

# Monks Orchard Residents' Association

[www.monks-orchard-web.org.uk](http://www.monks-orchard-web.org.uk)  
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Croydon

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## NEWSLETTER - Spring 2013



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

## *Chairman's Comments*

We are now into the New Year and I hope we are on an upward trend in our wellbeing during 2013.

We can look back on 2012 positively and with pride with things good about the UK.

Following my comments in the previous newsletter regarding travellers, I believe they have now been moved out of Croydon but if any resident has news otherwise please let me or any committee member know and we will be on the case.

Most of you will have now seen the new street lighting installed by Skanska. Some of the standards are situated very close to back garden fences which make for easy access into back gardens and of course into the actual house. We have made approaches to Skanska regarding this situation and we have been informed the locations of the standards comply with British and EU regulations. However, we have obtained the regulations and we question whether Skanska are in fact abiding by these regulations in all situations. If anyone wishes further information we can check the relevant data and the actual regulations and clauses.

Skanska have informed your committee that they could install around the standards some anti-climb spikes but these have to be located 8ft (2.44 m) from the ground. As a fence can only be 6ft (1.8m) high without requiring planning approval there is still a 2ft (600mm) gap between the top of the fence and the spikes through which to gain access.

I will make no apologies for banging on again about assistance on the committee. We have had recently both our Editor, Derek, and our planner, Ian suffering mild heart attacks. Derek spent all Christmas in hospital and Ian followed shortly after. Derek will be having further tests and the worst case scenario will be bypass surgery. I am sure you will join me in wishing them both well. You now realise

why we need assistance as without these people MORA will cease to exist. Please contact me for further details.

To end on positive news you will read elsewhere in this issue that the planning application for development of the Shirley Green Triangle was refused. The hearing was well attended but I must add that the applicants' representatives are a tricky bunch and will no doubt try again. Again I stress without MORA's actions, this application could well have been approved.

We can also announce that our website is up and running again thanks to Nathan Reed - more info in the summer newsletter.

**Dave King**  
**Chairman**

## **HELP LONDON FIRE BRIGADE STOP 'BEDS IN SHEDS'**

The London Fire Brigade (LFB) is calling on Londoners to help identify rogue landlords, derelict structures and occupied buildings which are being used for illegal or inappropriate accommodation. Since 2009 there have been **235 fires** in these properties, resulting in four deaths and 45 serious injuries.

If you have any info, call 020 8555 1200, ext 37630, or email [james.sivell@london-fire.gov.uk](mailto:james.sivell@london-fire.gov.uk).

This highlights one of the many problems with the existing "Permitted Development" planning laws, so imagine what it's going to be like when (or if), the proposed relaxation of permitted development laws come into effect! Consultation closed on 24th December 2012 and we will publish the outcome in the Summer Newsletter.

If, since 2009, there have been 235 '**Beds in permitted development Sheds**' that have gone up in flames; how many '**Beds in permitted development Sheds**' are there that have **NOT** gone up in flames but are destroying the character of the local neighbourhood?





# **MORA 2013 AGM**

**The 89th Annual General Meeting of the  
Monks Orchard Residents' Association is to be held on  
Friday 26th April at St George's Church Hall, Elstan Way.  
Doors open at 7:00 pm for 7:30pm start.**

**Nominations for 2013/14 committee to be received by the  
Secretary 21 days before the meeting.**

## **Proposed Programme:**

### **Essential Association Business**

**Apologies for Absence;  
Minutes of the 88th 2012 Meeting;  
Matters Arising;  
Chairman's Report  
Treasurer's Report - To Receive and Adopt the 2012 Accounts;  
Planning Report;  
Membership & Social Report  
Election of Officers and Committee for 2013/2014**

**The Worshipful the Mayor of Croydon, Councillor Eddy Arram and  
Mayoress, Mrs Judith Arram**

**The Safer Neighbourhood Team [SNT]**

**Gavin Barwell MP, Cllr. Mike Fisher and Cllr. Steve O'Connell [GLA  
Member] will give a brief report back and will answer  
questions. All Councillors for Shirley & Ashburton have been  
invited.**

**Two speakers have been invited - The Medical Director, Dr Martin  
Baggaley of the Bethlem Royal Hospital & Sven Bunn from  
Croydon University Hospital, Foundation Trust Project  
Manager, who will be available for answering any questions  
you may have during a specific question & answer session -  
get your questions ready and preferably send them in advance  
to the Editor (MORA email address) or the Secretary by phone  
so they can be scheduled in an orderly manner.**

**The minutes of the 2012 Annual General Meeting were published  
in the Summer 2012 issue of the newsletter, and a few copies will  
be circulated in the hall.**

**The order of business may need to change depending on  
circumstances on the night.**

# 2012 Membership Report

Membership has been falling gradually over recent years. Although since 2011, membership numbers have gone down (by 117) the actual subscriptions collected has gone up from £3514 in £2011 to 3551 in 2012 (£37). The odd figure (i.e. not a multiple of £2) is due to one member paying £3 instead of the £4 in 2011. Also, the difference between these figures and the accounts to 31st December 2012 is due to some 2012 membership being processed after the cut off for the December 2012 accounts.

The increase in collections has been as a result of our Road Stewards distributing a membership request letter to those who have missed payments in previous years and then being more persuasive for getting the subs in from even a lower number of members. Some Road Stewards/ Area Managers have had more success in this very difficult task than others and some have actually increased membership. Those residents who have not made payments for three years or more have been removed from the membership list.

Perhaps we should decide what we do about the decline in membership – people moving or passing on – we do have about 50% Senior Citizens in our membership. We need new Road Stewards and Area Managers. Contact Diane on [REDACTED] if you can help. We are pleased to announce that we have a new Road steward – Sue Winter – covering Valley Walk.

Area Managers	Total Members		
	2011	2012	Difference
Totals for Area A	245	225	-20
Totals for Area B	173	167	-6
Totals for Area C	422	384	-38
Totals for Area D	167	173	6
Totals for Area E	93	97	4
Totals for Area F	82	75	-7
Totals for Area G	245	211	-34
Totals for Area H	173	151	-22
Grand Total	1600	1483	-117



# The Little Book of Big Scams

There have always been people who will cheat and rob for financial gain regardless of the devastating impact their actions can have. They view honest people as “walking wallets” to be squeezed, emptied and discarded. Fraud can happen on your doorstep, by post, over the phone or via the internet. Sadly, new technology has provided even more ways for criminals to identify and swindle the most



vulnerable. The con-men or con-ladies will shamelessly lie to us; try to tempt us with ‘something for nothing’ ‘too good to be true offers’ ‘cheaper gas or electricity’ or ‘the million pound lottery wins’. The con artist gambles on the fact that when we discover we’ve fallen for his blatant swindle we will be too ashamed to report them to the Police or Trading Standards Officers.

Every year the British Public loses billions of pounds to scammers (the name used to describe all forms of fraudulent crime) who bombard people with online, mail, door to door and telephone scams. Frauds are becoming more sophisticated and because of the internet can have an international dimension. People from all backgrounds and income levels are targeted by scammers; in fact, anyone can fall victim to fraud. Prevention through awareness is a good way of protecting yourself. The Fraud Alert website [www.met.police.uk/fraudalert](http://www.met.police.uk/fraudalert) is a good way of gaining information on different scams targeting consumers, tips on guarding yourself against scams and advice on reporting scams. Often, the most vulnerable to financial abuse, do not have access to a computer.

Fortunately, a dedicated police team have created a booklet ‘[The Little Book of Big Scams](#)’ to protect us and prevent con-men/women succeeding. The book is a good read, easy to refer to and everyone will benefit from reading it. Even those who consider themselves well informed will be surprised at the vast array of scams used to part people from their money. Its contents includes: Golden Rules; Identity Fraud;

Scam Mails; Door to door Scams; Dating & Romance Scams; Banking & Payment Card Scams; Mobile Phone Scams; Health & Medical Scams; Internet Scams, and more. It also includes Handy hints to protect yourself and what to do if you get scammed!

A hard copy of the book can be obtained by contacting Operation Sterling officers at New Scotland Yard on 020 7230 1228. An e-version of this booklet is available on the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) Fraudulent Website: <http://www.met.police.uk/fraudalert/>

The Metropolitan Police Service is to be congratulated on this informative little book. If you read nothing else this year, read this. It could save you a great deal of money and heartache.

### **SHIRLEY COMMUNITY AND CHARITY CHRISTMAS FAIR 2012**



The Christmas Fair at Shirley Parish Hall last November was a great success and many stallholders have asked to come back to the next Christmas Fair.

I would like to thank those people who turned out on that cold, wet and windy day to support us and a huge thank you to the Shirley Lunch and Supper Club for their help and support in so many ways.

A lot of money was raised for various charities, to name a few: Cat Protection; Demelza Hospice Care for Children; Evelina Childrens' Hospital; Royal Marsden; Shrublands Advice and Coffee Shop; St Christopher's Hospice; Town Womens Guild and Womens Institute.

Thanks also to: The Chateau, South Croydon; Co-Operative Supermarket, Shirley; Marks and Spencers, West Wickham and Sainsbury's, West Wickham for their donations.

Hope to see you at the next fair.

Christine Ross-Smith





# THE FIGHT FOR THE SHIRLEY GREEN TRIANGLE

It was with dismay that MORA learnt, last July, that an appeal had been lodged against Croydon Council's earlier decision to refuse planning permission for up to fifty assisted living sheltered apartments on the Shirley Triangle.



At the time of the original planning application MORA had worked hard to address the concerns of local residents about the impact such a development would have on their daily lives and, being fully aware that these concerns remained, immediately prepared to again examine the proposals. At the same time, around two hundred flyers, which alerted them to the appeal, were delivered to residents who would be most affected. MORA's conclusion was that the situation was unchanged and proceeded to put forward objections as to why development

should not take place. Residents again wrote and put their objections to the Inspectorate.



Subsequently it was announced that there would be a public hearing for the appeal last November and flyers which gave the hearing details were delivered to the

previously notified residents. MORA was represented at the appeal hearing by Dave King, Chairman; Ian Fraser, Planning Officer and Derek Ritson, Editor and Website. It must be said that the additional support of such a sizable number of residents who were able to attend did not go without MORA's notice and was greatly appreciated. It was with extreme relief to us all to learn that the decision by the





Inspector, on 30<sup>th</sup> November, was to dismiss the appeal. Heartfelt thanks must also go to all those residents who put their thoughts and concerns in writing to the Planning Inspectorate. Their joint effort with MORA, together with the input by Croydon Council

representatives at the hearing, we are sure, contributed to the Inspector's decision.

Part of the Inspector's conclusion was that 'an inevitable loss of part of this substantial open area and its change of character [which local policies that are supported by the National Planning Policy Framework seek to protect], demonstrates that there is no compelling reason to accept that the facilities offered are so strongly supported that the harm and losses that would be associated with the proposed development of this site would be justified.'

The Council's original decision, therefore, that the Triangle is designated Local Open Land still stands. MORA hope and trust that our local residents who know and enjoy this area of tranquillity in our urban surroundings of Croydon will continue to do so, at the same time enabling what is left of our wildlife to have, at least, one other sanctuary in this era of extreme development.



The original developers of the Triangle's surrounding area at the time, Addiscombe Garden Estates Ltd., left the Triangle to lie dormant, presumably because they did not consider it to be suitable for development. In the view of most local residents this is still the case.

Joan Pring

# Training your dog

A well behaved and obedient dog is a loving companion and a joy to be with. An undisciplined and badly behaved animal is an antisocial pest.

The basic level of training described below would not fit dogs for the show ring, or for winning talent shows or dancing competitions, but will make them much more acceptable to owners, neighbours and passers by.



The information has been obtained from Barry Blinks who runs classes designed to help owners train their dogs. The dogs in his classes seem to thoroughly enjoy their lessons and respond well to the training, although from talking to some of the owners it is also a social occasion when they and their dogs meet like minded friends!

While I am guilty, along with many other dog owners, of chatting away to my dog I realise that he doesn't really understand what I am saying, he just enjoys the attention (and doesn't argue or answer back like many people) When expecting the dog to respond to commands it is vital that a single word is used, that the same one is used each time when the same action is required, and that vocal tone and body language all fit together.



Dogs are pack animals in the wild, and must accept the owner as pack leader. They must be taught that they are not in charge, and while their needs must be considered by the owner, they

should not be allowed to get away with bad behaviour. If a dog jumps up at a person, who then makes a fuss of it, it teaches that dog that jumping is acceptable behaviour. Having suffered many a muddy coat from other people's dogs I can assure them acceptable it is not.



When carrying out the first training of a dog, use a confined or enclosed area, for their safety and to prevent accidents. Dogs love to play chasing, and running after a dog that is running away simply encourages it to run further. Attract its attention so that it sees what you are doing, then turn and walk in the opposite direction, when it will run after you.

The most important command to teach your dog is "Sit". This means the dog will stop, sit on the ground and not move until told to stand or come. For young dogs a hand should be placed gently under the chest and lifted, while the dog is looking at you, which will cause them to sit. If necessary get down to their level. Pushing on the hindquarters can cause hip problems in later life. Hold a hand out, palm down at waist height,



while saying sit (or any other word you choose) in a firm voice that expects to be obeyed. There should be no need to shout, the dog will respond to the tone of voice.

Dogs also need to understand "Here", which calls the dog back to you. Move away from the

animal, and then call the command, at the same time putting your hand, palm up, to your chest.

Food rewards (I use home made dog biscuits) may be used in moderation, but only when the dog has earned them.

Training never really finishes for dogs and their owners. It must be consistent, it must be firm without being harsh, and it must be continuous. Dogs need reinforcement of the rules if they are not to forget and revert to previous bad behaviour.

Further information may be obtained from the website [www.chesoakschool.org.uk](http://www.chesoakschool.org.uk).

## **Your Dog Training You!**

**This should be read in conjunction with the previous article, which is the real thing!**

**While the points below are meant to be humorous, and there is a fair degree of exaggeration, dogs are very good at manipulating their owners so that they rule the household, so beware!**

**You know your dog has successfully trained you when:**

- At pensionable age you are running round the playing field kicking a football for him to chase after
- You buy a leather sofa so that the mud can be cleaned off more easily when he has been running round the field
- At vast expense you replace carpets with wooden floors, see above
- You get on your knees to clean his feet and legs, see above
- You have to have a double bed so there is room for your dog at the foot
- Partners, family and friends accept that they take second place, or they have to be as dog mad as you are
- Your social life depends on finding a dog sitter
- Visitors to the house have to have treats in hand before entering
- You learn to zip up pockets, otherwise a nose is pushed in to find treats
- You spend hours making and baking dog biscuits because he loves them and they are better for him
- You drag yourself from a sickbed, or go out in blizzards or rain storms because "it's time for my walk, mum"
- You spend as much on his winter coat as you do on your own
- You rush him to the vets every time there is a slight limp or any food left in the bowl, and are on first name terms with all the staff there
- You replace the lawn with fresh turf every year to cover up holes, or furrows left when he stops by digging in his claws



**You've pinched my bed!**

**I'm sure many dedicated owners recognise a little bit of themselves in these points. Despite his failings my boy is reasonably well behaved, loving and gentle, but I certainly would not enter him in any competition for well trained dogs!**

**Mary Evans**



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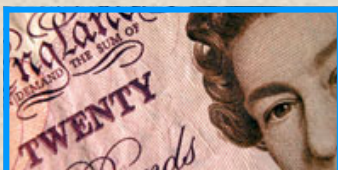


## **Croydon Voluntary Action – Community First Funding**

Some of you who attended the 2012 AGM will remember a presentation from Jo Gough from Croydon Voluntary Action, when Community First Funding was discussed.



This arrangement would enable local people to decide which local activities or groups should be supported by passing on funding. A panel should be set up to form a representative sample of 4-8 local people, ideally including the public, the private sector, the public sector and the voluntary sector.



MORA decided that we would like to be involved in this process and met with CVA to discuss the procedure. It became clear that there was no funding available for Shirley or Heathfield

wards as these were not considered deprived in any way. For the Ashburton ward, however, there was a potential funding pot of £33,910 for 2011-2015.

The problem for MORA was that a suitable project had to be specified, which met the CVA/Government funding priorities such as:

- Improve the environment of a local park or green space
- Increase the range of activities for young people
- Increase support for older people
- Improve the health of ward residents
- Bring different communities within the ward closer together

Ian Fraser and Derek Ritson from MORA had several meetings with the CVA people and spent some time trying to identify a suitable project which met at least one of the criteria listed above. It was soon appreciated that whatever project we came up with would require teams of volunteers. In the present climate it is almost

impossible to get sufficient volunteers for any projects, indeed the MORA Committee struggles to find enough helpers, and is only surviving due to the efforts of a few key members.

The project needed to be defined, agreed and documented, including an outline implementation plan, by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2012, an extremely short timescale, given that work only started following the AGM in April 2012.

It was finally recognised by all involved that we did not have sufficient time to organise and define a project which would meet the criteria, and that we would miss the deadline and the opportunity for the Ashburton allocation of funding.

Derek Ritson confirmed this to the CVA at a meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> May. The CVA responded that hopefully there will be further opportunities in the next round of funding, although the main issue will continue to be the lack of available volunteers.

MORA will be reporting back to the AGM on this issue, explaining the difficulties encountered. Should any members have ideas on how these may be resolved we would be grateful for their assistance.



**JUMBLE SALE**  
**13TH APRIL 2013 AT 13:30**  
**SHIRLEY METHODIST CHURCH**  
**ELDON AVENUE**  
**CR0 8SD**  
**ENTRANCE FEE 20P**



# Planning Report

## Applications

### 116-124 Tower View

Ref: 12/02760/P

Application Date: 02/10/2012

Proposal: Erection of 4 detached houses with garages; formation of access road into High Trees and provision of associated parking.

Decision: Permission granted at planning committee level on 10/01/2013

Note: MORA objected to this application. This application follows earlier applications and an appeal. The land is currently protected by a ransom strip. Local residents can now only rely on the respect they hold for the owner of this strip that he does not sell it to the developer.



## Decisions

### 79 Verdayne Avenue

Ref: 12/03226/P

Application Date: 14/11/2012

Proposal: Erection of two 3 bedroom semi-detached houses and provision of associated parking

**Decision: Approval given at Planning Committee 7th Feb 2013**

Note: MORA objected to this application which follows an earlier application and an appeal in which a planning inspector outlined very controversial opinions which appear to conflict with Croydon's planning rules.

### 62 & R/O 64 Woodmere Avenue

Ref: 12/03529/P

Application Date: 12/12/2012

Proposal: Erection of 2 four bedroom and 4 three bedroom houses all with attached or detached garages; alterations to vehicular access and provision of associated parking.

**Decision: Refused at Delegate meeting 8th February 2013**

**Note: MORA & 59 residents objected to this application. Plans require the destruction of many trees including an elderly oak (see picture) and, we believe, protected animal habitats.**



### **Land at Glade Gardens**

**Ref: 12/02463/P**

**Application Date: 03/09/2012**

**Proposal: Erection of 2 two storey four bedroom semi-detached houses with accommodation in roofspace and 3 two storey three bedroom terraced houses with accommodation in roofspace, formation of access road and provision of associated parking.**

**Decision: Permission Granted at planning committee on 06/12/2012**

**Note: MORA objected to this application which destroys the open character of the area.**

### **90 Gladeside**

**Ref: 12/02199/P**

**Application Date: 02.08/2012**

**Proposal: Demolition of existing building; erection of 2 two storey four bedroom semi-detached houses with accommodation in roofspace and 1 three bedroom bungalow; formation of access road and provision of associated parking**

**Decision: Permission granted at planning committee on 25/10/2012.**

**Note: MORA objected to this application. This application follows the pattern of Parkmead Close, almost opposite, which has upset many residents.**

**MORA have dealt with fewer applications than usual, however they have all been very important and are likely to change the character of Monks Orchard. They are back garden type designs. Some are tandem developments. All are associated with the loss of trees and the loss of habitat. All have increased the housing density of our residential area. Two of the properties have particularly modernistic and inappropriate designs. At a recent appeal the**



inspector accepted the principal of these alien designs. This precedent, if accepted by the Planning Committee, could totally challenge the principals of maintaining the character of an area and the intentions of Croydon's Unitary Development Plan. This sets out the planning rules which our borough should follow. MORA's success rate in persuading the Council to reject such plans has suddenly and dramatically dropped. The Planning Committee, who are all elected Councillors, appear to accept all the Planning Inspector's opinions without question and without attempting to protect their own values and the values of residents. We can only question why, and plan to improve this regrettable change in our fortune. Blind acceptance of these changes may signal the death knell of Croydon's residential suburbs.

## 大家好，这是来自中国的问候 **Greetings from China!**

My name is Helen Etheridge from Shirley, and granddaughter of one of your committee. I have spent the last five months teaching English to young people in the city of Chongqing, southwest China. My time here so far has been full of wonderful experiences. I am thoroughly enjoying being a teacher and



have also tried many of the spicy dishes of Sichuan, played my flute to a large crowd, stared in awe at the three natural bridges in Wulong and wandered through the magical Furong Cave.

China will soon be taking a well-earned break to celebrate Chinese New Year. My boyfriend, Yang Chen, and I have just returned from a

two week trip to Yunnan province, located in the far southwest of the country. Our trip began and ended in the beautiful town of Lijiang, which is well-known for its leisurely and relaxed feel. We enjoyed sitting in the bright sunshine whilst tasting local delicacies such as



‘tieban doufu’ (a type of chewy tofu), red bean and banana with stewed milk, and rose cakes and tea. The town offers breathtaking views over the Yulong Mountains and the sky is a perfect blue. We breathed in the aromas of wood smoke and roasting yak meat and listened to the region’s traditional drum music. The architecture is very different to the skyscrapers of Chongqing. Here the homes and restaurants are small courtyards with several small buildings inside, with each building displaying beautiful wooden engravings.



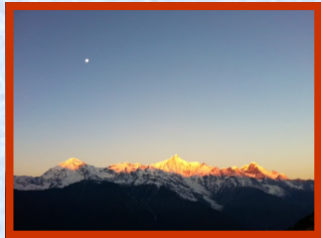
Lijiang is home to the Naxi people who are influenced by Tibetan culture. We saw many examples of the Naxi language, the characters of which look like pictures. ‘Mountain’, for example, is one line and three semi-circles, resembling a cluster of hills. There were several traditional Naxi

dance performances in the town square during our stay. The energy and agility of the elderly performers, all of whom wore traditional costume, was amazing.

From Lijiang we travelled to Shangri-La in northwestern Yunnan. This is a magnificent region, with striking scenery. From our hotel we could look out onto the beautiful but infamous Meili Mountain glowing pink



and gold in the 8am sun with the moon still in the sky. We climbed to see the Mingyong glacier, a rewarding but arduous day. The walk to the Tiger Leaping Gorge was dangerously steep and the resulting muscle ache severe but I am left with an incredible memory. We also visited a Tibetan monastery where we learned about the local religion and customs. We then went on to visit a Tibetan family who treated us to a warm fire and traditional food and drink.



Our stay in Yunnan has provided me with a further insight into the diversity of China's various cultures and landscapes and has left me with a myriad of wonderful memories. I now look forward to celebrating my first Chinese New Year and returning to another term of teaching in Chongqing.

Helen Etheridge

## New appointments at Croydon Health Services

The NHS Trust Development Authority (NHS TDA) confirmed on 23 January 2013 the appointment of two new non-executive directors, Godfrey Allen and John Thompson. Karen Jones, a non-executive director at the Trust since 2009, will step down for family reasons.

The new non-executive directors have extensive experience in this area. Godfrey Allen was previously a non-executive director for NHS Wandsworth and NHS Richmond, and John Thompson for NHS Sutton & Merton and NHS Croydon. They will participate in Board meetings to provide advice and support. Mary Clarke CBE, a registered nurse on Merton's Clinical Commissioning Group governing body, will also join the Trust as an associate non-executive director. Mary's role will be to ensure the views of clinical staff are voiced.



Godfrey Allen and John Thompson have been appointed until 14 July 2013 and are entitled to receive £6,096 per annum. These roles will then be advertised and substantive appointments made following an open recruitment and selection process.

On 4 February Croydon Health Services NHS Trust appointed John Goulston as the new Chief Executive. John, who had been the Trust's interim chief executive since 1 May 2012, was appointed after a rigorous selection process, which included an interview and a presentation to clinicians and senior leaders. He has announced plans to tackle the challenges facing the Trust, including appointing a permanent Chief Operating Officer to support the Trust's clinicians and senior management team in improving performance and delivering better care for patients.



### *Free, regular activities and events at Shirley Library*

Storytime – 2.15-2.45pm on Thursdays

Rhymetime – 10-10.30am on Fridays

Once upon a Rhyme – 10-10.30am on alternate Saturdays.

Saturday Crafts – 2.30-4pm on alternate Saturdays.

Chatterbooks - This is a reading group for 8-11 year olds. It meets once a month on a Thursday from 4-5pm

Teen Reading Group – This group meets once a month, on a Thursday from 4.30-5.30pm, to read and discuss books, recommend books to each other, choose new books for the library and do lots of other book related activities such as quizzes and games or any other activities that the members suggest.

**Board games – Do you like playing Scrabble, Monopoly, cards, chess and Battleship? We have a selection of games which can be used in the library any time. Just ask a member of staff.**

**Adult Reading Group – 6-7pm on the second or third Thursday of the month.**

**Craft Workshop – This meets once a month on a Tuesday from 2.30-4.30pm. The group often makes greeting cards.**

**Stitch, Knit and Natter – This meets every other Friday from 2.30-4.30pm. Please contact the library for dates.**

**Police surgery with Shirley's Safer Neighbourhood Team – Please contact Library for dates.**

**Work Club on Tuesday mornings from 10am-12 noon. The Work Club is here to offer support with job search, help with typing CVs, help filling in application forms and there is access to the internet and email. No appointment is needed, just drop in.**

**Free monthly author and speaker talks.**

**Past speakers have included news presenter Nicholas Owen.**

**Computer sessions for beginners – Learn to set up an email account, use Facebook, do online shopping, use Word, Excel and Powerpoint or improve your typing skills. These sessions are offered on Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays in the morning and afternoon and on Saturday mornings.**

**You can buy food waste sacks at the library. They come in packs of 25 and cost £2.75 per pack. We also sell garden waste sacks for £1 each. All the libraries in the Croydon borough sell these.**

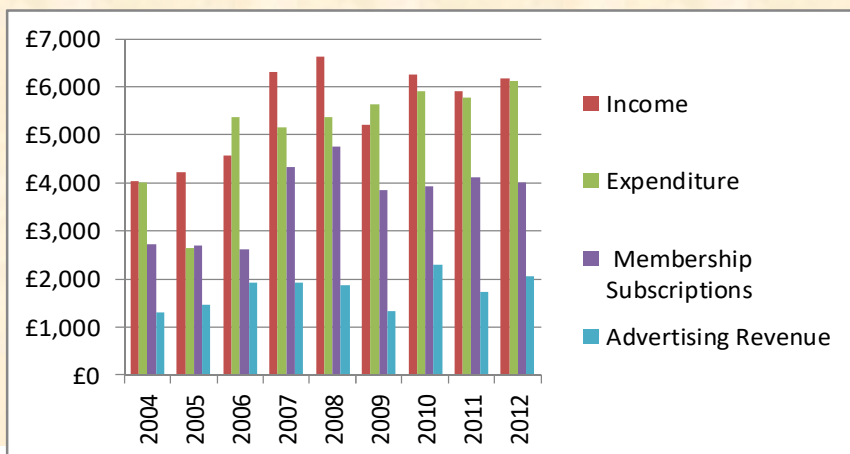
**Our display boards are available for use free of charge to advertise your club or society. Please contact Fiona or Irene at Shirley Library on [REDACTED] or email [shirley@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:shirley@croydon.gov.uk), for dates and further information.**



## MORA Finances and Trends 2004 – 2012

We have undertaken an analysis of our MORA finances over the recent past to see what trends we need to be aware of. Looking at the graph below, you can see that prior to 2007, when we last increased our membership subscriptions, we were over spending and during 2005 only managed to have a surplus after we decided to hold our monthly committee meetings in a committee member house rather than hire a committee room. After increasing the membership subscriptions in 2007 we decided to hold proper meetings in the Tamberlin Room at St John's Church. The other method of increasing funds was from the Fees for the Advertisers in the newsletter. Except for a fall in 2009 we have managed to collect fees to help sustain our expenditure – mainly to fund the printing of the quarterly newsletter, hall hire for the AGM and committee meeting room hire. However, the slow decline of membership is beginning to affect our finances as can be seen by the difference between income and expenditure in 2012. [See report page 5].

As stated in our membership report, in order to maintain and represent our membership on planning issues and to meet the demands of the Localism Act, we need to reverse the decline in membership as people move on and pass away. If you would like to help save MORA please contact one of the committee members. (page 24).



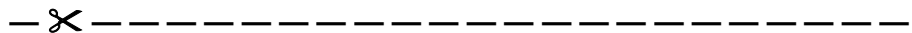


**M O R A**  
**ACCOUNT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE**  
**YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2012**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
SUBSCRIPTIONS	4,003	4,104
BANK INTEREST	5	4
ADVERTISING REVENUE	2,050	1,734
DONATIONS	80	3
XMAS REFUND	45	64
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,183</b>	<b>5,909</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
PRINTING & STATIONERY	4,840	4,785
ROAD STEWARDS	400	400
HALL HIRE (AGM)	93	nil
VESTRY HIRE (2)	300	nil
CHAIRMAN'S/SECRETARIAL EXPENSES	nil	nil
SUNDRIES	230	413
INSURANCE (BTCV)	102	100
DONATIONS	nil	25
AUDIT	10	10
WEBSITE	nil	nil
SUBSCRIPTIONS TO BTCV	38	35
AGM (EQUIPMENT/REFRESHMENTS)	108	nil
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,122</b>	<b>5,768</b>
<b>SURPLUS</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>141</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
CURRENT ACCOUNT	6,620	6,564
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	4,955	4,950
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>11,575</b>	<b>11,514</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>nil</b>	<b>nil</b>
CARRIED FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS YEAR	<b>11,514</b>	<b>11,373</b>
BALANCE FOR CURRENT YEAR	61	141
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>11,575</b>	<b>11,514</b>

# MORA COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2012-2013

Chairman	Dave King	
Vice Chairman	Vacancy	-
Secretary	Mary Evans	
Treasurer	Terry Greenwood	
Planning	Ian Fraser	
Membership Secretary	Diane McInerney	
Editor/Website	Derek Ritson	
Police Liaison	Jean Cook	
Primary Care	Mercia Nash	
Social Secretary	Christine Ross-Smith	
Transport & Highways	Vacancy	-
Ward Panel Rep.	Joan Pring	
Trees & Open Spaces	Sue & Martyn Buchanan	
Committee Members and Area Managers	{ Michael Nash { Patricia Turner { Anne Horton	
Committee Member	Nicki Smith	



## MONKS ORCHARD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

'I wish to become a member of the Monks Orchard Residents' Association'

Name:	Signature:
Address:	
Post Code:	

Please send this completed form with your subscription:  
cheques payable To Monks Orchard Residents' Association  
[£4/year (£2 Senior Citizens)]

DIANE MCINERNEY  
[Redacted Signature]

Thank you for supporting MORA.  
Please pass on to a non-member.

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