



# Monks Orchard Residents' Association

email: [monksorchardweb@btinternet.com](mailto:monksorchardweb@btinternet.com)

Croydon

(Non Party)

(Independent)

NEWSLETTER - Winter 2012



*Wishing All our Members a Merry Christmas  
And a Happy New Year*

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			Committee Members 2012-13

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

# *Chairman's Comments*



By the time you read this the Olympics will be well and truly over. I must admit that at first I was more than a bit sceptical but how wrong I was and what a spectacle it has been, particularly the Paralympics.

Sir Ludwig Guttmann, the founder of the Paralympics, must be looking down with pride at his legacy. I'd bet he didn't realise how it would develop when he got a number of injured servicemen to hold some games at Stoke Mandeville Hospital on 28<sup>th</sup> July 1948 on the same day as the 1948 Summer Olympics.

During the summer I had the unfortunate experience of a return train journey from London to Inverness. The outward journey was blessed with sunshine which made our coach unpleasantly hot and the air conditioning didn't work. This is a journey of more than eight hours which was made more unpleasant as on the return journey the toilets didn't flush!

We have spent millions on staging a fantastic summer of sport but can't get the infrastructure right. I for one will not travel by rail again.

You will by now have noticed the number of travellers who have invaded our green spaces and each time they have been moved on our Council has had to spend our hard earned money in the cost of Bailiffs and the clearing of their rubbish. I understand however that there is a move afoot to obtain a court order to get them out of Croydon. Let's hope this is the case.

I also understand that barriers are being erected and ditches dug to make access to the spaces less accessible to these people.

May I remind our readers we are still looking for someone to assist our hardworking editor. It needs someone with good IT experience. Our monthly meetings are only for a couple of hours which isn't too arduous but our editor is in dire need for assistance in producing our newsletter. If you feel you could assist just phone any of the committee members whose numbers you will find on the back of the newsletter.

**Dave King**  
**Chairman**





## *The Invasion of Travellers onto our Green and Open Spaces*

Over the summer period, our open spaces have been targeted by travellers who have descended on our open green spaces. Directly the group have been served eviction notices and bailiffs arranged, the travellers moved on to another site. The travellers first descended on Ashburton Playing Fields early in the summer, causing disturbance and rubbish all over the place. They were then moved off by council enforcement officers only to pitch their encampment on Shirley Oaks Village Green. As this was private land belonging to the Shirley Oaks Village it was out of the Council's responsibility and the Shirley Oaks Management had the problem of arranging eviction. This was done and eventually eviction orders were served and bailiffs arranged and the travellers moved on to Spring Park Recreation ground.



Again the council served eviction notices and the travellers moved back to Ashburton Playing Fields and then on to Long Lane Woods.

We are not the only area in the borough to have been invaded by travellers; over the last few months, the same or related group of travellers has moved from green space to green space across the borough - Shirley Hills, Addington Park, Rowdown Fields, Lloyd Park, South Croydon Rec, Sanderstead Rec, Shirley Oaks and Spring Park Rec and maybe even more.

We have reported every instance in our area to our council officers and councillors and our MP Gavin Barwell has also put pressure on the council officers to act quickly to move the travellers on. MORA has suggested installing bollards or creating earth mounds to prevent access to our green spaces by caravans, mobile homes and Lorries. Shirley

Oaks Village were quick to act once the travellers had been evicted from their green. They engaged contractors to build an earth ridge and channel to keep the travellers at bay. They are now installing strong wooden bollards to prevent future access by travellers. This seemed to be effective as they never returned to the Village field, and if they had, it would have been nigh impossible to get their vehicles onto the green.



The Travellers who descended on Long Lane Woods decided it would be a good idea, for some reason, to have a party on Sunday 2nd September. They used generators to supply electric arc lighting and music and danced and made merry from early until late. They also managed to disturb the Catholic Church service by noisily arriving late. Early Monday morning they decamped to Ashburton Park. We have a few photos of the Travellers' encampments from members of our committee who ventured near the Travellers' vans but were rather apprehensive about getting too close. A few of the photos are shown here.



Residents are concerned that they will eventually have to bear the cost of removing and clearing up all the rubbish and mess after they have moved the travellers on. This has to be paid from the Council funds which are collected either via the council taxes or taxes from Central Government so it is you and I who eventually have to pay to get rid of the these travellers and their rubbish and mess they leave behind.

**After contacting Gavin Barwell, our MP, he responded as follows:**

"Thank you for your email. Please find below the latest information from the council regarding the problem of Travellers, which I hope you find of interest:-

Over the last 4 to 6 months the level of illegal traveller encampments in the borough has risen considerably to the point we are now experiencing 2 to 3 a week. In effect there are a few core families although encampments can include a range of other





families. Encampments can consist of between 6 to 20 vehicles/ caravans combined.

The locations are a mixture of parks and open spaces owned by the Council and the public highway. Parks are covered by our bye laws which we use to move to eviction. On the highway we take the case to court for a removal order. In all cases we visit, conduct an assessment for vulnerabilities and negotiate a time to leave. The requirement for an assessment is to ascertain if there are any vulnerabilities or safeguarding needs and we are required to do that. The assessments indicate that some of the families have children in local schools.

If the agreed departure time is breached we move to eviction by engaging bailiffs. We have never yet been forced to use a bailiff although we incur costs on every occasion.

Complaints from the community have risen, e.g. that we allow travellers to engage in activity; obstruction, litter deposit that we would not allow from any other person.

We are determined to move to a more enforcement focussed position and have explored the ability to impound vehicles illegally parked on the highway or our parks and opens spaces, the ability to enforce road traffic or traffic management order offences, injunctions against core families persistently engaging in illegal encampments and injunctions on land repeatedly used to prevent illegal encampments.

It is our view now based on advice we have recently received that our best approach is to explore that of taking out injunctions. To that end we are collating the information we have obtained over the last few months to identify the families and land and will take a case to court asking for such an injunction, which would prohibit them from establishing an unauthorised encampment.

Our advice also counsels against us using powers to impound vehicles or issue other enforcement notices as the powers to injunct or make use of our eviction powers are provided for this purpose and we would be expected to use them.

If I can be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me again.

Regards  
Gavin Barwell MP

# PLANNING REPORT

## Applications:

### **Land At, Glade Gardens, Croydon, CR0**

**Ref: 12/02463/P Application**

**Date:** Mon 03 Sep 2012

**Validated:** Mon 10 Sep 2012

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

**Standard Consultation Expiry Date:** 19 Oct 2012

**Target Determination Date:** 05 Nov 2012

### **90 Gladeside, Croydon,**

**Ref: 12/02199/P**

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.

**Standard Consultation Expiry Date:** 20 Sep 2012

**Target Determination Date:** 03 Oct 2012

## Decisions:

### **Monks Orchard Primary School Expansion**

**Ref: 12/01741/P**

Erection of single/two storey building including canopies to provide educational space for years one, two and three with associated facilities; alterations to landscaping, external works and boundary treatment

7 Objectors including MORA



**Decision:** Approved at the Planning Committee 6th September 2012

## Appeals Received

**Triangular Land r/o 2-26 Shirley Avenue, r/o 9-33 Valley Walk Shirley Road, and land adj and r/o 179-189 Shirley**

**Application Ref: 11/01999/P**





Erection of buildings to provide up to 50 assisted living sheltered apartments for the elderly with associated landscaping and parking

LPA Decision: 23/12/11 Refusal

Appeal application date 8th August 2012

Appeal reference: APP/L5240/A/12/2178438/NWF

The Secretary of State has decided to determine the appeal at a Hearing with the Parties concerned, and has asked the Council to tell local residents and others who may be affected by the appeal so that they may make comments.

You may attend the Hearing if you wish. Check the planning portal website:

<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/planning/appeals/>

### **Land At, Glade Gardens,**

Reference: 12/00872/P Application Date: 29 Mar 2012

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

**Appeal Ref: Ref. No: A/12/2181756/NWF** The appeal follows the failure to determine a planning permission within the time allowed.

### **Appeal Decisions**

#### **116-124 Tower View,**

Erection of 3 detached houses with integral garages and 2 semi detached houses with external garages; formation of access road

Decision Made Date: 23 Nov 2011

Appeal Ref: APP/L5240/A/11/2166990

Decision date: 3 August 2012 Dismissed

#### **113 The Glade**

Application Ref: 12/00574/P

Siting of 2 aerial masts at rear for amateur radio use

LPA Decision: Refused 2nd May 2012

Appeal Decision 22 August 2012

Decision: Appeal Dismissed 29th August 2012

### **Shirley Planning Forum**

We have had two meetings and our input to the Council has been to advise them on the character of specific areas within our designated Monks Orchard & Shirley area and details to improve the mapping of the "Shirley Place".

## **HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR VISIT WITH THE DOCTOR OR NURSE**

The following information is taken from an extremely useful booklet of the same name, which is available through Croydon Voluntary Action and the NHS. Our thanks to CVA for giving permission to MORA to enable us to share this advice.

The booklet is mainly for those of us over 50. Many people find it difficult to talk to health professionals about their concerns, or get confused when in the surgery, we all know the feeling of thinking of further questions the minute we walk out the door!

The key factor is preparation in advance. The booklet strongly recommends writing things down to help clarify what our concerns are, and what we need to know. Older people especially “don’t want to bother the doctor”. Doctors and nurses are there to help you deal with health concerns and need to know about any problems you may have.

The booklet advises us to:

- Think carefully about the symptoms you have experienced
- Make a list of all those that are worrying you and write down the questions you want to ask
- Write down all the medicines you have been taking (including over the counter remedies). List when you take them, how many and any effects you do not like.
- List any other factors e.g. smoking habits and mood changes that could affect your health





- **List any health problems that family members may have**

**The booklet also prompts us to consider other aspects of our health that we may have concerns about, and lists areas where we may be experiencing difficulties such as climbing stairs, sleeping, controlling moods, sexual health or managing medication.**



**The doctor or nurse will also need to know about any major life experiences we may have had. These may include the loss of a job, bereavement, being abused, debts or any number of other issues. Life today can be stressful, with all of us feeling the economic pinch, and the hectic pace of life generally. Many older people are having to work longer, or are becoming carers for grandchildren or our very elderly parents at a time when we would have been expecting to slow down and enjoy our leisure time. Any or all of these may be affecting your health.**

**Space is provided in the booklet to write down what we want to discuss and what was agreed between you and your GP, including what you need to do and how others can help. You should also list details of any specialist or therapist appointments, noting any treatment or advice given. A page is provided for you to write down progress made, or any challenges you faced in dealing with problems, to be used as the basis for discussion at your next appointment.**

**A list of organisations that could provide additional support, and how to contact them, is given at the end. To obtain a copy of this booklet please call Croydon Voluntary Action (CVA) on 020 8253 7090**

## **Expansion Plans for Monks Orchard Primary School**

The proposed extension of Monks Orchard Primary School was discussed at a meeting of the Planning Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

Representatives of MORA were in attendance and wished to give our normally allowed 3 minute presentation outlining our views. The chair of the Planning Committee, however, refused to allow this for procedural reasons.

The expansion plans are a difficult topic as they affect a number of properties, but the Council has a legal obligation to provide additional school places for the increasing number of children living in this area.

MORA had decided not to oppose the principle of the plans, but had grave concerns about traffic and parking issues. There is currently a lack of parking facilities for school staff and parents delivering and collecting children, causing considerable friction and confrontation between parents and local residents. MORA considers the school expansion will exacerbate the existing problems.

In MORA's view there is an opportunity to provide short term parking within the school grounds. Safe access is available at the north and south of the school. These areas could still be used for sports and other activities during the school day.

Some of the committee members discussed the lack of availability of a Travel Plan for the school expansion. MORA's presentation would therefore have been relevant to the discussion.



View from the Glade

The Council's constitution allows for public speaking on appropriate items, at the Chair's discretion. While the Chair of the Committee had the legal right to refuse to hear us, we very much regret his decision.

The area has poor public transport access and will continue to create frustration and confrontation due to the lack of adequate parking facilities. Allowing more public discussion, and listening to alternative proposals, would have improved harmony between parents, residents and the council, and improved the practicality and acceptability of the expansion scheme to the whole community.



## *Volunteers Corner*

### *2012 Games Maker at the Paralympics*

One of our road stewards, Barbara Turner, volunteered to be a games maker back in the summer of 2010. Following an interview and training she was given a uniform and a whistle stop tour of the site. The following article has been written by Barbara to commemorate a wonderful experience.

Early morning shifts meant I left home at 4.30 am, and late nights meant I didn't arrive home at times until 1am. I viewed it as a challenge, and one that I was determined to succeed in.



**Barbara Turner**

The job was varied, giving directions to venues, toilets and water filling facilities being the most frequent. Completing lost property forms was another frequent task, as the amount of lost property was unbelievable! Scanning the tickets and helping those with mobility problems were favourite jobs as there was lots of customer contact. It was lovely to see people so happy and excited.

The Park itself covered a massive area and being on my feet all day I did a huge amount of walking over the eleven days.

I managed to visit the stadium briefly and saw Prince Edward and Teresa May presenting medals, and also visited the Orbit, where we had a fantastic night-time view of the 02 and

Canary Wharf, as well as inside the stadium.

On the evening of the closing ceremony the atmosphere was terrific. We Games Makers did "high fives" with everyone; I was given badges, handshakes, hugs and kisses as well as goodbye in several languages.

I felt proud to wear my uniform everyday. People were so happy and I like to think I contributed to everyone having the time of their lives. I feel privileged to have been part of this wonderful event.

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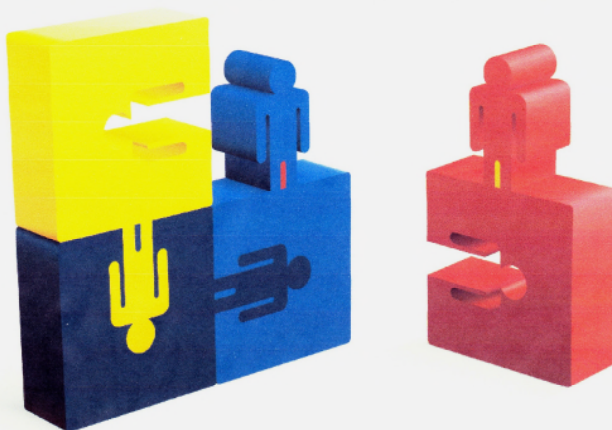
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## *Bee Keeping in Shirley*

It might surprise some readers to know that Shirley is a good place to keep bees. In fact the London suburbs are generally very good for honey production. Parks, gardens and open spaces filled with lush vegetation, large numbers of flowering shrubs and fruit trees provide ideal conditions for bees. By contrast, areas which you might think are ideal, such as the farming counties, with large acreages given over to cereal production which provides no honey, are far less suitable. Years ago it was the other way round, rural areas provided the bulk of the crop with relatively little in urban areas.



Amazingly, quite large amounts of honey can be gathered in central London, again due to the presence of parks and open spaces. I understand that Fortnum & Masons keep bees on the roof of the store and sell the honey under their own label. At Fortnum & Mason prices! I have recently been told, that due to many more people taking up beekeeping, that there are too many beekeepers in central London.



**Bee Hives in the Shirley  
Green Triangle**

As well as fruit trees, flowering shrubs and flowers producing nectar some plants which we think of as weeds also produce lots of nectar and pollen. The humble dandelion is valued by beekeepers as it produces large amounts of nectar and pollen early in the year just when fresh pollen, essential for feeding bee larvae, is scarcest. So gardeners please pause before you dig up that dandelion! If you have lots of white clover in your lawn

please leave it as long as possible before mowing (or mow round it) as it produces lovely honey. Later in the year willowherb and blackberry are favourites. Ivy is one of the latest honey producing plants (Oct/Nov). The honey sets very hard and is very difficult for the bees to eat and for me to extract. It has a very distinctive but pleasant flavour.

Lime trees, with which the London suburbs are heavily planted, are



another valuable source of pollen and nectar. Not just for honey bees, bumble bees and other pollinating insects as well. Stand under a lime tree on a sunny day in spring and listen to the buzz!!

Most years a beekeeper in the London suburbs is assured of a honey harvest, not massive amounts, a yield of 60 to 80 lbs. 27 to 36 kilos per hive, which keeps most beekeepers happy. I have been told of a beekeeper in Bickley who, two years ago, collected over 900lbs. 408 kilos of honey, from seven hives. This year the very poor spring and wet summer does not auger well for honey production. However, this is not all due to poor weather. Last winter some 30% of British bees were lost for various reasons.



I hope you will all have noticed that over the last few years there has been a great deal of publicity about the problems facing beekeepers worldwide. Varroa Destructor, a parasitic mite which is bred in bee larvae

and in its adult form lives on the bees, can if not treated, wipe out a bee colony in two years. A new phenomenon, named Colony Collapse Disorder, or CCD, has emerged. For no apparent reason the bees in a hive just disappear. A lot of money, particularly in North America, Australia and New Zealand, where beekeeping is very big business, is being put into research to try and establish what is causing the disappearance. One theory is that the bees are stressed which makes them susceptible to many bee diseases. In North America bees are transported many hundreds of miles for pollination purposes. This, coupled with the bee colonies already being weakened by Varroa, is thought to be one cause of the stress and the subsequent disappearance. As there is comparatively little migratory beekeeping in the UK there are likely to be other factors involved and a lot of research remains to be done to establish the cause.

Pesticides and insecticides, despite the reassurances of manufacturers that they are harmless to wildlife, may well play a big part in the decline of bees and all pollinating insects.

Bees and other insects are absolutely essential for the pollination of plants and entomologists estimate that without them life on earth would end in four years. You have been warned!

Enough of the doom and gloom! Beekeeping is pleasurable, absorbing and rewarding (not necessarily only in the quantity of honey produced) and has given me a lot of satisfaction over the 30 odd years I have been keeping bees.

Did you know...?

- There are an estimated total of 16,000 bee species worldwide. Of these, 575 species make and store honey in structures made from secreted wax; and of these 210 are bumblebees and 365 stingless bees.
- In the UK we have 256 bee species. Most of the bee species are solitary, females nest and work alone.
- The scientific name for the honey bee is *Apis mellifera*.
- In the peak season a honeybee colony can consist of up to 80,000 bees, nearly all female.
- A queen bee can lay some 3000 eggs in a 24 hour period (more than her weight). The female (worker) loses her sting after use, and then dies.
- It can take some 20,000 bee visits to flowers to make one pound of honey.



Is honey good for you? It is said to help in the following conditions.

\* Poor digestion. \* Stress. \* Wounds (especially burns) \* Hayfever and asthma. \* Sore throats. \* Migraines \* Bedwetting. \* Anaemia.  
\* Nasal congestion \* Osteoporosis. \* Sleeplessness. \* Hyperactivity.  
And many more.

If anyone would like to take up beekeeping there is an active Croydon Beekeepers Association

[www.croydonbeekeepers.co.uk](http://www.croydonbeekeepers.co.uk)

Finally -- There was a lady beekeeper who sold her grocer a pound of honey every week. One week he complained that he had been given short measure for the previous three weeks. "How strange" said the lady beekeeper, "You see I always check it against the pound of butter that I buy from you...."

Bill Smart.



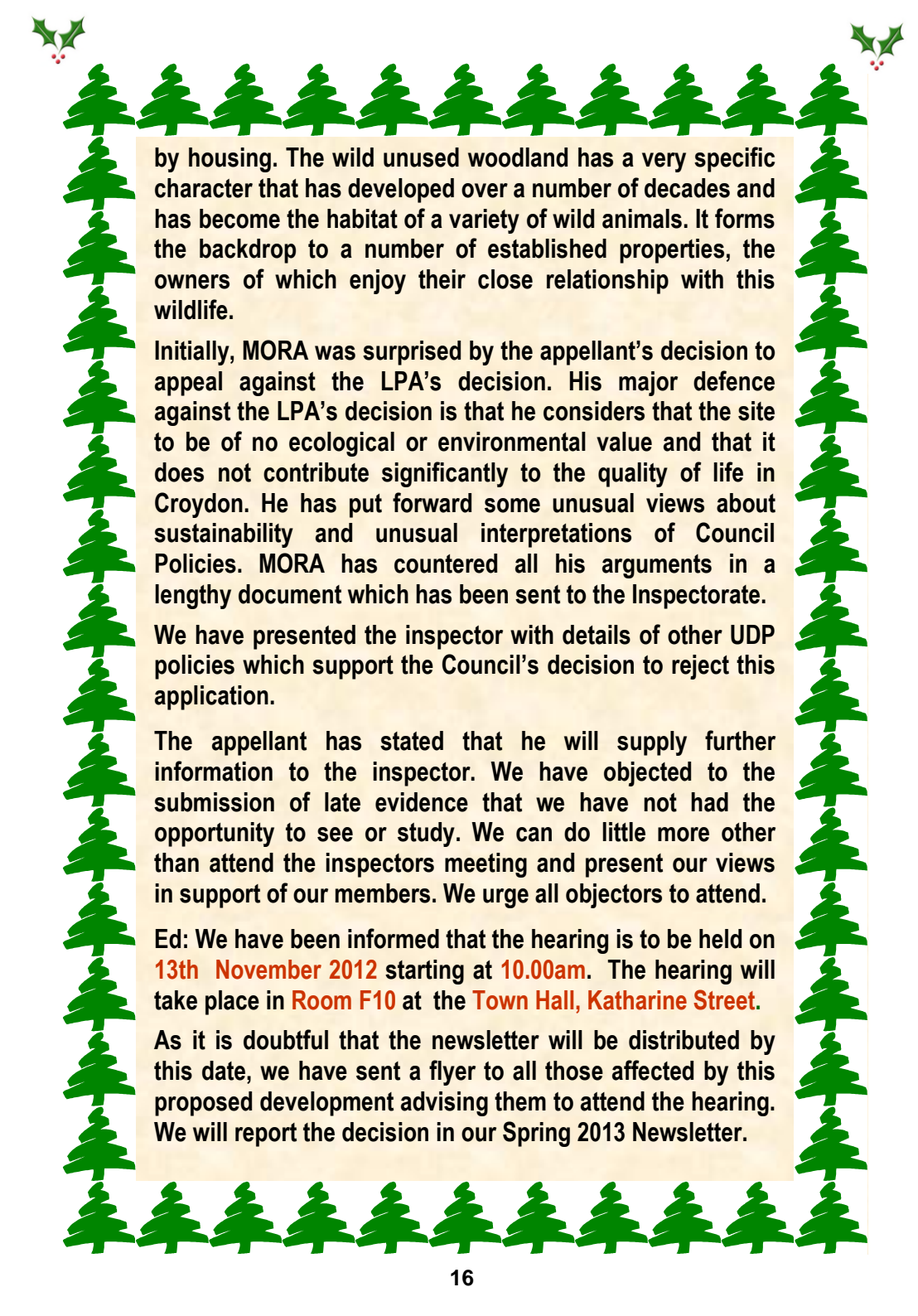
## *The Shirley Green Triangle*

This controversial appeal for a planning application to enable a developer “to erect up to 50 assisted living apartments for the elderly with associated landscaping and parking” was originally dismissed by the LPA. Their reasons for dismissal were that:



- The development would harm nature conservation interests. This is contrary to Unitary Development Policy (UDP) Policy NC1.
- The development will result in the loss of trees. This is contrary to UDP Policy NC4.
- Policy RO8 restricts development on Open Land to outdoor sport or another outdoor activity which does not harm the open character of the land or harm the residential amenity. The open character of the land includes the effect on public views to and from the site, the need for car parking, the effect of increased overlooking, traffic flows and other encroachment.
- The development would contravene the Mayor of London's requirements (London Policies 7.18 and 7.19), requiring that Local Natural/Open space should be preserved and biodiversity promoted and managed - particularly if the development has a significant impact on protected species.

Those of you who know this land will appreciate that this land is designated Open Land. It is almost totally enclosed



by housing. The wild unused woodland has a very specific character that has developed over a number of decades and has become the habitat of a variety of wild animals. It forms the backdrop to a number of established properties, the owners of which enjoy their close relationship with this wildlife.

Initially, MORA was surprised by the appellant's decision to appeal against the LPA's decision. His major defence against the LPA's decision is that he considers that the site to be of no ecological or environmental value and that it does not contribute significantly to the quality of life in Croydon. He has put forward some unusual views about sustainability and unusual interpretations of Council Policies. MORA has countered all his arguments in a lengthy document which has been sent to the Inspectorate.

We have presented the inspector with details of other UDP policies which support the Council's decision to reject this application.

The appellant has stated that he will supply further information to the inspector. We have objected to the submission of late evidence that we have not had the opportunity to see or study. We can do little more other than attend the inspectors meeting and present our views in support of our members. We urge all objectors to attend.

Ed: We have been informed that the hearing is to be held on **13th November 2012** starting at **10.00am**. The hearing will take place in **Room F10** at the **Town Hall, Katharine Street**.

As it is doubtful that the newsletter will be distributed by this date, we have sent a flyer to all those affected by this proposed development advising them to attend the hearing. We will report the decision in our Spring 2013 Newsletter.





# Big, Big, Big, Big, Big, Big, Big.

First there was the **BIG** Bang. The universe developed; our planet developed; man developed; society developed. Then **David Cameron** created the **BIG Society** which encompassed the **Localism Act**.

*“The Big Society is the Government's vision of a society where individuals and communities have more power and responsibility, and use it to create better neighbourhoods and local services.*

*It lies at the heart of the Department's work in housing, planning, regeneration and local government.”*

- All seemed to go well;
- At least for a short while...



The **BIG Society** and the **Localism Act** proclaimed that the **BIG** decisions and the **BIG** solutions to our problems would be determined and controlled by the little people. People like you and I who care about our society and are prepared to spend our unpaid time and efforts on improving the quality of our own and our neighbours' lives. We were told that we would be supported by both **Central and Local Government**

With other **Residents' Associations**, MORA formed “**The Shirley Planning Forum**” which we hoped would give us the opportunity to maintain the character of our own areas.

**NOW**, Central Government intends to take back control of the planning systems to kick-start the construction industry and, they hope, to stimulate the economy as a whole.

What has the Government announced?

- ‘Permitted Development’ rules will be relaxed for **3 Years**.
- Home owners will be allowed to build additional buildings and extensions
- The size of extensions permitted will be doubled.
- You, the local residents, will not have any opportunity to object to your neighbours plans or proposals.



- 
- 
- In fact, you may not even know of the proposals until building starts to block out your light.

M.P's and planning experts warn that the consequences of these relaxed plans will provide:

- An explosion of unsightly and un-neighbourly development.
- Extensions may be built up to half the garden size and up to 26ft without the need for permission.
- English common law such as "the right to light" will be lost.
- The Communities Secretary will have the powers to strip individual local authorities of planning responsibilities. Planning applications will then be decided by the Inspectorate which is controlled by Central Government.
- Ministers want to make it harder for residents to object to new developments.
- Councils are to be encouraged to allow building on green belt land.
- Inappropriate developments that have already been turned down may now be built.

MORA believes these plans mean that we will encounter major problems here in Monks Orchard, including:

- Properties and extensions being built which are not in accord with the character of the area.
- The housing density, which makes such a great contribution to the character of our area, will increase.
- The facilities and amenities which we share will be overstretched.
- Disputes between neighbours will dramatically increase
- Even though the relaxation is for 3 years, once built, these extensions will never be knocked down and could blight a neighbourhood for ever.
- Most of the extensions will be planned by unqualified planners, built by unqualified builders and funded in the black economy so the exchequer will not benefit.



**MORA questioned how much of the time and effort of the Shirley Forum will now be wasted?**

**How much money will our Council have wasted in developing plans for Shirley and developing their own planning strategies if these changes come about?**

**Above all, can these:**

- **Additional monetary strains on our economy;**
- **Loss of amenities;**
- **Loss of character of our housing stock;**

**Justify the approval of these planning proposals?**

**MORA asked our MP, Gavin Barwell to take our concerns to the Government on 17<sup>th</sup> October Oral questions to the Communities and Local Government Ministers. When he returned from holiday he raised the issue with Ministers, reflecting our concerns.**

**Although MORA is non-political, these proposals could have devastating consequences on our area and for local residents and therefore we MUST represent our members.**

**We have, therefore, made our views known by submitting written evidence direct to the Communities and Local Government Select Committee.**

**On 28th September, we were informed that our submission will be made available to members of the Select Committee, who may make use of our evidence for the purpose of carrying out its inquiry, including—if it wishes—printing and publishing our evidence, or making it available for public inspection in the Parliamentary Archives.**

**See <http://www.parliament.uk/clgcom>**

**Even so, we urge you to contact your elected representatives (Local and Central Government) to express your views, and seek details from them on their proposed course of action. Time is running out! It's no good moaning about next door's extension if you don't act NOW.**





## **Extracts From the Councils e-bulletin: Insulate now, for winter – for free**



Free cavity wall and loft insulation is being made available to Croydon homeowners and private residents through a council scheme run with local company Climate Energy.

Fitting the insulation can stop heat escaping through the roof and save homeowners up to £300 a year on their energy bills.

To arrange a free, no-obligation survey to assess your home's suitability call 0800 358 6663.

Climate Energy staff always carry identification and there is no obligation to take up the offer.

For more ideas on saving energy, and money on your bills, visit [www.energysavingtrust.org.uk](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk)



## **Fight for Croydon hospital services given boost**

New recommendations to keep maternity and A&E services in the borough have been welcomed by the council.

Local services had been threatened under NHS London's Better Services, Better Value initiative, which will see a reorganisation of south-west London's hospitals.

But the scheme's board has put forward its preferred model for the future of health services in the area, which includes retaining and expanding emergency and maternity services at Croydon University Hospital.

Council leader Mike Fisher said: "This is very good news for Croydon. Although we shouldn't take anything for granted, it's encouraging to see that the board has taken the needs of local people into consideration."

If the recommendations are accepted, they will go out for public consultation in October.

For the full story, go to:

[www.croydon.gov.uk/news/pressreleases/press-2012archive/CUH](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/news/pressreleases/press-2012archive/CUH)



CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES

# MULTI CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARD SHOP

Cards for Good Causes Limited (CFGCL) pays the participating charities (or their trading subsidiaries) at least 75p in every pound from their card sales, less the VAT payable on the amount retained by CFGCL. The retained amount covers CFGCL's costs of running the temporary charity Christmas card shops. In addition to these costs, the participants have to pay for the production and distribution of their cards.

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**Poplar Walk, Croydon**

(Behind M&S / next to West Croydon bus & tram station)

**17 October – 17 December**

**Monday – Saturday 10.00am - 4.00pm**



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CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES LIMITED IS THE TRADING COMPANY OF THE 1959 GROUP OF CHARITIES (REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 249039)

## **NOTIFICATION**

Our Free BT Webhosting service will be terminated as of 31st October and we will be looking to upload to a new web service provider. Hopefully we will be able to inform members of our new Website Address in the Spring 2013 Newsletter.

## Croydon Philharmonic Choir

Croydon Philharmonic Choir is recognised as one of the finest choirs in the south of London.

We have had invitations to sing with major orchestras including the BBC Concert Orchestra, the London Mozart Players and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. We have also taken part in BBC Proms in the Park, Songs of Praise and the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall.

Under our [Music Director, David Gibson](#), we perform [concerts](#) at venues across London and the south of England, including the Fairfield Halls in Croydon. These feature an imaginative mix of programmes supported by professional orchestras and soloists.

Enjoy singing? Then why not come and [join us](#)? To join us or find out more contact Clare, our membership secretary, [via our contact page](#) or call her on [REDACTED].

To keep in touch with our latest news and events, [like us on Facebook](#).

**Saturday 8 December 2012, 7.30pm at the Fairfield Halls.**

### ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Christmas Cracker

Conductor [Stephen Bell](#)

Vocalist [Graham Bickley](#)

Croydon Philharmonic Choir

**A seasonal spectacular filled with Christmas classics, including:**

TORMÉ *The Christmas Song*

HANDEL *Messiah: Hallelujah Chorus*

ANDERSON *Bugler's Holiday*

BERLIN *White Christmas*

WILLSON *It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas*

ANDERSON *Sleigh Ride*

WALDTEUFEL *The Skaters' Waltz*

STYNE *Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!*

Plus carols for all and much more!



A delightful evening of festive musical gems that is sure to fill you with good cheer. The Orchestra, star of stage and screen Graham Bickley and local favourites, the Croydon Philharmonic Choir, will get the yuletide celebrations off to an entertaining start with a programme of orchestral classics, much-loved songs and audience carols.



## *Supper Club Trip to Pluckley and Leeds Castle*

Well, once again, Christine pulled it out of the hat and arranged a fantastic day to Pluckley and Leeds Castle on the hottest day of the year.



We arrived at the Black Horse Inn, Pluckley (the most haunted pub in Kent) ready for our elevenses. Tea coffee, croissants, sausage rolls and biscuits had been laid on for us. Whilst we were there, Simon gave us a most interesting talk on the history

of the 400 year old inn, the friendly ghosts and why there is a Gatling gun in the restaurant.

Pluckley is such a pretty village with just the pub, a church, school, butchers and general store there.

We then went off to Leeds Castle. When you arrive you see why it is described as the loveliest castle in the world. After our tour of the castle we headed for the grounds which are really stunning, to have our picnics.

Carole Greenwood

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

**MORA 2013 AGM**

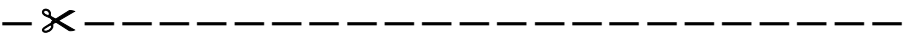
Will be held in St Georges Church Hall Elstan Way on

**Friday 26th April 2013**



# 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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