



Eastcote Park Estate Association

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

Newsletter– JANUARY 2018

SUBSCRIPTIONS

We are pleased to say that for 2017 we, again, had a high level of membership from our 254 homes (89%).

2018 Subscriptions are now due and remain at £3.00 for each residence.

We encourage residents to add a donation to our welfare fund (see page 6 for details of the 2018 charity) when paying their subscriptions. In recent years donations have averaged a similar amount to the subscriptions but are totally at your discretion. We encourage you to make an early payment either :

By cheque, payable to:

Eastcote Park Estate Association or by bank transfer. See more details on page 2.

Please ensure you advise your address with your payment particularly for a bank transfer.

Any cheques should be delivered or posted to the treasurer, Martin Hand, at 33 St Lawrence Drive. Early payment will reduce the burden of collection on our road stewards. Lists of payment received to date will be circulated to Road Stewards on 16th March 2018. The Road stewards will then call on those who have not already paid. Please remember that you need to have paid your subscriptions before our Annual General Meeting in order to participate in the meeting. Should you miss the Road Steward's visit, a note will be left requesting a payment to the treasurer. It is also likely that Chris Head will be good enough to call on those who have not paid around November 2018 so everyone should have the opportunity to belong.

2017 TOP TEN BEST FRONT GARDEN

It was agreed at our 2016 AGM that awards should be made for the best gardens on the estate irrespective of which road they were in.

The 2017 winners are:

- 7 Pamela Gardens
- 7 The Glen
- 8 St. Lawrence Drive
- 12 St. Lawrence Drive
- 20 St. Lawrence Drive
- 47 St. Lawrence Drive
- 15 Burwood Avenue
- 47 Burwood Avenue
- 14 Rodney Gardens
- 5 Robarts Close

Congratulations and thanks go to the winners. Certificates were issued during September and October 2017. Not everyone can be a winner but thanks to all those who work to make our front gardens such an attraction on our estate.

NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

Bennett Holmes

**28 – 30 High Street, Pinner
Middlesex, HA5 5PW**

Phone: 0208 866 0127



Road Stewards

Thanks go to all our road stewards who distribute the newsletters, any event flyers and collect subscriptions. The road stewards are:

Bridle Road 1 to 23 odd numbers.

Margaret Bacon (7 Pamela Gardens)

Burwood Avenue 4 to 32 even numbers

Hilary Prevost (8 Burwood Avenue)

Burwood Avenue 25 to 47 odd numbers plus 17

Jan Williamson (17 Burwood Avenue)

Burwood Avenue 34 to 58 even numbers

Mike Williamson (17 Burwood Avenue)

Burwood Avenue 1 to 23 odd numbers except 17 plus 2

Pearlita Seth (5 Burwood Avenue)

Dovecot 1 to 11

Helen Theos (41 Rodney Gardens)

Field End Road 1 to 9, 23, 25, 33 to 43 odd numbers. and Park Farm Close

Vikin Bhatia (2 Burwood Avenue)

The Glen 1 to 22.

Bob Reille (11 The Glen)

Pamela Gardens—all numbers

Celia Reece (5 Pamela Gardens)

Rodney Gardens 42 to 80 even numbers

Fred Harrington (44 Burwood Avenue)

Rodney Gardens 2 to 40 even numbers

Jackie Turnpenny (12 The Glen)

Rodney Gardens 1-27 odd numbers

Sheila Welch (3 St. Lawrence Drive)

Rodney Gardens 29 to 55 odd numbers

Lynne Greenstreet (35 Rodney Gardens)

Robarts Close 1 to 7

Otfried Droese (2 Robarts Close)

St. Lawrence Drive 1 to 61 odd numbers

Richard White (39 St. Lawrence Drive)

St. Lawrence Drive 2 to 38 even numbers

Rosemary Ryder (16 St. Lawrence Drive)

Please welcome our road stewards if they call on you as they are doing a stalwart voluntary job for the good of the estate.

Subscription payments

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

Bank: Santander

Account name : Eastcote Park Estate Association

Sort code: 09-01-27

Account: 35802257

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.

Should you wish to pay by cheque please make the cheque payable to:

Eastcote Park Estate Association.

Please ensure you advise your address with your payment particularly for a bank transfer. 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.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION

The Christmas decorations on the estate were judged again in December. The results are:

1st place. 28 Rodney Gardens

2nd place. 24 Rodney Gardens

3rd place. 46 Burwood Avenue

4th place. 8 St Lawrence Drive

Well done all of these homes and everyone else who made the estate sparkle around Christmas.

Message from The Friends Of Eastcote House Gardens (FEHG)

Web site:

www.eastcotehousegardens.weebly.com

For London in Bloom 2017 EHG was awarded: Gold and category winner for Park of the Year; Gold for the Walled Garden; FEHG were awarded Gold in the Our Community Category and Level 5 – Outstanding [equivalent to Gold] for “It’s Your Neighbourhood”. Long Meadow also received Gold for Conservation.

Gardening Sessions continue on 1st & 2nd Fridays plus the 3rd and 4th Thursday of each month starting at 9.30am. Tools, Refreshments and good company provided. No experience necessary.

Provisional diary dates for 2018 are:

Second-Hand Book Sale - Saturday 24.2.18

S/H Book & Plant Sale - Saturday 21.4.18

We remind you that the Gardens Cafe is open Monday to Saturday 8.30 - 4.00 and Sunday 10.00 - 4.00

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



Between mid-day 4.9.17 and 5pm. 5.9.17 a Satellite Navigation system and a small purse, with a front door key, were stolen from a car in Rodney Gardens.

A car was stole from a driveway in St. Lawrence Drive during the early hours of Saturday 30.9.17.

A car was broken in to between the hours of 11 pm and 5am 10.10.17 in Rodney Gardens. It is likely that access was gained by using a mobile device that can bypass the vehicle security system .

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (continued)

A car was broken in to between 18:00 and 19:55 on the evening of 18.10.17. This time the passenger window was smashed and a handbag taken from the foot well. Fortunately no house or car keys were taken. The car was parked outside a house on the corner of Burwood Avenue and St Lawrence Drive.

A car was broken into on Wednesday, 24.10.17 on a driveway in Burwood Avenue. This was overnight from a car which was locked. In the morning the doors were open, wing mirrors out and glove box open.

Please ensure you leave nothing in the car at any-time, even a coat or bag of rubbish as these may look to contain something worth stealing. Be extra vigilant during darker evenings preferably leaving lights on in the house at dusk and check that access to back gardens are secure.

An additional item on car security is on page 4.

How to shop online safely:

Check the web address: Always check you're on the correct website. Criminals can set up fake websites that have a similar design and web address to the genuine site.

Is it a secure connection?: Web pages you enter personal or financial details into should display a locked padlock sign and have a web address that starts with https. This means your connection to the website is secure.

Phishing: Don't click on links or attachments within unsolicited emails. The number of online shopping related phishing emails increases significantly during a holiday period.

Bank transfers: Don't pay for goods or services by bank transfer unless you know and trust the person. Payments via bank transfer offer you no protection if you become a victim of fraud.

Easter Egg Hunt

The 2018 Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Easter Sunday as usual.



Chris Head will be organising the event this year. We would appreciate others coming forward to assist. Should you be able to help out please contact Chris. All help will be gratefully received to ensure this ever popular event continues.

Planned date and time:

SUNDAY 1st April 2018 at : 2.30pm

PLACE: EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDENS IN FRONT OF THE STABLES BUILDING.

Please contact Chris Head (0771 457 3269) during March if you would like a ticket to participate in the egg hunt or would like to assist.

PAVEMENTS

Following an extensive item in the July 2017 newsletter we remind residents that it is all our responsibility to ensure visitors, contractors and delivery vehicles are not parked on the pavement. Should damage be incurred by your contractors or yourself you could end up with the bill.

Should you wish to report pavement parking call parking control on **01895 271418**. We encourage you to do so to protect the pavements on our estate.

We believe the Council will be replacing other pavements on the estate at one road per financial year. It is incumbent on all of us to try and look after them

Eastcote Residents Association (ERA)

Website : <http://eastcotera.co.uk/>

We remind residents that the ERA is a separate association to the Eastcote Park Estate Association (EPEA). Some confusion has arisen in prior years when the ERA has been collecting subscriptions at the same time as the EPEA. There is a link to the ERA website on our website but the ERA deals with wider issues affecting Eastcote generally rather than focusing on issues on our estate. Subscription to the ERA is £2.00. They do not organise social events.

Car security

As an addendum to the neighbourhood watch items on page 3 we note some information on car security. The estate has had generally low crime in 2017 but there continued to be car crimes and car theft. According to RAC data 85,688 cars have been reported as stolen in the UK, in a recent 12 month period, up 30% on 2013.

Many of the more recent thefts are due to gangs using locking jammers and relay boxes (high-tech car theft devices). Locking jammers block the signal coming from the key when the driver locks the door. This means that the car remains unlocked, making it easy for the thieves to enter the vehicle. Relay boxes scan homes for key signals. They then transmit these to another box close to the car. The result is that the car responds as though the key is unlocking it. These relay boxes can transmit signals through walls, windows and doors. As only 4% of drivers keep their keys in a metal box, according to research by Tracker, this leaves 96% of motorists susceptible to vehicle theft. Only by using a metal box can vehicle owners block the signal. Tracker found that 25% of drivers leave their car key in the hallway, while another 25% have a dedicated area for them elsewhere in the house. However, as signals can be transmitted from 30 metres away, neither of these is a safe option. Keeping your car key in a metal box or using a signal blocking pouch (which can be bought from as little at £4.99) are the best ways to protect your vehicle. Popping them in the microwave (when it's turned off!) or fridge is also effective. Car security company Disklock has stated that sales of its steering wheel locking devices have doubled in the past year. **Drivers are increasingly turning back to low-tech and visible security measures in order to protect their cars from technologically advanced thieves.**

EPEA "65 +" Group for EPEA members

Our inaugural meeting was held on 26th October 2017 with further monthly meetings on 30th November 2017 and 4th January 2018. Meetings have been well attended with approximately 20 attendees. We are planning for a variety of activities in the future including a viewing of the 1997 estate video, beetle drive, board games, Burns night and guest speakers. The EPEA funded initial meeting room hire and refreshments but a £500.00 priming payment has been received from Hillingdon Council which has been used to cover monthly meeting room hire up to October 2018. Many thanks go to our local Councillor, Nick Denys, for achieving this funding for us. Should you be interested in joining the group and attending our monthly meetings please contact Martin Hand (see page 6 for contact details) for further information. A picture from our inaugural meeting is below.



Conservation area issues

In the April 2012, January 2013 and October 2015 newsletters we reminded residents that our estate is a conservation area. It seems time to do so again. Conservation area status is a positive for the image of the estate but carries with it the burden that planning permission is required for many things that would not otherwise be required. This includes any changes to windows, new porches, solar panels and pretty much any building works. Should you be contemplating any external works it would be wise to check with Hillingdon Council's planning department as to whether permission is required in this conservation area. Checking before any work is done could avoid problems with planning after you have incurred the expenditure which could be a very costly experience.

A full list of the conservation area requirements was included in our January 2013 newsletter and is now also available : <http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/29778/Conservation-areas>

Residents should in particular note that failing to note the following can result in £20,000 fines: Trees and other landscape features may contribute to the special character of a conservation area. There is a requirement to give six weeks notice (a 'Section 211 notice') to the council for proposals to prune, lop or fell a tree in a Conservation Area. This allows time for the council to make a Tree Preservation Order if considered to be appropriate.

The following tree work is exempt from the need to notify the council:

- Dead, dying or dangerous trees - five days notice of the works should still be given, unless it is an emergency
- Work on trees with a trunk less than 75mm in diameter. Work to a tree less than 100mm in diameter where the works will improve the growth of other trees.

Welfare Fund — charitable donations

EPEA Members contributed £577.45 to our welfare fund in 2017. This amount plus £11.00 brought forward from the prior year less £6.00 collected in December 2017 was paid to The Acorn Youth Club in the sum of £582.45. Thanks have been received for the donation. Our fund will go to The Acorn Youth club again for 2018.

Annual General Meeting

This will be covered further in our April newsletter but the planned date is **Wednesday 16th May 2018** at 7.30 pm in the Elsie Fischer room at the rear of the car park to St. Lawrence Church.

Welcome Letter

We like to ensure that new residents see our welcome letter. A version is available on our website in the "About EPEA" section but please contact any member of the committee for a printed copy if you would like one.

Graffiti

Should you find Graffiti on the estate this should normally be reported to the council. However if removal can be effected within 24 hours this can often be done more effectively. Should you think there is the possibility of removal within 24 hours please contact Mark Lemon as he has a council approved kit to remove graffiti.

Road Stewards

We currently have 16 road stewards which is a sufficient number. However We would like to be prepared for the future so would appreciate it if anyone who would be interested in helping out in the future would let Martin Hand know.

The EPEA Committee members are:

Gerry Edwards (Chairman)

Richard Maude (Secretary)

Martin Hand (Treasurer)

Marg Bacon

Mark Lemon

Chris Head

Sam Wren

Margaret Ross

Peter Ryder

Ash Dhir

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.

Pinner Sales and Lettings :

28-30 High Street

Pinner

Middlesex

HA5 5PW

Sales: 020 8866 0127

Lettings: 020 8866 7222

Email: pinner@bennettholmes.com

