SHIRLEY

(Full minutes available on request)



Invited representatives

No invited guests for this AGM as there are issues of continuance of MORA to be discussed with members.

Members of the MORA

Executive Committee present:

Sony Nair – Chair / Membership
Kevin Martin – Vice-Chair / Editor
Terry Greenwood – Treasurer
Ngairé Sharples – Secretary
Derek Ritson – Planning
Mary Jennings – Advertising
Dave Greenwood – Marketing
Lianne Price – Area Manager / Co-ordinator

Apologies:

Committee Members: Joan Pring and John Kerbel.
MORA Members: Julie Thomas and Anne Lane.

Meeting opened 7.35pm

Opening formalities

- Health & safety formalities and toilet locations. No councillors invited due to proximity to elections
- Shirley Ward to become Shirley North and Shirley South, and Ashburton Ward will cease to exist, effectively being split in two, half in Shirley North and half in Addiscombe East; the MORA area is entirely in Shirley North
- We have new councillors for Shirley North, so at next year's AGM we can call them to account on their performance against

manifesto promises

- CLP2 (Croydon Local Plan), has now been adopted. The Save Shirley campaign had some successes but we are still pushing for some changes.

Terry Greenwood (Treasurer):

- Spoke about the desperate need for new people on the MORA executive committee, and said if anyone wants to voice opinions or address issues, that is the place to do it; you may get the chance to put questions to MPs or other officials, and you get to know what is going on in the area. Terry has been on the committee for 17 years, and when first asked to join did not know how he could help, but felt he should help the area he lived in. He said we have some brilliant people, including a chairman who does a massive job for MORA, and other younger people, with full-time jobs and young families, but still passionate enough about the area they live in to want to give their time
- Accounts for the year: balance for the 2017 year was a gain of £962, due mainly to having only the one magazine in this period instead of the four we would normally produce. Total funds on hand £14,667.

Sony:

- Said that outside of the monthly committee meeting there were council

meetings to attend and other Association meetings where MORA are joint members, and that we would love to have new members

- Spoke about Terry's contribution in the 17 years he has been treasurer, taking it over at a time when MORA was almost out of funds and close to folding. He took on the additional role of finding advertisers for the magazine, building the profits up to where they are today. Terry was given life membership and presented with a certificate

Formalities of the evening:

- a) Minutes of 2017 AGM: agreed – no matters arising. Proposed by: Derek Ritson / seconded: Basil Horton
- b) Nominations for MORA Executive Committee: no new nominations were received so it was proposed to continue with the current committee. We have lost some members: Basil Horton, a committee member for many years, and a MORA member since 1979, Christine Ross-Smith, who ran the supper club, Mercia Nash, who stepped down as was unable to make our meetings – Mercia was area manager of the huge area C, which covers almost one third of our membership. We have also lost some road stewards, which is why we need to reassess the whole issue of the magazine and distribution
- c) Introduced other members

REPORT FROM THE 94TH MORA AGM

25TH APRIL 2018

of the committee present (see above list of committee members present). We also have Joan Pring, police liaison officer, who is still working in the background, but going through a period of recovery after surgery and a more recent member, John Kerbel, who is currently away on holiday.

Proposed that the current executive committee members be accepted: Mary Sedgebeer/ seconded: David Roper.

Sony Nair – Planning:

- A real issue for us and we have spent a lot of time over the last year working with a developer to create and customise the planning app. which allows us to quickly look at any planning applications in our postcodes. Initially the app was to take some of the burden from Derek as the council's planning portal is very cumbersome, and with 184 postcodes in the MORA area, very difficult to navigate.. The app allows us to look at any applications in our area and is updated weekly; it gives a quick view of all applications, status and any important associated documents
- Derek has been doing this work on his own for a long time and the submissions are long and individual; there is no template. Objections are based on technical grounds for not approving an application, in accordance with the Croydon Plan, London Plan and National Plan, but the objections are often dismissed, quite possibly because the members of the planning

committee do not understand the technical reasons.

Planning committees comprise members of the political parties: currently 6 Labour/4 Conservative. We have to keep trying

- Derek will continue what he does, but he was in a coma for 3 weeks back in September and there were real fears for his life. It is amazing to see him here. He holds the committee together and has so much knowledge and expertise. He has to slow down so he can fully recover, so it is my duty to let members know we need to try to relieve the pressure on Derek and members have to start looking at the app themselves, not relying solely on Derek. Sony said people should look at the app and if they have any suggestions for changes or anything they would like to see on it, to get in touch.

Kevin Martin (currently recovering from shoulder surgery) – Magazine:

- Only one magazine since the last AGM; the magazine is free but it is not sustainable for several reasons. Production is mostly by Kevin but he relies on articles from members but is not getting many from outside the committee. Without them we will have a magazine comprising chairman's intro, advertising and a back page
- We have lost road stewards and area managers and collecting the small membership fee is often difficult. Road stewards are

volunteers, but sometimes have to go back 4, 5 or 6 times to collect the sub, and sometimes there is still no-one at home; they can't be expected to go back so many times

- We haven't decided exactly what to do, going forward, but have discussed options at the last two or three committee meetings to see what we can do. Some options are:
 1. No. of pages to the magazine (currently 48)
 2. No. of editions each year – normally 4, but only one this year
 3. Increased on-line content on our web page/ twitter/facebook
 4. Deliver to the entire MORA catchment area, perhaps using a distribution company instead of road stewards
- Magazines are not linked to the membership fee, so although we are collecting fewer subs, we still deliver approximately 2,000 magazines. Funding for the magazine comes mainly from advertising, and we work hard to reduce the cost of printing, so there is a proposal to remove the membership fee and deliver to the entire MORA catchment area
- We will look at our on-line presence and how we can increase it by making it more engaging, interesting and accessible to everyone. It works on all devices and would enable us to get information out more quickly, in between the quarterly



magazine, with planning information and important events on our Home page. We currently have 330 followers, mainly members, but also local businesses, schools, other education bodies, local groups, and can pick up conversations from other people. Hopefully we can share more information about what is going on in the whole area, not just the MORA catchment.

Sony:

- We have to tackle how we get the magazine to members in the long-term. There is a heavy reliance on Kevin for the magazine and we may not have him forever. We will continue to discuss different options at committee and will not do anything until we have something to present to members, probably via a magazine drop
- Although we've talked about the on-line presence, we know there are many people who like a physical magazine to read, so there will be a period of transition. Currently the website is updated by only one person, but will change that to enable everyone on the committee to do mini-blogs, so if they see something of interest while they are out and about, they can put it on the website
- These things don't happen overnight; we are reliant on committee members; as Terry touched on earlier, some of the younger committee members have day jobs, other commitments, and young families, but everyone

on the committee gives their time. We want to continue to serve the Shirley members; this is our community. People need to be aware of what is being planned for it, and council has proven they are rubbish at informing us.

Questions from the floor:

1. Not a question, but a member said one issue of the magazine was, in his opinion, absolutely excellent and the master-mind of that document needs real congratulations for doing a very professional job for an amateur audience.

- Sony thanked him, saying it is nice to get feedback. Said the magazine does take a lot of time, that Joan Pring, who is not here tonight, writes some wonderful articles and has sent quite a few for future use, but we do need articles from others

2. Andrew: Agreed it is a really good magazine. Asked what the last distribution was, what the print-run is and what sort of print-run and potential is there if we delivered to other than just members? Also, what are the stumbling blocks?

- Sony's reply: the current print-run is 1,500, and we deliver 1,450. If we delivered to every household in the MORA catchment, we believe it is around 3-4,000, say 3,500. We are raising important issues, affecting not just members, but everyone who lives in the area so if something is happening, feels we are doing a disservice to residents not to notify everyone. Where

many other RAs and small groups struggle with getting information out there, we struggle with the reliance on written material and on road stewards to deliver it. My generation is not interested in taking on this role; the generation of Terry and Derek has done a fantastic job. MORA has been running successfully for 95 years and I absolutely want to see the centenary, but when I joined about 3 years ago the discussion was how to go about closing MORA down. We then went through the re-branding exercise at exactly the right time, then the Save Shirley campaign; we need to ensure we continue to do that, but need volunteers

3. Is MORA going to be affected by GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations)?

- Sony: Yes. We will put a privacy policy on the website and notify members about what GDPR is, what our policy is, and how they can choose whether or not we keep their details; currently we have about 400 email addresses, which we don't currently use but are there for future communications – they are there purely for communication and will not be used for marketing or anything like that. This partly brings me back to the point about opening up distribution to the wider community, which would mean not having the nightmare of maintaining the membership database after GDPR. Instead of emailing we would use

REPORT FROM THE 94TH MORA AGM

25TH APRIL 2018

social media, the website, twitter and facebook, for communication and use a distribution company to get any important written material out to residents. We are able to do this only because we have money in the account. With membership being £2 for senior citizens and £4 for households, a great deal of effort goes into collecting it. We did think about digital payment for subs, which may have had a good up-take, but the administration would not be sustainable, and we need changes that will be workable for at least 5 years plus

4. Are we thinking that we won't pay a membership fee again?

- Sony: Yes. When we look at income year on year we are collecting less and less from membership fees, but are still maintaining the database and delivering the magazine. Your membership fee effectively allows us to operate; the website, email service and printing of the magazine costs money, though we have reduced printing costs by almost a half, by trying different companies. If we scrap the membership fee and increase distribution we could potentially increase our advertising revenue. But we would like to get more information out to you; with a quarterly magazine this is not possible and, especially under GDPR, email is not a good alternative – we need to encourage members to use the website

5. Out of curiosity, what

proportion of members are not on internet?

- Sony: Difficult to say. About 35% of membership are senior citizens, but many of those do use the web. When road stewards try to collect email addresses, members are reluctant to give them. Think the only way we would find out is to offer a digitally based service and have the magazine as an opt-in

Same member: I just wondered if we could carry out a survey to find out?

- We rely on volunteers to deliver the magazine. General feed-back from road stewards is that they are happy to deliver magazines, but asking them to collect email addresses was a step too far for many, and think it would be the same for a survey, but we could discuss it in committee

6. I support the idea of giving the magazine to everybody, and the frustration of delivering to only a few houses – we have no reason to visit non-members so they lack the information they could otherwise get.

- Sony: yes, I always thought it was a big gap. Some are not members because they don't know about MORA. As much as we get our name out there, many people are in a routine and don't look outside of that

Same member: I also think the quality of the magazine is such that people would happily pick it up and look at it

- Sony thanked him and said we are glad to get such positive feedback about the magazine.

7. If we go to a situation where all households get the magazine, which is great because issues affect all residents, is there a danger actual paying members will reduce, that the number of members would reduce?

- Sony: if we deliver to non-members, we would not charge anyone a subscription. We would use the advertising revenue and some of our funds to cover the cost

Same member: so we would rely entirely on advertising income to keep the organisation going?

- Yes, and Kevin has suggested before having a community event to raise funds. We could do this quite easily.

8. What about using standing orders to pay subs?

- Sony: this goes back to digital payments. We could set them up, but would need to open a new bank account to handle them, someone to administer them, and members would have to be very exact with their reference No. in order to identify who the payment is from. We have approx 1,500 members, so 1,500 standing orders coming in, albeit at varying times, would be a logistical nightmare. There are companies that can manage that for you, taking a 1 or 2% commission, and it is an option we will continue to consider, but whatever we go for needs to be sustainable long-term. I do not want to go for an easy option then have to come back to the membership in 12 months to say we need to increase membership fees to cover operating costs.



9. Do the changes being proposed have any significant constitutional implications, in that you have to be a paid-up member to be elected to the committee, or any issues like that? Or residents who want to opt out of being a member and not receive the magazine?

- Sony: There are only two requirements in the constitution; the first that the AGM is held before 30 April, and the second that we must notify members of the AGM in the Spring newsletter (now a magazine). Committee members are elected at the AGM and can then co-opt others on to the committee. There is nothing in the constitution that says we have to have a membership fee; all it does is define a membership fee, but does not say we must have one. Whatever we end up doing, we would put something in the constitution to reflect this.

10. How will we know how many members we have if we don't pay subs?

- Sony: We won't. We will then not hold a membership database. We know the post-codes in the MORA area, and the distribution company will deliver the magazine to everyone. To go back to the question about people wanting to opt out; there will be no opt-out, it will be the same as for all other communications they receive that they never signed up for. We are sending out public service announcements; not here for marketing or selling anything, just for passing

on information the council has not passed on to you.

11. Andrew: of the people who have turned up tonight, I would be interested to know who would like to see the magazine delivered quarterly to everyone, even if we just try for one year to see how it works?

- Sony: This year was an anomaly; we did not plan to reduce the frequency. It was just the logistics of producing the magazine, with Derek off ill, Kevin with shoulder problems, five times, making it very difficult to use a mouse. It was purely because of that, and the timing. We get to a certain point then something happens and we lose that window of getting things finished, to the printer and distributed.
 - Andrew: yes, but I was wondering what the general consensus is of delivering the magazine free for a year to all the 3,000-4,000 residents in the MORA area, just to see how it would work?
 - Kevin: this is unofficial, but can we have a raise of hands now how many would be interested in letting the magazine go out to the 3,000 odd people in the whole MORA area, and the membership fee removed?
 - The majority of the audience were in favour of that and thought there was nothing to lose to give it a try
 - Andrew: I totally understand about needing content from outside, but if anyone here has ideas, they can drop suggestions in, or maybe
- think of a feature we would like to see, and help to source the information to provide something people would be interested in reading.
- Kevin: The next magazine is expected to go to print in 6 or 7 weeks. I will be out of action for 3 weeks, so you have about 3 weeks to send in suggestions and articles
 - Ngaire added that this does not get around the problem of putting the magazine together in the first place, or paying for 3-4,000 copies instead of the current 1,500, without a membership fee. We would need to find more advertisers, and could end up with a magazine that just has a lot of advertising in it.
 - Member of the audience: with the magazine going to so many more residents, you are advertising MORA and could get more advertising in because they could see it is going to local people, and local businesses.
 - Sony agreed and said that in fact our advertising costs are quite low compared to other organisations, but that when he first joined the committee and saw how much was sitting in the MORA account, he asked what it was for. Part of the reason for setting up that fund was in case we had to fight any planning applications, but given our knowledge of how planning works, the only way to fight a planning decision is to take it to judicial review, which costs around £50,000, and even if we won, a developer would look at it, make some

REPORT FROM THE 94TH MORA AGM

25TH APRIL 2018

changes and lodge another application, so cannot see us going through Judicial Review on any decision. I would like to see this money used to help MORA operate and communicate with residents, so if we scrap the membership fee and use some of that money to facilitate the use of a distribution company, that is something that is sustainable.

12. Member: I am a road steward so know the problems with getting information out, delivering the magazine and collecting membership fees. It is nice to physically have a magazine, but lots of people just cast it aside. The main message to get out to those who don't know about MORA is that we do have a website and a planning app. So maybe it's worth concentrating on that message, and follow up with a two-pager or something while everything else is being sorted out?

- Sony: These are exactly the conversations we are having at committee meetings. These are not decisions that will be taken lightly and there are lots of ideas on the table, but it's good to have this feedback to know the discussions we are having are along the right lines.

13. Terry: We have to look at the money carefully and the problem with subs is that people say they will deliver the magazine but won't collect the money or go back 4 or 5 times when people aren't in. We have two incomes; subs and advertising. There was no advertising when I started, MORA had £3,000 in the bank and

that year had a loss of £1,000, so at that rate, in two years MORA would not exist. I knew advertising was a good source of revenue, so set the rates and walked the distance of the High Street to get people to sign up. It was not easy. I set the rates to take us above the loss, so if we now increase rates to advertisers to cover all our costs, we have to be careful not to price ourselves out. As I said earlier, people can join the committee, come with ideas of how to go forward. If we can come up with an idea of giving the magazine to everyone and can pay for it by other means, that is a good idea, but we have to consider it very carefully.

14. If you have no subs, you have no members, so how can you still have a residents association? You represent members and when you go to a council meeting you can say you speak on behalf of 2,000 residents, which presumably has a greater impact than speaking as an interested individual?

- Sony: The constitution says everyone in a catchment area can be a member, so rather than delivering our message on behalf of people who have paid a membership fee, we would represent the whole catchment.
- Same member: You have the authority to speak on behalf of your members, so if people are not members they do not elect you?
- Sony: We would still hold an AGM and officers would still be elected – anyone can put themselves forward for the committee. This AGM only goes out to paying members,

but we hope in the future it will go out to all residents, so people will still be elected and will still represent the area. People pay to be members of an association. To be a member you have to fall into a catchment area. We find it very difficult to collect that money, so what we are saying is, scrap the membership fee. We know we have advertising revenue coming in and can use that to subsidise what we would normally get from membership fees. Derek already deals with planning applications for residents who are not MORA members, so we already represent the whole MORA area.

- Lianne: to clarify, when you go to a committee meeting you do not represent the 1,500 on our database, you represent the 4,000 houses in the MORA area, so members are everyone in the MORA area, whether they pay or not, and even whether they know about MORA or not. Sony said this was correct.
- Member: We are hung up on the word "member"; we are a residents association to everyone in the area, and represent all residents in the area.
- Sony: that is right. Effectively your membership fee is just a donation to help cover operating costs.

15. Member – road steward: If we send the magazine to everyone in the area, we would be sending to people who might not want to be a member and who might not want to have MORA representing them. They won't join because

**they don't agree with MORA.**

- Another member: We could put a certificate of membership in the magazine and say if anyone does not want to be a member they can write or email to let us know and we will remove their name from our database.
- Sony: We have that already but it is not sustainable
- Same member: Then you can say you represent 3,500 members. You have something concrete.
- Sony: Often the reason someone does not want to be a member is they do not want to pay a membership fee. If you were to give them a magazine for free, they would probably take it and read it. As a person who took on a few roads, which has now turned into a whole area, I have had this conversation with people. I have talked to a lot of the road stewards and they share similar experiences; there might be people who do not want to receive our communications, or be represented by us, but they have recycling bins, so can use it – as they would for any other communications they are not interested in. We cannot get into the same situation where we are now, where we only deliver to specific households. As mentioned earlier, Lianne delivered over 300 of the Spring magazine and I delivered over 250 – I have a full-time job, family, other commitments and just don't have any spare time. After this meeting I will have to

start thinking about GDPR, so it is never-ending. We have about 70 road stewards and as they give up, no-one steps up to take their place and I cannot see people from my generation doing so.

16. Member – road steward: If we are doing away with the need for collecting subs, would some of the existing road stewards step up and deliver to more roads? Also, if we deliver to all houses in the area, could we put a paragraph in the magazine asking if anyone in the area is willing to deliver magazines, rather than paying a distribution company to do it:

- Sony: It is something we could look at but the costs of delivery we have received from some distribution companies are actually quite low. A quick calculation on what we spent on just printing for the magazines last year, shows we could have a distribution company and printing costs, breaking even, and we are now considering reducing the number of pages to the magazine, so reducing printing costs.
- Road Steward: having road stewards deliver the magazine means you can talk to people as you are delivering, so can communicate with residents who might be interested; a distribution company cannot do that.
- Sony: that is a valid point and might result in more road stewards. This feedback has been good, as we need a wider view, so if, post-meeting, you have any

other ideas, contact us.

17. Member: on the question of road stewards, if we want to deliver to the whole area free of charge, would it be worth holding a meeting of all road stewards to see if they would be willing to deliver to the whole area a couple of times before putting distribution out for tender? It would save some money until we get something in place.

- Sony: not so easy to do, finding a date that everyone would attend, and a venue.

18. Janet Marshall: Just to throw into the Shirley Oaks mix, there are sloe worms, a protected species, all around Shirley Oaks, and this is one way to fight any planning applications.

19. You mention the constitution states an AGM must be held by the end of April. Every 4 years this means we are in the same situation as this year where councillors cannot attend due to political purdah. Would it be possible to change the constitution on this point, perhaps to end July?

- Sony: It is also a very bad time for me, with a young family and the Easter break, holidays etc, so we will look at this, but when we also have other things to discuss, as any such changes have to go to membership before they can be approved.

Sony said we were very happy to see how many members had come to the AGM, as with no invited guests we had no idea how many would come. The meeting was closed at 9.05 pm

CHILDHOOD TIMES RECALLED



Barbara's memories of Police Constable Sydney Miles, published in our previous magazine, were recounted to me amongst others of her childhood years which she felt she would also like to share with our readers. Having been born in Shirley and resident ever since that time many years ago, she has seen a large number of changes to the landscape some of which, unfortunately, although necessary to meet the changing times have done little to enhance the character of our area.

She was born and grew up in a house at the top of The Glade, one of several in a circle, but it was the one opposite her home that stands out particularly in her memory. It was an old long cottage, very pretty with roses growing around the door and with chickens kept at the far end of the building. The occupant was a school teacher, considered eccentric but very kind, who gave Barbara a gift of a leather bound book of poems which she still has and treasures to this day. Her regret is that she hasn't a picture of the attractive cottage which, eventually, was demolished to make way for police housing. It would be wonderful if any of our local residents have such a photograph which could be copied for passing on to her.

The gardens of Barbara's family and their neighbours were very small, but at the end was wasteland where they used to celebrate November 5th with a bonfire and fireworks. Her father and neighbours asked the Council if they could purchase the land in order

to extend their gardens but were refused because of an underlying subterranean passage. It's culminating pond was in the same area where, a decade or so earlier, the performing animals of the famous Great Carmo's Circus were kept during their stay at Ham Farm, the base for their Winter quarters. Apparently a great source of amusement and interest to the local people had been to see the elephant taking a bath in the pond. Barbara recalls her vicar, during one of his sermons, telling the congregation how surprised he had been one day, back then, to have seen an elephant actually walking up The Glade! A sign of those times indeed when there was such little traffic.

In common with Barbara there are probably quite a number of people who can remember when a vendor with horse and cart still came round the streets. In my case it was the milkman but Barbara vividly remembers an aptly named Mr Carter who delivered fresh vegetables. After his departure from the road, just like clockwork, housewives in their typical of the time 'housework headscarves', opened their doors carrying buckets and shovels to collect what his horse had deposited in the road. (A practice common everywhere at the time,

not just confined to the Glade). The smell of the manure was pungent to say the least but it did wonders for the home growing rhubarb and roses!

Barbara's early years at Monks Orchard Primary School, under the Headship of Mr Darby, were very happy. The progression of WW2 though meant that more and more time was spent in the cloakrooms which were in fact the shelters. The school subsequently was bombed and then, with the arrival of the flying bombs, she and her mother evacuated for a while. The war's end saw celebrations throughout the country, not the least at Monks Orchard Primary. There was much excitement as a fancy dress competition was organised. The winner was a girl representing "make do and mend" a typical phrase of that time, as that was what most people had to do. Barbara still remembers it as a very happy day, as can be seen by the expressions on the faces of the children in her photograph of the event.

JOAN PRING



SHIRLEY TOWN FC



After celebrating last year's successful season at their end of season awards, Shirley Town FC have now embarked upon this season fielding two teams – the successful under 17s/18s team and the newly launched Under 16s. Both teams are still looking to sign good players with the Under 16s specifically looking for a goalkeeper.



Both teams are competing in the Tandridge League and the club are looking for the Under 16s to emulate the success of their older team mates. More in terms of how the teams are getting on in the next update but the club is already considering how best to introduce another team from next year, probably at a younger age group.

Based in Shirley they were formed in 2007 by a local couple with a single U10s team and, at one time, the club ran 6 Youth teams. A new committee was

formed in June 2017 with the aim to restore Shirley Town as the biggest team in the area – its objective is to be running 10 teams in 10 years' time.

Most of the committee and players live in the Shirley area and the club uses two Shirley Schools for home matches & training, Orchard Park & Coloma.

The town of Shirley is in the club's heart.

If any local business wants to help support the Club, we are always looking for opportunities – contact the Club Secretary on [REDACTED]



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Tickets will be on sale from the 17th December 2018 until the 24th December at No 1.

The lights will be on from the 1st December 2018 until the 5th January 2019, do we look forward to seeing you at some time over the festive period and if you enter our raffle you could also be in with the chance of winning a prize!

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PAST TIMES ON THE RIVER WANDLE

Throughout the centuries many of our rivers and waterways have been the life blood of much of our country and its inhabitants, supporting many forms of industry and livelihoods. Not the least was the Wandle, now rising at Wandle Park Ponds and Carshalton Ponds, its source within the deep chalk of the North Downs. Approximately twelve miles long, it flows from Croydon through Sutton and Merton to Wandsworth where it finally joins the Thames. I had been aware that the Wandle was once a 'busy' river but the actual extent of its fascinating history was revealed to me only on visits to the Honeywood Museum at Carshalton and the small but very comprehensive Wandle Industrial Museum at Mitcham.

The Domesday Survey (Book) of 1086 recorded thirteen watermills on the Wandle's banks, grinding corn or wheat for bread but it is certain that as far back as Roman times the river's fast flowing water had been utilised for the production of flour. Gradually other industries, reliant on flowing water, were also established along its banks beginning with 'fulling', i.e. the cleansing of sheeps' wool, in the 1300s.

The 1600s saw the first significant growth in working water mills, then producing iron, copper, gunpowder, leather and paper but it was in

the 1700s when the increased needs of the time dictated the further diverse nature of the many goods produced and, as a result, the creation of more mills, although some simply adapted to different production. This was the era of snuff taking and several snuff mills were established, many converted from former grain mills. Medicinal oils from lavender and herbs grown in Mitcham, once famous for its lavender fields, were manufactured as other mills appeared producing calico and silk. In 1805 the Wandle was described and quoted as "the hardest worked

river for its size in the world".

By this time the increased industrial activity necessitated a more efficient way to get finished and raw goods to and from the Thames for onward or inward transportation. The upper reaches of the Wandle were not navigable and a canal not suitable which led to the opening, in 1803, of the (horse drawn) Surrey Iron Railway (SIR) the country's first public railway sanctioned by Act of Parliament. This was also a time when England was at war with France and plans were made to extend the original Wandsworth to Croydon line on to Portsmouth to aid transportation of munitions and supplies to the naval base. England's victory in 1805, however, dispensed with this need and the line stopped at Godstone, becoming known as the Croydon, Merstham and Godstone Line (CMG). The eventual expansion of steam locomotion meant that the SIR and CMG could no longer compete and they closed in 1846 and the late 1830s respectively, much of their land being sold off to the new railway companies.

During the late 1800s the benefits of the Wandle and the surrounding area became evident to William Morris probably as well know today, for his distinctive designs, as he was in his own time but additionally, then, as a writer. His old production premises becoming too cramped, he moved to Merton in June 1881, his chosen site having



buildings suitable for fabric production and a watermill which would allow printed silk to be washed in the river. In addition to the block printing of silks, stained glass, tapestries and carpets were produced.

A contemporary of William Morris was Arthur Liberty, whose flagship shop in London's Regent Street was opened in 1875. Preferring natural, as opposed to chemical dyes, for his fabrics Liberty sought the services of a specialist dyer and, in turn, a reputable printing company, Littler. Littler's works were also by the Wandle, now the site of Merton Abbey Mills, from where ultimately their quality hand block printing

became synonymous with Liberty Art Fabrics. Production for Liberty & Co. continued on the site until 1972.

Many of the Wandle mills have long gone but some evidence of the river's industrial past can still be seen with a few remaining buildings, or remnants of, scattered along its banks e.g. the snuff mills at Morden Hall Park. Together with various conservation organisations and dedicated volunteers, however, the river continues to play an important role today, albeit a more tranquil one, that of supporting and maintaining local wildlife.

A 'Wandle Trail' that follows the river's course past industrial

landmarks and other places of interest has been specially created, helped by the Wandle Industrial Museum, for walkers and cyclists.

JOAN PRING



Old Wandle Mills



The Wandle today

Courtesy of the Wandle Industrial Museum

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MORA
Monks Orchard Residents' Association

MORA Planning Table

Show: 25 entries

Ref	Status	Building	Street	Narrative	Notes
16/03434/HSE	Pending Decision	10	Adelmead Avenue	Erection of single/storey side extension	Comments 1-3-5, Documents 4, History, Map
15/00644/LP	Decided / Unrefused	10	Edgewood Green	Erection of single storey rear extension	Documents 5, History, Map
16/00107/L	Decided / Refused	10	Edgewood Green	Demolition of existing building and erection of a pair of two storey three bedroom semi detached houses with accommodation in roofspace and 7 two storey four bedroom detached house with accommodation in roofspace. Provision of associated parking area	Comments 18-3-5, Documents 5, History, Map
16/00204/HSE	Pending Decision	40	Finlay Avenue	Alterations, Erection of single storey rear and front/backdoor side extensions	Documents 4, History, Map
16/00119/HSE	Pending Decision	60	Stableside	Demolition of the existing garage, Erection of single/storey side extension in gravel and gravel and rear extension with dormer extension in rear roof slope	Documents 5, History, Map
16/00401/HSE	Decided / Refused	40	Leane Gardens	Erection of front extension to garage	Document if changed 10, History, Map
15/00644/HSE	Pending Decision	68 - 70	Orchard Avenue	Discharge of conditions (3,5,6 and 11 attached to planning permission 16/01000) for the demolition of existing buildings, erection of 6 four bedroom semi detached, 1 two bedroom detached and 2 four bedroom detached houses, formation of vehicular access and provision of associated parking	Documents 10, History, Map
16/00306/LP	Pending Decision	80 & 100	Orchard Way	Demolition of existing residential buildings; erection of two storey building with accommodation in roofspace comprising 2 three bedroom and 7 two bedroom flats with communal gardens and one-car parking spaces, cycle storage and access off Orchard Way	Demolition ended 24/11/2016, Narrative updated, Comments 26-3-5, Document if changed 17, History, Map
15/00644/LP	Pending Decision	104	Orchard Way	Change of use from a Class A1 (retail) to a Class A1 (retail Food Takeaway)	Comments updated 21-5-16, Documents 5, History, Map
15/00101/LP	Pending Decision	106	Orchard Way	Alterations to the building and use of rear of ground floor as a one bedroom flat	Comments 3-5-5, Documents 4, History, Map
16/00003/HSE	Decided / Granted	5	Piper's Gardens	Erection of single storey two bedroom detached annex to side	Comments 3-1-6, Documents 10, Map
15/00151/HSE	Pending Decision	2	Edgewood Avenue	Erection of single/storey side/rear extension	Documents 11, History, Map
15/00041/HSE	Pending Decision	8	Edgewood Avenue	Erection of single/storey side/rear extension and porch extension	Documents 4, History, Map
15/00009/HSE	New	20	Stirling Avenue	Erection of two storey side extension and single storey rear extension with second dwelling	Documents 13, History, Map
16/00151/HSE	Pending Decision	16	Stirling Avenue	Erection of single/storey side/rear extension; alteration to vehicular access	Documents 5, History, Map
16/04076/LP	Decided / Granted / Pending Appeal	6	The Studio	Demolition of the existing dwelling and erection of 4 bedroom replacement dwelling and provision of associated parking (Scheme 1)	Comments 3-1-6, Documents 10, History, Map
16/04076/LP	Decided / Granted / Pending Appeal	6	The Studio	Demolition of the existing dwelling and erection of 4 bedroom replacement dwelling and provision of associated parking (Scheme 2)	Comments 3-1-6, Documents 10, History, Map
15/04196/LP / 16/00008	Pending Decision	6	The Studio	Demolition of the existing dwelling and erection of 4 bedroom replacement dwelling and provision of associated parking (Scheme 3)	Appeal, Consultation ended 15/11/2015, History, Map
15/04196/LP / 16/00044	Pending Decision	6	The Studio	Demolition of the existing dwelling and erection of 4 bedroom replacement dwelling and provision of associated parking (Scheme 3)	Appeal, Consultation ended 15/11/2015, History, Map
15/00002/LP	Pending Decision	8 and 10	The Studio	Demolition of existing buildings; erection of 2 three storey buildings comprising 6 two bedroom and 3 three bedroom flats, formation of vehicular access and provision of parking spaces, refuse store with cycle storage	Documents 17, History, Map
16/04076/LP	Decided / Granted / Pending Appeal	10	The Studio	Demolition of the existing dwelling and erection of 3 bedroom replacement dwelling and provision of associated parking (Scheme 4)	Comments 3-1-6, Documents 10, History, Map

Help Section

Historic applications in the same postcode

Direct link to documents

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

SINCE THE SPRING MAGAZINE



Planning applications

24 Edgewood Green

Ref: 18/01397/FUL

Proposal: Demolition of one existing garage; extensions to existing bungalow and conversion into 1 x three bedroom and 2 x two-bedroom units with associated parking and landscaping.

Comments Received: 9

Objections: 8 **Supporting:** 1

MORA Objected on 10th May 2018

Permission Granted 14th June 2018

67 Orchard Avenue

Ref: 17/00900/

FUL (Appealed)

Proposal: Demolition of the existing building. Erection of a terrace of 3 three-bedroom houses with accommodation in the roof-space and formation of vehicular accesses onto Orchard Avenue. Erection of a detached two-bedroom bungalow at the rear and formation of vehicular access onto Woodland Way. Provision of associated parking, cycle and refuse storage for the whole development

Comments Received: 15

Objections: 12 **Supporting:** 3

MORA objected to the Appeal on 14th March 2018

Appeal Decision – The Appeal Dismissed – dated 15th May 2018

48 Wickham Avenue

Ref: 18/02734/FUL

Proposal: Erection of a one-bedroom detached bungalow to the rear garden

Comments Received: 2

Objections: 2 **Supporting:** 0

Approved – 21st September 2018

1 Bywood Avenue

Ref: 18/00834/FUL

Proposal: Erection of 2 x Semi-detached chalet bungalows, to include front vehicle turning & parking areas with an additional vehicle cross-over following the demolition of the existing bungalow and detached garage.

Comments Received: 1

Objections: 0 **Supporting:** 0

MORA Neutral Stance sent 2nd July 2018

Approved – 28th September 2018

“Parklife” – Development of new football and community facilities at Purley Way and Ashburton Playing Fields.

Drop-In Session:

Ashburton Playing Fields

St Georges Church Hall,
17 Elstan Way,
Croydon CR0 7PR

Thursday, 4 October
2018, 4pm to 8pm

A Presentations on the proposed Parklife developments at Purley Way Playing Field, Purley Way, CR0 4RQ and Ashburton Playing Fields, Coleridge Road, CR0 7BQ was presented at the Planning Committee meeting on Thursday, 11 October 2018 at 6.30pm in Council Chamber, Town Hall, Katharine Street, Croydon, CR0 1NX.

67 Orchard Avenue



PLANNING APPLICATIONS

SINCE THE SPRING MAGAZINE



This pre-planning presentation meeting can be seen on webcast archive – at: <http://webcasting.croydon.gov.uk>

Illustration Downloaded from Council Website

(however, this illustration has been modified as the Car Parking is now for 35 Spaces along Woodmere Avenue facing the Playing Fields).

We are preparing a submission ready for commenting on a full Planning Application when submitted.

Sandrock Pub: 18/03022/FUL

Proposal: Erection of two storey side/rear extension to The Sandrock Public House and use of first/second floors as 4 flats including 1 x two bedroom flat for staff accommodation. Erection of 2 x two/three storey buildings to rear of pub comprising 9 x one-bedroom flats, 3 x two-bedroom flats and 6 x three bedroom flats with associated amenity space and car parking with creation of new access off Sandrock Place.

Comments Received: 75

Objections: 73 **Supporting:** 2

MORA Objected with 16-page submission on behalf of SPRA on 4th September 2018

Application Withdrawn by letter on 18th October 2018

Land to the Rear of 2 & 4 Woodmere Close – Ref: 18/02746/FUL

Proposal: Erection of a three-bedroom house with associated car parking and refuse storage.

MORA Objected 10th August 2018

Comments Received: 1

Objections: 1 **Supporting:** 0



Sandrock Pub



The application was approved on 9th August 2018

Land to the Rear of 6 & 8 Woodmere Close – Ref: 18/03817/OUT

Proposal: Erection of one 3-bed detached dwelling to the rear

MORA Objected on 24th September 2018

Comments Received: 1

Objections: 1 **Supporting:** 0

Outline Permission Granted 26th October 2018

Consultation on the Draft NPPF

25 Page response to the consultation, approved by MORA, and sent on Saturday 05/05/2018

New Draft London Plan

The consultation on the new London plan have been received and minor amendments published.

We have received notification that the Panel have now published their Draft Matters and Participants which includes an outline timetable for the Examination in Public (EIP) and

response form for comments on the draft List of Participants.

We have been informed by EiP Secretariat that written representations to EiP will be accepted from participants during November – we are preparing submissions.

New Supplementary Planning Guidance Document SPD2 published for Consultation 3 Sept to 15th October 2018.

Community engagement sessions was held across the borough to engage residents, businesses, developers and interested parties on the draft SPD2 Suburban Residential Developments which you were invited to attend. Details of these consultation sessions were as follows:

- Tuesday 9th October, 4pm – 8pm, Shirley Community Centre, 28 Shrublands Avenue, Croydon, CR0 8JA

Documents can be obtained by downloading from the Council's website:

SCI: www.croydon.gov.uk/planningandregeneration/framework/localplan/sci

SPD2: www.croydon.gov.uk/planningandregeneration/framework/localplan/spdandoapf

MORA submitted 32 representation forms commenting on aspects of the draft Document during the consultation period.

Significant issues have been raised on the increased densities proposed in the SPD2 over the period of the Plan.

Presentation by Director Planning

MORA has been invited to a presentation by Director of Planning – Heather Cheesbrough in November at Bernard Weatherill House to update RA's on recent planning Issues. Details of any relevance will be shared in next report. Details of any relevance will be shared in next report.

DEREK RITSON Planning



Alerts received from Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordination and Croydon Trading Standards

Watch out for fake **Argos** texts offering refunds. These messages claim that you are owed a refund. The link in these messages lead to phishing websites designed to steal your personal information, as well as payment details.

There has been an increase in reports concerning fake emails purporting to be from **Amazon**. The subject line and content of the emails vary, but they all contain links leading to phishing websites designed to steal the receiver's Amazon login details.

The number of reports about fake **British Gas** emails, claiming to offer refunds, has risen. The links provided in the messages lead to genuine-looking British Gas websites but are, instead, phishing websites designed to steal the usernames and passwords for British Gas accounts.

There has also been a sharp increase in reports about fake TV Licensing emails claiming to offer refunds. The emails state that the refund cannot be processed due to "invalid account details". However, the links provided in the messages lead to phishing websites designed to steal personal and financial details.

For information on how to stay secure online, visit **www.cyberaware.gov.uk**

A traditional fraud has been on the increase recently in and

around Croydon and nearby areas. The scam involves fraudsters offering items for sale in car parks from vehicles, quite often in busy supermarket car parks. The item is often electrical, such as a TV or DVD player, often described as in good condition and you may well be shown an example which is in good working order. However, recently, several Croydon residents have been victims of fraud as they bought items they believed to be Smart TVs only to have got them home and found inside the sealed boxes TVs which had been smashed, damaged or, in some cases, not even the item they were expecting. Croydon Trading Standards advise never buy products from "out of the back of a van" anywhere. The items could be stolen or the sale could just be a blatant scam where you part with your money for a useless item.

Trading Standards officers were recently called to an address in Croydon following an alert from a high street bank. The officers found that an elderly resident had been persuaded to part with £9,500 for loft insulation despite having his loft insulated less than ten years earlier. The company, based on the south coast, sold the 'spray on' product as a cost effective alternative to standard insulation. The victim was quoted a higher price that would be discounted if they

signed up there and then. He did and paid in full up front. The work was carried out and took less than three hours to complete. It was completely unnecessary! Trading Standards advise "say No" to cold callers.

The **Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)** and **The Pensions Regulator (TPR)** are urging the public to be vigilant when receiving unsolicited offers about their pensions and to check who they are dealing with. In order to raise awareness of pension scams and the most common tactics used by fraudsters the FCA and TPR have launched a joint advertising campaign, as victims of pension scams could lose their life savings and be left facing retirement with very limited income. One of the most common tactics is to offer a 'free pension review'.

Cold calling is currently by far the most common method used to initiate pension fraud. Other scam tactics include:

- Unexpected contact about your pension via phone, post or email
- Promises of guaranteed high returns and downplaying the risks
- Offering unusual or overseas investments that aren't regulated by the FCA e.g. overseas hotels, forestry, green energy schemes
- Putting people under pressure to make a quick decision, e.g. with time-limited offers and sending a courier with



paperwork to sign

- Claiming to unlock money from an individual's pension (which is normally only possible from age 55)
The regulators recommend four simple steps to protect yourself from pension scams:
- Reject unexpected pension offers whether made online, on social media or over the 'phone
- Check who you're dealing with before changing your pension arrangements – **check the FCA Register** or call the **FCA contact centre** on **0800 111 6768** to see if the firm you are dealing with is authorised by the FCA
- Don't be rushed or pressured into making any decision about your pension
- Consider getting impartial information and advice
If you think you've been a victim of a pension scam, report it.

Action Fraud is warning the public about the growing problem of criminals using the reputation of prominent people such as Martin Lewis, founder of MoneySavingExpert.com, in **cryptocurrency** scams. Fraudulent websites claiming to offer cryptocurrency investments are using images and fabricating recommendations from such well known individuals to promote fraudulent cryptocurrency investments without their consent. The adverts appear on various websites as well as social media. Clicking on the advert takes you

to the full article where their images are presented along with fake quotes recommending that you make investments with the fraudulent company in cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin. Alternatively, clicking on the advert will take you to a page where you are required to input your contact details. The suspect company will then 'phone you and persuade you to invest. In March alone, Action Fraud received 21 reports of this kind, with a total reported loss of more than £34,000 to victims.

Copycat Websites – read the small print

Numerous members of the public continue to be caught out by these, incurring unnecessary charges for services which are often free. Consumers frequently use search engines when looking for websites for services such as Blue Badges or passports online. When results appear, it's common to find that the actual government website searched for is not at the top of the list, but appears further down. Frequently the websites at the top will be commercial sites run by people who will process, or pass on, your application to the correct destination...but for a fee for their service! Importantly, you may be required to divulge personal information which you would not want revealed to unknown third parties! If you are looking for websites such as these, it's a good idea to start with the website www.gov.uk and then carry out a search on that website. If the information is not there, it will signpost

you to the correct source of information, so you won't accidentally find yourself paying someone a fee just for passing on your application information.

Unfortunately, it's a fact that scammers are becoming more and more sophisticated in their methods to elicit money from us, but more often than not they can be thwarted if we are on our guard, particularly when dealing with unknown telephone callers, emails, texts etc. However, the important thing to remember is Don't Panic!

Trading Standards are still interested in receiving leaflets advertising home improvement works that you may receive through your door. They would appreciate it if you could either send the leaflets to them or email a scanned version together with the date that you received it (or a rough date) and where you live. You send them to:

Croydon Trading Standards
Leaflets
Bernard Weatherill House
8, Mint Walk
Croydon CR0 1EA Or email a scanned copy to:
trading_standards@croydon.gov.uk

You can find information and interact with our local Shirley North Police Team at: www.met.croydon.shirley-north

In a genuine emergency situation ring 999 but all non-emergency calls should be made to 101

JOAN PRING
Police Liaison

YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY: SHIRLEY LIBRARY



NB: The library no longer closes at lunchtime. Full opening hours are printed at the end of this publicity.

What's in it for you? –
There's something for everyone!

Did you know that it's free to join the library?

You will notice some welcome improvements in the library. We also receive new stock every Friday which is prominently on display for you to borrow.

We have a wide range of fiction and information books, including new titles, audio books and DVDs for adults and children, and nearly everything is free to borrow.

Adults and teens can borrow up to 25 items, children up to 12.

We have free wifi in the library as well as free use of PCs and access to the internet for up to two hours per day.

Online at <http://www.croydonlibraries.com/online-library/>, library services are available 24/7, with a digital library of audio and e-books to download, as well as resources such business information and help with the

Theory Driving Test, and Life in Great Britain questions.

Display boards at the library are available for use free of charge for your club or society. Please contact Irene on [REDACTED] or email shirleylibrary@croydon.gov.uk

Free, regular children's activities and events

Book Buddies, stories, colouring and crafts. Mondays 4-4.45pm, for 3-7 year olds and their adults. Also, get your session sheet stamped on each visit and collect certificates.

Rhymetime, rhymes and singing. Fridays 10-10.30am, for babies, toddlers and their adults.

Children's Saturday Crafts.

Themed crafts and colouring suitable for children aged 4 and over. Now monthly, on the following Saturdays December 8th, January 19th, February 2nd from 2.30-4pm.

For Adults

Our free sessions with nutritionist Elke Westerkamp are now 30 minutes long, rather than 15 minutes long. Elke has a BSc and MSc in the Science of Nutrition and can give general advice on good nutrition, weight management and how to make sense of food labels. Please contact the library for dates and to book a place. Elke has said that she doesn't mind doing follow up sessions for those she's previously seen.

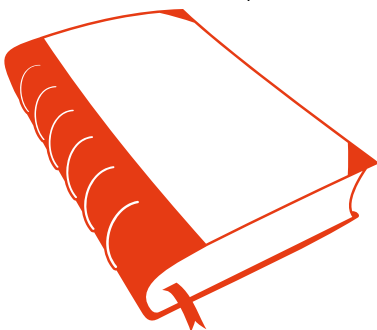
Monthly games club including Scrabble, Backgammon and other fun games in a relaxed setting. On the last Thursday of the month – 2.00-4.30pm. This is a drop-in session.

The Shirley Singers will be performing a selection of Christmas songs and carols. Tuesday December 18th 2.30pm. This will be followed by Christmas afternoon tea.

Monthly Talk

Paintings of Croydon on a Few Bob a Week Part 2

At the beginning of the 20th century an eccentric artist arrived in Croydon and, for some years painted buildings and locations now lost. A few however survive. Join John Hickman for part 2 of this fascinating talk.





Tuesday January 15th
2.15-3.30pm.

Please reserve your place with the library for these free events

NEW -Shared Reading Group.

Mondays 10.30-12pm. Make new friends and share stories with others. Drop in and listen to a great story or poem. All ages and reading abilities welcome.

Adult Reading Group: The group meets on the second Thursday of the month and meetings are from 6-7pm. Please contact the library for more details, including a list of book choices.

Adult crafts monthly on

Tuesdays – December 11th (Christmas decoration), January 8th, February 12th (card making). 2.30-4.30pm. Drop in session.

Knit and Natter: Do you enjoy knitting, crochet or other needlework? Enjoy swapping skills with a chat at our group. Beginners welcome. Now on every Friday from 2-4.30pm.

Free Internet Taster Sessions

This can include learning basic IT skills, setting up an email account, using the internet, online shopping and much,

much more. Please contact Shirley Library to book.

So why delay? Call into your library today.

You can find Shirley Library on the corner of Wickham Road and Hartland Way, Shirley, CR0 8BH, Tel 020 3700 1019; email: shirleylibrary@croydon.gov.uk

Opening times:

Monday 9am-6pm,

Tuesday 9am-6pm,

Thursday 9.30am-7pm,

Friday 9am-6pm

Saturday 9am-5pm

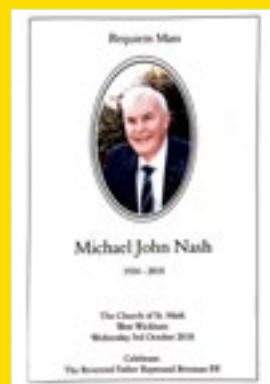
IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL JOHN NASH

We would like to offer our sincere condolences to Michael's family. He passed away on 16th September 2018.

Michael had been a Committee Member and Area Manager for approximately 18 years until ill health prevented his continued commitment.

We would like to remember him for his voluntary services and contribution to MORA for which we are very grateful.

May he rest in ever lasting peace.



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