# The Community Magazine for the Sudbury Court and Pebworth Estates

May 2018

# The Courier

87th Year



# **Community Meeting - 12th May**

What can we do to help ourselves? (see page 17)

local safety issues, incl: crime, anti-social behaviour, traffic

the Police and local Councillors will attend

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## The Courier



May 2018 Number 187 (1,027)

# The official publication of the Sudbury Court Residents' Association.

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Dear Neighbours,

Hoping you're enjoying the turnaround in the weather— a bit more sunshine and definitely a bit warmer.

Our usual update from the Safer Neighbourhood Team—page 4-8—has the up-to-date overview of local activities.

If we didn't see you at the AGM on the 11th April, we have our report on pages 21+26, so please have a read—it includes an update on the Byron Court expansion, and where we're heading with traffic management associated with the expansion.

Please consider using the enclosed Standing Order to ensure your membership fees are made annually—see page 11.

There are no Councillors Comments this month, because of the pre-election purdah. But come along and meet them on the 12th May.

Which brings me to the Community Meeting—see page 17. The reason for holding this meeting is primarily due to a number of conversations I have had with residents and neighbours recently: some have witnessed anti-social/criminal behaviour; quite a few of our residents don't know their neighbours any more. Why is this relevant? If you know people, you're more likely to look out for each other. It certainly works in my street—I know a lot of my neighbours; I'm happy to investigate if their burglar alarm sounds, or to move someone along from blocking a neighbour's driveway with their vehicle. I know that they do the same for me. When I go on holiday, I have a number of people who will keep an eye on my property. It's also good to have a chat or a cup of tea now and again.

So, the meeting is for us to discuss how we work together as residents, as well as with the Police; and to inform our Councillors of our concerns.

Following the discussion and refreshments, we will introduce the Sudbury in Boom initiative to you, and a few of us will be popping out to Clean the Green - although it has been looking reasonably clean recently, so hopefully there won't be too much to do!! But we will be looking to prepare for new flowers, possibly even new benches, if we can get some funding.

Let's ensure our community continues to be a lovely place to live.

So, I look forward to seeing some familiar faces, and meeting some new ones, on the 12th May. If you're unable to attend the meeting for any reason, please do email us any questions/ concerns you have, and we will try and address them on your behalf. There will be a report in next month's Courier.

Until next time,

With best regards,

Kaye

# Northwick Park Safer Neighbourhood Team

020 8721 2969 Mobile: 07920 233 752 (Please leave a message)

Email: Northwickpark.snt@met.police.uk

In an emergency dial 999.

To report a crime and for non-emergencies dial 101.

For Crimestoppers dial 0800 555 111.



#### Dear Residents.

I understand that some residents have had difficulty in contacting us recently: our numbers are 0208 721 2969 and 07920233752. The 0208 is a ghost number which diverts direct to the mobile number. The response time when calling us depends on whether we are on or off duty. Sometimes, for example around Easter or Christmas, we may be off for more than 3 days at a time. When we are off duty, we often still conduct work related activities. Obviously, the Police - the team which responds to 999 and 101 calls - are staffed 24/7.

We did have a particular issue with our mobile phone recently (it was lost down the seat of the police car!) I would suggest that, if you do need to contact us, a call and a follow up email is best.

# What's the difference between the SNT and the Police response team?

The SNT monitor crime trends / intel in a local area and try to target patrols. We tackle low level ASB (anti-social behaviour) and persistent issues. For example, if we become aware of drug issues at an address we, might get a drugs search warrant. We liaise closely with the Council, Housing Associations and residents to tackle a range of issues, including neighbour disputes. We have the intel on the problem areas in our patch and the persons who might be involved.

Please do not ring SNT if you wish to report a crime that you have discovered: there are a number of reasons for that, not least because we aren't always on duty, but we also have meetings and investigations to attend to. The Police response team will be able to respond to your report more quickly. Please ring 101 or report online if you wish to report a crime. (We will, of course, report and investigate crime if it is reported to us out on the street or if someone rings us).

#### What's App success:

Following the recent burglaries in the Pebworth Estate some residents there set up a What's App group and have taken to it like a duck to water (see pg 15). Dodgy cars, vans and activity are frequently put up and shared amongst the residents of this group. We think it is great and we try as best as possible to monitor it for intel on dodgy registrations etc.

We would welcome the creation of another What's App group in the Sudbury Court Estate. It's the way forward, apparently.

#### **Burglaries:**

Over the past number of weeks, burglaries have continued to occur here and there around the area. We, have been monitoring intelligence briefings, varying our prescribed shifts to cover the time that the burglaries have been occurring most. Unfortunately, we didn't catch any burglars, but a victim and his flat mates did, in early April, after 10pm at night, caught a prolific burglar when he got into their house on Rugby Avenue. This burglar is now on remand in Wormwood Scrubs: he is a longtime burglar and been active, on and off, in Brent since I have been in this borough, over 20 years now. His only real break, is when he has been doing time at Her Majesty's pleasure. This male, may or may not have committed burglaries in the Northwick Park area. In years gone by when he was active. I have seen him in one of the roads off The Fairway so, suffice to say, he may be responsible. I hear you asking: why don't the police put surveillance on those type of people? Well occasionally we do, but surveillance takes a lot of resources - 8+ people per person could be required.

This particular man, isn't the only burglar in the area. Previously, we have had burglars from Barnet who target our area. What I can say is, from intel, that currently it would appear that there are a number of different unconnected males who are active in the Wembley area. I would urge you to notice activity; to be that nosy neighbor; to be our eyes and ears - watch out for unusual cars or people walking around your area and report any suspicious activity on 101. If you firmly believe that someone is about to commit a burglary, or is in the act of committing a burglary, ring 999.

The main ways that we catch burglars are: witnesses of a burglary in progress, forensics, occasionally CCTV if it is very good, and the property itself can sometimes yield some links to a burglar - to this end please ensure that you have a full list of your valuables in your home, photograph and make a list of your jewellery especially if you have expensive gold jewellery. Immobilise.com is a website where you can register your property. Police can interrogate this site if we find suspected stolen goods, try to reunite them with their rightful owner, and possibly link the person in possession of it to a crime.

Religious symbols on the outside of your house are not a good idea from the perspective of crime prevention. They may ward off evil spirits, but not the ones with two legs and bodies who are out trying to burgle your home!! Religious symbols such as the Hindu swastika symbol, or the presence of deities in your car, or visible in the window of your house, or Islamic symbols, may indicate to a burglar that there may be Asian gold within your house.

Like all types of crime prevention, it is how far you want to go with limiting your chances of being a victim of crime - if you choose to continue to have religious symbols on your house then that is your choice and there are a host of other ways that you can try to protect your home. The Metropolitan Police Website has excellent crime prevention advice on a whole host of crime types - at the bottom of the main screen, headed 'Crime Prevention'.

#### Cold callers:

The problem of cold callers is a persistent issue. There are a number of retired people who live in the Northwick Park area and they frequently get targeted by scams, both

on the phone and in person. DO NOT GET ANY GOODS OR SERVICE BY SOMEONE WHO RANDOMLY PHONES YOU OR CALLS AT YOUR DOORSTEP! The latest scam is claiming to give a green survey to check for the efficiency of your double glazing and claim to be part of a government scheme, blah blah. If you want new windows, do your research. Another scam is claiming to be from the Inland Revenue offering a tax rebate. I have heard of someone in their 60s recently getting conned out of £10.000 by someone claiming to be from Talk Talk and wanting to refund money to their account. If anyone rings you quoting your name, DO NOT give them any personal information or give out your bank details.

If you want your driveway done, similarly, do your research, get your guotes, ask around for good and reliable trades persons who are the ones who are actually going to be doing the work themselves - not using "slave" labour and getting a number of foreign/illegal nationals who are working on your driveway for 10 hours and getting £20 per day for their efforts. YOU ARE RE-SPONSIBLE ΙF FMPI OY YOU "COMPANY" LIKE THAT. Believe me. companies like this have been actively looking for work in NORTHWICK PARK area and have been given work too!

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#### 'Rag and bone' thieves:

I was a few years into working for the Police before I knew what a Rag and Bone man was - I call them 'scrappies' - the ones who go around looking for scrap metal. I frequently get reports of scrappies in vans entering people's driveways and taking items from their front lawn/driveway. Some of these are opportunist thieves, WATCH OUT WHEN THEY ARE IN THE AREA - WE WANT TO KNOW THEIR VEHICLE REGIS-TRATIONS. One resident had taken off a metal door to fix it, leaving it in his front lawn area, only to find some hours later it was gone. I arrested a scrappie previously for stealing a bicycle from the front door of someone's house, the scrappie had walked up the resident's driveway and simply took the bicycle - it had been left outside for repair.

#### Northwick Park - drugs issues:

Your team is well aware of the issue of drug dealing and misuse in the area of the pavilion in Northwick Park, the associated ASB (antisocial behaviour) and crime - like driving dangerously and doing 'doughnuts' in the car park, driving vehicles onto the park, drug driving. If you are a parent of a young person, do you know what they are doing in the evenings? If your adult son or daughter is doing drugs it will come to your door eventually. Take an active role in what your

children/adult children are doing. We have identified a number of youths/young people of local residents that are involved in this ASB in the surrounding area. We are working to reduce and eliminate this problem; we will continue to take enforcement action. We are also working with the Council to make the park a safer place.

#### Litter and fly tipping:

There is a persistent problem of litter and fly tipping, particularly in Peel Road and Byron Road. Peel Road has improved recently but we want to keep it clean. Residents and landlords are approached by us if their properties are dirty or a health hazard.

I have and will prosecute people involved in making the area look dirty!

If you have a waste/unwanted furniture/item that you want to recycle then take it to the charity shop or leave it within your house boundary (behind your wall or behind your gate with a note 'please take' on it).

Report any fly tipping to the council - go onto their website; there is also a handy mobile phone App that you can download to facilitate the reporting of various matters, including fly tipping.

The council offer a number of bulky item waste collections every year - please contact Brent Council street care department for more info on 0208 937 5050.



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Email: info@randjservices.co.uk Website: www.randjservices.co.uk Overview of location of offences 11<sup>th</sup> Mar - 11th Apr:

Burglary, residential: (i) Aspen Dr (in 30s in odds. 11/3 between 1230hrs - 2046hrs, rear patio door smashed, jewellery stolen) (ii) Sudbury Court Drive (in 70s on evens side. 12/3 at 1230hrs, smashed rear uPVC door, gold jewellery stolen) (iii) Hill Rd (very low evens side. 13/3 between 1650hrs -2238hrs, rear door smashed, iewellery and cash stolen (iv) The Spinney (in low evens numbers, 15/3 744hrs - 2220hrs, door believed left open, clothing stolen) (v) Littleton Road (very low odds side. 24/3 at 0115hours. rear patio door glass removed, portable items of value taken) (vi) Norval Road (in 100s odds side, 22/3 0600hrs - 27/3 1215hrs, bottom glass pane removed from side door. jewellery stolen) (vii) Abbotts Drive (in 120s evens side, 15/03 0001hrs - 04/04 1700hrs, double glazed glass window removed at front of house, not fully known what property stolen) (viii) East Lane (04/04 0845hrs -1645hrs, not fully known what point of entry is, what was stolen) (ix) Sudbury Croft (30/03 1300hrs - 05/04 1715hrs. front door smashed in. TV stolen. DS stolen) (x) Byron Road (low evens, rear door smashed, not known what property has been stolen)

Attempted robbery: Sudbury Court Road (31/03/18, 1519hrs, victim was approached near a bus stop and youth demanded money off him).

Attempted burglary residential: (i) Littleton Road (in 30s evens side, 22/3 at 0200hrs, cat flap on door removed no entry gained (ii) Rushout Avenue (03/04 at 0225hrs, front door crowbarred open, two white / mediterrean males early 20s involved, believed they were after the black BMW 5 series (iii) Nathans Road (11/04 at about 0200hrs, suspect has removed lock from rear patio door

Theft of motor vehicle: (i) Sudbury Court Road (14/3 1800hrs – 2100hrs, van stolen) (ii) Northwick Avenue (20/3 1800hrs – 21/3 0645hrs, Merc van stolen) (iii) Nathans Road (28/3 2100hrs – 2210, Golf stolen off driveway.

Attempted theft of motor vehicle (i) Abbotts Drive (21/3 2300hrs – 2310hrs, two white males attempt to get into vehicle)

Theft from motor vehicle: (i) Sudbury Croft (12/3 220hrs 13/3 0845hrs, van broken into and tools stolen) (ii) Nathans Road (12/3 2100hrs – 2130hrs, van broken into tools stolen) (iii) Paxford Road (19/3, 1844hrs, number plates stolen)

Your team would welcome any information on anti social behaviour or criminal offences that are occurring in the area - please feel free to contact us on 0208 721 29 69 or email: NorthwickPark.snt@met.police.uk

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# Crime Prevention Advice: Burglary:

- Ensure that your perimeter fence/wall, your house doors and windows are fit for purpose. Boundary walls and fencing along with shrubbery is the first line of defence to an intruder and should be good enough to keep a potential burglar out. A lot of houses in the Sudbury Court Estate have a shared driveway with easy access to the rear, if at all possible, please try to get this open access gated off most burglars gain access via the rear of a house.
- Please ensure that garden sheds are locked and that all garden implements are locked away as frequently these are used to break in to houses.
- Consider getting an alarm / alarm box fitted, CCTV cameras or dummy ones.
- Keep your car keys hidden and <u>not</u> on/in the cabinet near your front door.
- Make sure to secure your side gates when you go out and ensure that your garden fence or wall is durable and designed for purpose to keep out intruders!
- Consider installing an alarm system and a safe for your jewellery and valuables.

#### **Vehicle Crime -**

- do not keep valuables in your car; ideally leave your glove box open and do not leave any goods/property in the car.
- do not leave a sat nav holder on display and rub off all marks of sat navs from your windscreen

• Be on the look out for tow away vehicles, these are being used to steal cars from people's driveways - if you see someone load your neighbours vehicle onto a tow truck/a truck with a hoist and your neighbour is not present then you may be witnessing a theft of your neighbour's car so consider ringing the police - try to obtain the registration number of the tow truck.

Please consult the websites listed for more crime prevention tips or, if you do not have access to the internet perhaps speak to us and we might be able to arrange that you obtain a crime prevention pamphlet.

#### **Useful numbers:**

Dial 999 in the case of an emergency, where a crime is in progress or where life is in danger.

For non-emergencies, ring 101

To give information anonymously call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

#### **Useful websites:**

The websites below have a whole host of useful information from crime prevention to crime statistics to Identity theft!

www.met.police.uk www.homeoffice.gov.uk www.cifas.org.uk www.direct.gov.uk

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## Seniors Outing—1st August 2018







This year's Senior Citizens' outing will be to Hastings

Those of you who have been regulars on this annual outing will, no doubt, remember that when we went in August 2009 the pier was inaccessible having been rendered unsafe due to storm damage. Then in 2010 it was badly damaged by fire.

However, the pier has now been rebuilt and won last year's Stirling Prize, awarded by the Royal Institute of British Architects. It has been described by judges as a "phoenix risen from the ashes".

If you would like to be on this outing, then look out for the booking form in next month's Courier."





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## **SCRA Membership**

As previously mentioned in recent Couriers, and discussed at the AGM, we have a declining membership.

Years ago, we used to make sure membership was kept up because neighbours talked to each other!

I have mentioned previously that I'd like to see one or two 'ambassadors' per street— a few residents at the AGM offered to go and talk to their neighbours—so if one of your neighbours come knocking on your door, talking to you about membership, don't be surprised!

The SCRA Committee is small and can only do so much. If we had to oppose anything major, the fact of declining membership (and therefore subscriptions) and lack of new members to the Committee will hinder any action the SCRA can take.

Be an ambassador!! It won't take up much of your time—although it may take a bit to begin with, just to introduce yourself.

Also, if you are willing to help organise residents events, please get in touch! You do not have to be on the Executive Committee to get involved.

Re: membership fees: One suggestion, which we thought was a good one: if residents could set up a Standing Order, then payments would happen annually, without residents having to physically find the cash/chequebook, put it into the envelope and deliver to the local collection points (although that facility will still be available).

So, the Standing Order form that came with this issue of The Courier –please do consider setting it up, and ensure that the SCRA can continue to work hard for you. (see page 17)

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## The Memory Cafe

Support for those experiencing memory problems



Many of you will remember the wonderful BBC sitcom The Good Life. It was so charming and is still a delight. Like a lot of the sitcoms in the 70s it was actually trying to answer some important questions that society had. In this case the question was – what makes for the good life? It is a very good question and one many of us are still wrestling with today.

It seems patently obvious that money is not the secret to happiness – although being very poor can make us very unhappy. I have come to think that the roots of any well-lived life lay in serving others and being a part of a community. Simply chasing pleasure and self-interest quickly becomes hollow.

I think that Memory Café, and other voluntary activities, are at the heart of the life well-lived. Each week people tell me that the Café makes a difference to them. They find that it has brought companionship and fun into their lives. Now I use the word fun advisedly. Fun is much underrated. But we humans thrive on fun and not taking ourselves too seriously.

So if you feel that life's a bit drab or you want to make a difference why not give us a try at Memory Café 11-1 every Thursday at St Cuthberts Church. You don't need to have memory issues in order to come; we welcome all.

See you there folks!

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Some people think that parish priests only work on a Sunday! In fact I find myself very busy every day of the week, here at St Cuthbert's. A regular week involves church services, visiting people, writing sermons, and so much more. If the drains get blocked, I am the unblocker. If a pigeon flies into the church, I am the bird chaser. You have to be a jack-of-all-trades. But the real privilege comes with being with people at the best and worst times of life. As a parish priest I am here for you in all the circumstances of life

May is a slightly gentler time. Christmas and Easter have been and gone, and so we concentrate on the daily rhythm of church life. Many of us have had, or have, crazily hectic lives. We never seem to stop, take stock and appreciate all that we do have.

Church is a place that allows us to stop awhile and reflect. And in our modern world that is a rare luxury. So if you are looking for a bit of peace, and a time to reflect we are here.

The other day, I was just sitting in the church doing just that—enjoying the atmosphere and watching the light coming through the windows. I felt an intense sense of peace. Mother Julian of Norwich famously said, "all shall be well."

In those moments, in church, I knew she was right.

Rev'd Steve

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# Health on your travels—part II

Welcome to the second part of my travel update. More now on mosquito transmitted infection.

Some of you may have heard of Zika. Just before the Olympics in Brazil in 2016, there seemed to be many babies being born with very small heads and other abnormalities. This turned out to be caused by a viral infection transmitted by mosquitoes, which was contracted by their mothers during pregnancy. The virus is a bit like German measles (rubella) in as much as the pregnant mum is not particularly unwell, and may not even know she has been infected with Zika. but it can cause damage to a developing embryo. Zika virus is now common in very many countries including India, South America, West Indies, Asia and Africa. The virus affects both men and women and can also be passed on to a partner via sexual transmission. We advise women travelling to an area where there is moderate to high risk of Zika to postpone non-essential travel if they are pregnant and to avoid getting pregnant for at least 8 weeks after returning to the UK. Men are advised to delay trying for a family

for six months after their return from a moderate to high risk Zika affected country as the virus can persist for several months without showing symptoms. Advice on reducing the risk of sexual transmission of Zika Virus for couples who are pregnant or planning to conceive can be found at: <a href="https://travelhealthpro.org.uk/factsheet/5/zika--risk-assessment">https://travelhealthpro.org.uk/factsheet/5/zika--risk-assessment</a>

The blood test for Zika is not always accurate and is only available to those returning travellers with symptoms of Zika. So pick your honeymoon destinations carefully if you're planning to have a baby soon after your wedding!

Zika virus is transmitted by a mosquito that bites, predominantly, during daylight hours and at dusk. For those travelling to a country affected by Zika, make sure you're following mosquito bite avoidance advice

More next time on other mosquito transmitted diseases...don't worry we cannot get any of these from the mosquitoes that annoy us in the UK in the summer months.

DR JANE WOYKA
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# **Pebwatch**

A WhatsApp Group for the Pebworth Estate has been set up following a Police street briefing on 16th March (thank you to Krupa for suggest ing WhatsApp). The group now has over 100 members and is steadily growing.

The idea of this group is keep everyone on the Pebworth Estate (including Sudbury Court Drive) informed of any suspicious events or vehicles, and of course any crimes in progress.

Since we started the group we have shared details of suspicious vehicles touring the area and possibly assessing the houses for opportunities of criminal activity. Pictures are also circulated and we try to include the vehicle registrations.

The Met Police Safer Neighbourhood Team for Northwick Park are now members of the group, PC Kennedy and the team have already arrested one group of transgressors. We are hoping that more residents can join this WhatsApp group. We will need to ensure that only residents are involved so there may be some vetting of requests to join - the best method is through a resident already in the group or you can email <a href="mailto:pebwatch@gmail.com">pebwatch@gmail.com</a> and the name will be checked against the electoral register before you are enjoined. We will need a mobile number a name and address though these may not be displayed in the group - this will be discussed at a forthcoming meeting yet to be arranged.

Hardip Singh

It certainly seems to be a positive initiative—Our Safer Neighbourhood Team Agree. Come and discuss the possibilities of this initiative for the Sudbury Court Estate on 12th May (see page 17)

Kaye





# Help for your feet is in our hands

This month we would like to remind our readers why we are here.

At the Foot Comfort Centre, we take pride in providing footcare and footwear for all your family.

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Thanks for reading,

Firoz

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## COMMUNITY MEETING - 12th May, 2-4pm



#### What can we do?

We have recently had a slight spike in burglaries (although the SNT have also seen a reduction following interventions); cold calling scams are common; antisocial behaviour in our green spaces and local car parks-incl the Churchhas become an issue; traffic issues.

Come and meet your local Police, your Councillors (first post-election outing), the SCRA, and your neighbours.

Discussion about what we can do to help ourselves and each other.

It's up to us to decide what kind of community we want to live in.

Some of us will also pop out and Clean the Green, kicking off the Sudbury in Bloom community initiative.

Refreshments will be provided.

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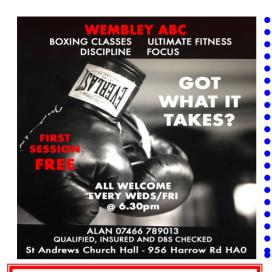
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#### Recent sightings

Towards the end of March, we had an unusual visit of four mallards (three guys and a girl) to our garden. Two of the males were being very solicitous towards the lady, whilst the other male seemed to be keeping guard.

My wife had been watching them for several minutes through our kitchen window before I joined her. Of course my camera was upstairs! (Why don't I learn?)

Some twelve years, or more, ago, we had a regular group of mallards on the estate. They often visited a swimming pool in a

garden in Littleton Crescent, frequently flying on to drop in to a garden in Sudbury Court Drive where they were sure of being given something to eat!

A pied wagtail was seen in Pebworth Road and Pat has reported seeing a collared dove recently. (Me too!)

Francis had both redwings and fieldfare in his garden, stripping the berries from his cotoneaster bush.

That's another good month's set of sightings.

#### Swifts' return

By the time you have received your copy of the May *Courier* you may have already seen, or heard, some swifts returning to their nests to breed. Last year they were rather late and, unhappily, much fewer in number.

Don't forget our little competition to see who can be first to report seeing them. (Some of you actually hear them several days before you see them!) Send me an email when you do - and don't forget, as someone did last year!

#### **RSPB Garden Birdwatch**

The RSPB published the results of its annual garden birdwatch at the end of March. 400,000 people took part and, once again, the house sparrow was the most seen bird by them. Second and third were starlings and blue tits respectively.

As for the most seen bird in our Estate count the feral pigeon by a long way!

#### Change of menu!

Terry emailed me to say that he had bought some new feeders in order to extend and compliment his usual offering of peanuts. Now fat-balls and other seeds are on the menu in his garden. His reward was the arrival of

several goldfinches. These were exciting new visitors for him and he took this month's photo to share with you.

It is interesting to note that barely ten years ago goldfinches would only take niger seed. I bought several different niger feeders to encourage them into my garden with some success. But now they come to our feeders for sunflower hearts as first choice!

Someone should tell them that they have the wrong shaped beaks for sunflower hearts!

#### Haiku

Last month, we printed a Haiku (an ancient type of Japanese poetry) written by Grace and I asked if anyone would like to try their hand at writing one. A Haiku reflects upon a moment in nature. It must be 3 lines of blank verse in 5/7/5 syllables. Do have a go!

Here's my effort:-

Blackbird sings his song. The world would be enchanted If it would listen

Rod Lake

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## **AGM report 11th April 2018**

#### Welcome

Meeting began at 7.40pm

#### Byron Court Expansion Update and Traffic Management

 Presented by Brent Council Officers - Kelly Wallace (Interim Capital Programme Manager) and Jas Yembra (Interim Capital Project Manager)

First, an update on the construction programme: to expand the school by an additional two-forms of entry (across each year group); 20 new classrooms, landscaping work, 360 new students, a new permanent entrance on Nathan Road.

Works due to conclude in November 2018. Works have been affected by weather recently – currently one month behind schedule. Working with the construction company, Grahams, to ensure no delays to overall timeline.

Foundations and building frame completed. New services are being laid for the Nathans Road entrance. Weekly meetings have been taking place to ensure local resident concerns are being addressed. School staff have been issued with permits to ensure they are not taking up resident street parking – this is a planning obligation and any contravening staff will be dealt with by the school.

Rogue contractor drivers – commitment to work to curb this.

Secondly, longer-term traffic/travel management strategy (looking to try to implement these sooner rather than later – target for delivering the works is August 2018). Not just construction travel that is an issue, but (longer-term) the increase in cars accessing the school during pick-up and drop-off times.

Suggestions include speed tables, zebra crossings, segregated footpaths and a covered waiting area for pedestrians in the Park – the programme will be subject to public consultation, including local residents.

Code of Conduct for parents and students; workshops on the use of cars and behaviour; (data issues to be considered, but possibly) require parents to register their car registration numbers so repeat offenders can be identified.

#### Questions from residents:

Q: Will improvements/extensions to public transport be provided so parents will have other opportunities to travel to the school?

A: Point will be taken back. Park and Stride scheme is one option. Perhaps rotas for staff to walk students into the school; also helps to address childhood obesity

Q: Staff aren't happy to park at NWP and walk; why would parents do it?

A: Vision is that the culture itself needs to be changed. The action plan then needs to be implemented, managed and monitored.

Q: There is still speeding, despite humps in the road and speed limits; illegal manoeuvres parents ignore the school, residents, police. What is being done?

A: Need to work together to implement the travel plan. The new Working Group has been well attended – we need to be able to listen to each other and work together. Everyone wants things to improve.

Q: Will residents be able to drive into the school on Polling Day, as previously?
A: Don't know – will ask and let you know.

Q: Estate can't deal with more traffic. Cars need to be stopped before they enter the estate. Use public transport or walk. What about safety – kids not strapped in properly etc? Why are parents who perform illegal parking and driving not being prosecuted? A: Imperative that all parties work together, openly and collaboratively. Early days yet; Plan is to be very open and transparent, and the Council plans to engage fully with the residents.

Q: Do we know the percentage of pupils who live locally and therefore don't 'need' to be driven to school?

A: Traffic impact analysis reports will play a part in the measures.

Q: What about parents who have kids at different schools or need to get to work? The ideas being generated are not realistic. Park and Stride not successful at other schools, not going to work.

(cont'd on page 27)

## Clean the Green—12th May 2-4pm

Come and join us for Clean The Green, a cup of tea and a chat, 'kicking off' Sudbury in Bloom. We'll run this alongside our Community Meeting (see page 17). We're not expecting anyone to do any 'hard labour', but later in the year we'll be planting flowers and bulbs, and we're looking to see how many residents want to see more flowers across the estate.

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## Sudbury Court Horticultural Society

### Your local gardening club

At last we are enjoying a spell of warmer, settled weather. Maybe Spring is finally on the way. Our gardens are responding with a surge of Spring energy. Bulbs we had forgotten about are flowering in the borders while magnolias in front gardens are suddenly magnificent. The lovely group of almond trees planted last year in the verges of Carlton Avenue were the first to bloom. They

remind older residents of the wonderful sight that Carlton Avenue used to be in February/ March when all the trees along that avenue were almond trees. Let us hope that more flowering trees will soon be planted in the gaps where old favourites have been Inst in the winter storms

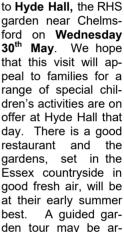
We hear that we are now to be encouraged to plant our grass

verges with wild flowers. Quite accidentally, the verge in our picture has developed patches of sweet violets. Far from shrinking as they are supposed to do, these violets relish their sunny southerly aspect. They are self sown, having escaped from a garden, with the seed blown along the verge by the westerly wind and, I suspect, by the Council's grass cutters. Soon the violets will be followed by yellow dandelions and after that - who knows!

May we remind you of the SCHS Coffee Morning and Plant Sale on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May. We booked the date at St Cuthbert's Church well before Harry and Meghan announced their engagement, so were a little disappointed that they chose our date for their wedding! However, we hope you will be able to come to along that

day between 9am and 12 noon to collect the summer bedding plants you have ordered, to enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and chat about gardening or weddings or whatever. There will also be on sale a limited selection of boxes of flowers and vegetables for all-comers to buy. Early birds will have the best choice!

At half term, Christine has arranged our visit





The **SCHS Early Summer Show** will be coming up on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June** – another date for the diary. We hope to see many more of you at this happy event. More details next month, but in the meantime, take every chance to enjoy your gardens.

please book the date in your diary.

Margaret Roake



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our monthly book reading group. Email for details

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**BIG LUNCH - COMMUNITY** PICNIC IN BARHAM PARK This 'share your food' with friends and neighbours event is being planned for Father's Day, Sun 17 June. Please put the date in your diary and plan your picnic in 'sunny' (we hope) Barham

For details of any activities at Barham Community Library please contact Paul Lorber who is in training for his next fundraising run for the Library.

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## AGM report (cont'd from page 21)

A: There are dedicated teams who work at all levels to ensure travel plans work and to check how/whether they are working. Park and Stride is not a new concept; has worked at other schools in similar situations.

Q: Free Parking in Northwick Park? Any consideration to extend the car park in NWP? A: Don't know – not within my remit. Will take points back.

Q: Residents being let down by Council in favour of contractors. *Particular issue about his property will be addressed.* 

A: Council getting confirmation and commitments from the construction company at the highest/director levels—meeting next week.

KJ has been attending weekly engagement meetings – can confirm that attempts are being made to call the contractors to task for contraventions. Know it doesn't feel like much at the moment, and progress is slow but at least the conversations are taking place and there is finally a forum for these issues and concerns to be addressed. All need to work together to put ideas forth to move forward. SCRA can't help/represent if residents don't speak to us or let us know what their concerns are/give us their ideas/inform us about what is going on locally.

#### One Public Estate

Council officers were invited but didn't attend. Cllr Keith Perrin gave a very brief overview of the information available (see March issue of The Courier and information on Brent Council website – 12<sup>th</sup> Feb2018 Cabinet decision).

In answer to various questions:

There are currently no proposals to build on the park/playing fields. New homes/living spaces for approximately 3,600 individuals, including high-rise flats. £9.9m funding has been received for infrastructure – must be a new road! For access to these homes. Where is this going to be? What are the plans for this? How is wildlife going to be affected? Residents need to be provided with full, transparent access to this information.

SCRA to put pressure on the Council to answer resident queries.

Currently awaiting more information re: plans, but everything has to go through a Freedom Of Information request. Why is this? We have no answer to that.

#### Safer Neighbourhood Team update

Brent, Barnet and Harrow police forces are merging. This will lead to some, but hopefully not too many, changes to local team – will keep updated. (see page 4)

#### SCRA Elections:

Kaye James did not stand for re-election

Chair: Vacant Vice Chair: Vacant Treasurer: Pareet Shah Secretary: Noura Abdul-Cader

Executive Members: Sukaram Chopra, Frank Manches, Beverley Persaud, Dolores Davis, Paul Davis, Vanessa Barker, Keith Barker,

Hardip Singh, Narinder Bajwa Honorary Auditor: Paul Lorber Honorary Solicitor: Vacant

Membership Secretary: Aileen and Chris Bommer

#### Accounts

SCRA in good financial health

Membership – see page 11

#### SCRA Senior Citizen Outing

David Friend spoke briefly about the Outing for this year (see page 9) - to Hastings, on 1 August 2018.

#### Memory Cafe

Reverend Steve spoke briefly about what a wonderful community we have, and how the Memory Café is going from strength to strength—about 100 people at the previous week's Cafe. He was also pleased to report that they are leading the way to encourage other Cafes to be set up across the country!

#### Thanks and closing remarks.

Meeting closed by 10pm.

# Kids' Page



(Have you got a favourite joke or riddle? If you email it to me we'll print it on this page—see if you can make our neighbours laugh!) preeyaatthecourier@hotmail.com



Knock-knock Who's there? Roach Roach who?

Roach you a letter. Didn't you get it?

Knock-knock Who's there? Dishes Dishes who?

Dishes a nice place you've got here!

Will you remember me in one minute?
Yes
Knock-knock
Who's there?
Hey! You didn't remember me!



#### Riddles

A house has 4 walls. All of the walls are facing south, and a bear is circling the house. What color is the bear?

The house is on the North Poll, so the bear is white

What is at the end of a rainbow? The letter W

What starts with the letter "t", is filled with "t" and ends in "t"?

A teapot

A girl is sitting in a house at night that has no lights on at all. There is no lamp, no candle, nothing. Yet she is reading. How?

She is blind and is reading braille

Spot the deliberate mistake Answer 'poll' should be pole





## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

A free community service just let the Editor know.



SUDBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE—invite you to join us at a QUIZ EVENING on Thurs 10th May, 7.15pm £6 per person and at a TEA PARTY (with live music) on Weds 16th May 1.30 to 3.30pm £7 per person. Please phone Katia on 020 8908 1220 to confirm booking.

HARROW PHILHARMONIC CHOIR—will be hosting a CHORAL WORKSHOP on Sat 12 May, (1:30pm for registration, 4:30-4:45pm for informal concert), at Wealdstone Methodist Church, Locket Road, Wealdstone HA3 7ND. This is a learning workshop, helpful for singers and hugely enjoyable. £10. We are currently rehearsing at Victoria Hall, Sheepcote Road Harrow, the Gilbert & Sullivan's Pirates of Penzance for our June concert.

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SPIRE CAFE - 3rd Saturday of every month 10am-3pm - Pop-Up Cafe. Climb Harrow's landmark hill for home cooked brunches, snacks and treats. In aid of St Mary's roof appeal. Check out the menu at www.tinvurl/spirecafe. Nick 07771 595 883

BADMINTON - every Thursday 8-10pm in a local school, Sudbury Court Badminton Club welcomes League level/good club players. Contact Arvin 07748 642706, Alkesh 07956 453734 or Trevor 07771 998729

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### 10th May 2018

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