



Eastcote Park Estate Association

<http://www.eastcoteparkestate.org.uk>

Newsletter– July/August 2020

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

I do hope that during these very difficult times you and your families have been able to stay safe and well. I am fully, and sadly, aware that some residents have been severely affected by Covid 19 and I do share your grief.

Fortunately these sad times have been counter balanced, to a certain extent, by some fabulous weather which has enabled the Estate to shine to both residents and the many more walkers that we have had recently. We are also exceptionally lucky to have some wonderful open spaces around us to take our exercise in and I am so grateful to the volunteer members of Friends of Eastcote House Gardens who have kept weeding, cutting back, pruning and watering to make the gardens look so wonderful.

Sadly we were unable to hold an AGM this year, nor could we hold an Easter Egg Hunt. It is not clear whether we can go ahead with our Autumn Quiz night but your Committee will be reviewing this over the next few months. I am hopeful that we will be able to revert to a full programme next year but we will know more about that in due course.

You will be pleased to know that Ram Seth is continuing with his "Community Matters" estate video project which has inevitably been delayed over the last few months. There is more on this on page 4 of this newsletter.

I look forward to meeting you all again but in the meantime please stay safe.

FRONT GARDEN COMPETITION

Front Gardens will be judged again this year. Judging will take place during July and August. Not everyone can be a winner but thanks to all those who make our estate so good to walk around. We hope to be able to circulate certificates to the 10 winners in the Autumn.

SUMMERTIME SECURITY

Summer seems to have been with us a while already this year but please continue be vigilant with your home security. For example whilst you are enjoying that barbecue in your back garden do ensure that your front door and windows are securely locked – it only takes a moment for that opportunist thief to take advantage of lax security.

EPEA 65+ GROUP

Our group for EPEA members is not meeting at the moment. We will spring back into action when circumstances allow.

Newsletter Sponsor

Bennett Holmes

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

With the continued coronavirus situation we have decided it would not be appropriate to ask our road stewards to call on those who have yet to pay. We thank the 86 homes (one third of the total) who have already paid.

Should you not yet have paid then payment can be made by cheque, payable to: Eastcote Park Estate Association. This can be delivered to the Treasurer at: 33 St. Lawrence Drive. Alternatively you can pay by bank transfer as below.

Bank transfer payments

Should you wish to pay by bank transfer the Eastcote Park Estate Association bank details are:

See circulated hard copy for details

Please ensure you advise your address with your payment. It is the treasurer's nightmare to have amounts credited to our bank account with insufficient details making it impossible to know who has paid and who has not.

Please check bank details to the hard copy of the newsletter delivered to your door to ensure emailed or internet copies are not corrupted and mistakes are not made.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Please contact Chris Head: [Email redacted](#) to be added to his confidential circulation list of Neighbourhood Watch and other estate issues.

The police contacts for Eastcote are:
Eascote.Ruislip.snt@met.police.uk
020 8721 2548 or Twitter @MPSEastcoteXH

There was an attempted break in on 15th April in St Lawrence drive. This was unsuccessful but emphasises the need to ensure your doors are securely locked and bolted.

A catalytic converter was stolen from a car in Pamela Gardens on 29th May.



AUTUMN PLANTING

Marg Bacon has led our planting of spring bulbs on our entrance island for many years and we thank her and the many who have assisted her in planting over those years.

The committee will not be planting bulbs this year. However should any residents wish to form a small group to plant bulbs on any of the grassy islands of our estate the committee will provide them with bulbs to plant. Should you be interested in doing some island planting then please let one of the committee know in advance so we can ensure there is no duplication and then provide you with the bulbs.

The relevant islands are:

1. At the junction of St Lawrence Drive and Rodney Gardens around numbers 51 to 61.
2. In Rodney Gardens between numbers 47 to 47 and 66 to 68.
3. In Rodney Gardens between numbers 39 to 41 and 50 to 60.
4. At the junction of Rodney and Burwood by 9 Rodney and 47 Burwood.
5. In Burwood Avenue between numbers 40 to 42 and 27 to 37.
6. In Burwood Avenue between numbers 7 to 9 and 14 to 22.
7. The main entrance island at the junction of St Lawrence Dr. and Bridle Road.
8. At the junction of St Lawrence and The Glen (The oak tree island).

The junction of Pamela Gardens and Field End Road is excluded due to fast moving adjacent traffic.

It is still a few months away from planting time which will be in October/November but it seems certain that it will still be relevant to ensure social distancing is observed as well as care to avoid any traffic. Good luck and thanks to all who volunteer.

MESSAGE FROM FEHG (The Friends of Eastcote House Gardens)

Web site:

www.eastcotehousegardens.weebly.com

Currently all events are cancelled until the circumstances change.

Formal gardening 'sessions' have not been possible but some individual volunteers have been going in with their own tools at a time of their choosing to keep on top of the weeding and keeping the gardens from deteriorating.

Formal Volunteer gardening sessions will resume as soon as circumstances allow.

DYING TREES

At the end of June we made Hillingdon Council aware of, what appear to be, several dying trees on the roundabout and central island at the top end of St Lawrence Drive. They agreed to send inspectors within 6 weeks.

EASTCOTE ON THE WEB

From : <http://hidden-london.com/gazetteer/eastcote/>

Eastcote's name, which dates from the 13th century or earlier, means 'eastern cottages'; Ruislip at one time had a Southcote and a Westcote as well. During the Middle Ages the forest was cleared for arable farming and cattle grazing.

Eastcote House was the home of the Hawtrey family and their descendants from about 1532 to 1880. Oliver Cromwell supposedly stayed at the house and billeted his troops here during the Civil War.

Alice, Countess of Derby, built the grander Haydon Hall around 1630, conceivably as a place to keep her possessions out of the reach of her corrupt son-in-law. Subsequently rebuilt and then extended, the hall was acquired in 1805 by Dr Adam Clarke, an eminent Methodist theologian.

2020 AGM—FINANCIAL REPORT

As announced in our March/April newsletter we are not having an AGM this year due to the pandemic. The treasurer, therefore, reports here on the 2019 finances:

Starting with welfare; £629.60 donations were collected. This is close to our record in 2013 of £631.85. £620.60 was donated to the Acorn Youth club with the residual £9.00 to be paid in 2020. Membership was 226 (a high 89% of the 254 homes on the estate). This gave an income of £678.00.

Thanks to all our 16 Road Stewards and to Chris Head for collecting subscriptions and welfare donations. Again nearly two thirds of total subscriptions were from their collections. 26 people paid by bank transfer compared to 13 for 2018.

The major items of expenditure were:

- Public liability insurance of £142.51 (2018: £142.51). The committee could not arrange events without this insurance.

-The Road Steward's/Committee supper of £233.39 (2018: £181.41). We have 16 road stewards and 10 committee members and two auditors who are invited to the event. If anyone is interested in being a road steward do let a Martin Hand know.

The contribution to the 65+ group was £8.98 (2018: £94.57). The group was effectively at break even for the year. Excluding theatre trips the group had income and expenditure of over £1,500.00 for 2019. More details of the 65+ finances are available from the treasurer for any EPEA member who would like to see them.

The Easter Egg hunt took place and broke even.

The fish and chip quiz made a surplus of £154.55 (2018: £37.87 loss).

The overall surplus for the year was £140.09 (2018: £76.10) with the closing fund being £3,717.78. This continues to provide us with a fund to be able to consider suggested projects for the benefit of the estate and provides an appropriate reserve.

Thanks go to Audrey Harrington and Arthur Wilson who have audited the accounts again.

Thanks also go to Bennett Holmes for sponsoring the newsletter which saves a considerable amount of money and enables circulation of full colour newsletters.

Estate Video — "Community Matters"

As with just about everything, social distancing for Covid 19 has got in the way of progress on the finalisation of our "Community Matters" estate video. However Ram Seth has made good progress and probably has all the necessary material "in the can". We are working on the best way for the committee to review and give feed back to Ram to assist him in the editing process.

Bearing in mind our planned main method of making the video available for free to all residents is through our private You Tube channel we are still hopeful of getting it out this year and Ram is working towards that. However, I am sure you will all bear with us if it slips into 2021. We have to thank Ram for all the work he has done so far and his efforts to complete the project at this difficult time.

In order to progress things a little quicker Ram would appreciate some help from anyone who has knowledge and experience of "imovie" editing software to help him finalise the film. Should anyone on the estate have appropriate knowledge and be happy to volunteer to help out please contact any member of the committee and we will put you in contact with Ram.

The EPEA Committee members

are:

Gerry Edwards (Chairman)

Richard Maude (Secretary)

Martin Hand (Treasurer and member of 65+ sub committee)

Marg Bacon (Member of 65+ sub committee)

Ash Dhir

Chris Head (also a neighbourhood watch coordinator)

Mark Lemon

Margaret Ross (Member of 65+ sub committee)

Peter Ryder

Sam Wren (Webmaster)

To contact the committee on general EPEA matters we suggest you email: webmaster@eastcoteparkestate.org.uk

Message from our newsletter sponsor

BENNETT HOLMES

Having sponsored the Association's newsletter since 2008 we are keen to assist you in the sale or letting of your property and would welcome the opportunity to discuss any of your property needs.

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Bennett Holmes won The 2019 British Property Award for Pinner. Their team performed outstandingly throughout the extensive judging period, which focused on customer service levels.

