



# The Bush Telegraph

The quarterly newsletter of The Bushwood Area Residents Association

## From the Chair

In the last edition we reported the resolution of the Council's Environment Committee to overturn an earlier decision to designate 60-78 Bushwood as an Area of Special Character (ASC). In December, BARA saw the first signs of what turned out to be an overwhelmingly large response against the resolution. During subscription collections on Bushwood many of you took the opportunity to articulate your views on the matter. Almost every household expressed disappointment and a considerable number were disgusted.

On a separate issue, we had an even larger reaction to the decision to tarmac the pavements on Bushwood (the road). Many BARA members and their families use the road for pleasant strolls and were extremely sad to see the paving slabs go, as they complemented the forest on the other side. People felt enough was enough and two Bushwood residents decided to raise a petition against both proposals.

I am happy to report that this was supported by about 95% of the households in the road. Many of you will have seen the press coverage during this period on the progress of the campaign. However, as far as we know

the *Yellow Advertiser* front-page article was inaccurate in implying that money would need to be made available for the preservation of the entire houses. We have been led to believe that the designation would have had minimal cost implications for the Council. The petition was handed to the Mayor in late January and we have not heard anything since on the outcome!

Over the next three months we are planning three events where you will have an opportunity to participate and meet committee members. The first, the Quiz Night, takes place this month, followed by the Litter Pick and the Plant & Garden Sale. I hope you can take the time to support these events, and bring along friends and neighbours.

I would like to welcome Judith Aldridge on board as our new committee member. We still have a few vacancies and would welcome further additions.

◆BARA has an e-mail address. Our chairman and committee members can be reached on:

[BARA@level.globalnet.co.uk](mailto:BARA@level.globalnet.co.uk)

### STOP PRESS - Michael's garages

LAST November the Council told us that some of their Michael Road and Harvey Road garages were now available to rent, as we reported in our December issue.

◆◆On going to press we learn that Michael Road's garages were sold on 5 March to a private buyer with no development conditions attached, although Council planners had recommended inclusion of a non-redevelopment covenant in the auction. However the Council's Planning Director holds that the site is incapable of redevelopment, and the new owner specialises in buying and managing garage courts. Harvey Road's garages are still Council property; there are no plans to sell them.◆◆

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single people - £1.00

Households - £2.00

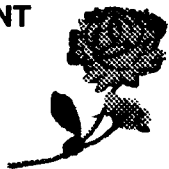
### ATTENTION ALL GARDENERS!

**DON'T MISS BARA'S 1999 PLANT AND GARDEN SALE**

**SATURDAY MORNING 22 MAY**

In the

**RED LION PUB GARDEN**  
(entrance in Harvey Road)



Interested in bringing plants and garden items to raise funds for yourself? Or, as many did last year, for your favourite charity? ☎ Jo: 530 3569 (ansaphone if no one available).

Donations of indoor and outdoor seedlings, rooted cuttings, pots, garden tools, books and any other gardening items for the BARA stall will be very welcome. Please ☎ Jo: 530 3569 or Marlon: ☎ 556 6623.

The 1998 Plant & Garden Sale raised over £300 for BARA and other good causes. Let's do even better this year!

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS ON OUR FUN

## QUIZ NIGHT

STARTS 7.30pm on SATURDAY 20 MARCH

upstairs at

**THE SHEEPWALK PUB**  
(corner of Aylmer Road)

**FIRST PRIZE £30 IN VOUCHERS**

ALL BARA MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS ARE WELCOME

COME ALONG ON YOUR OWN OR WITH YOUR FRIENDS, OR BRING A WHOLE TEAM OF SIX PEOPLE (team leader must be a BARA member)

ENTRY FEE £1 PER PERSON

**FOR MORE DETAILS and TO BOOK SEATS**

☎ JO: 530 3569

## WRITE ON!

THE COLUMN FOR BARA MEMBERS

Do you have news or views that you'd like to share with other BARA members? Please contact Marion (☎ 556 6623) with items for publication.

IF YOU want to work for the environment, why not join the *Epping Forest Conservation Volunteers*? For details of activities ☎ Diane or Keith Meakin: 500 2095.

◆ *Members' personal advertisements are inserted free of charge in this column - lineage only (as below).*

FOR SALE in aid of BARA - three-part wooden ladder. Only £10. Good condition but too heavy for us now we're middle-aged! ☎ 530 4768.

FREE to a good home. Second-hand paperbacks - whodunnits, thud 'n' blunders, ripping yarns. Suitable for car boot sales, charity stalls etc. ☎ 556 6623.

HALLS for hire at the Quaker Meeting House, Bush Road, for social and charity events. For details and rental fees ☎ Zheng Ping or Mark Rasmussen (Wardens): 989 4511.

WANTED for local boys' school. Educational videos - eg science, nature, sport, health, English, etc, and classic film videos (classification up to '16' only). Norlington School would be most grateful for your gift. Also fiction/non-fiction books for boys 11-16 years would be much appreciated. Please ☎ Hilda: 530 3376 to arrange pick-up. Many thanks!

## UPDATE - GRANLEIGH ROAD CLINIC

WE reported in the last issue that the Clinic would remain open while it housed the Healthworks Project. The *Red-bridge & Waltham Forest Health Authority* tell us that they still have no plans to move the project at present.

## Let's have your details for charity stamps

COLLECTING used UK postage stamps for charity? Want to reach a wider audience? Just contact Marion (☎ 556 6623) with your name, phone number and the kind of charity you collect for - eg children, cancer research, cats, dogs, etc.

We'll publish these details in the "Write On!" column, so that any residents interested in saving their used UK stamps for a particular type of charity can contact you direct with their collection.

### Committee members wanted

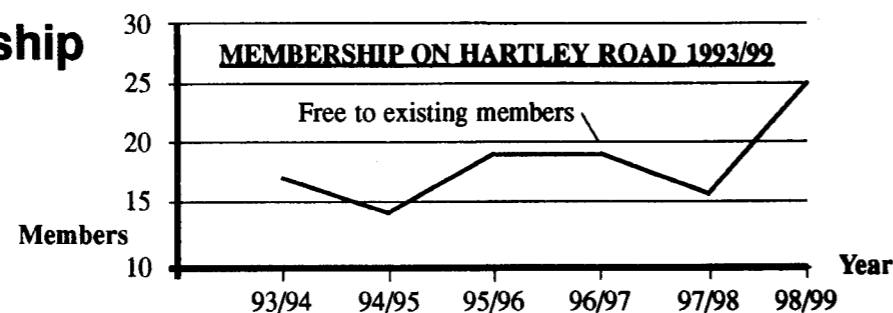
THE committee is very hard-pressed. We urgently need more members, and would value your active participation. More hands get more done. If there are no helpers then BARA will, regretfully, have to do less than at present.

◆ Please ☎ Parvez: 532 9847 if you'd like to help.

## Focus on membership

AS LAST year the committee has been out collecting subscriptions from those who have yet to pay. In many cases no one happened to be in and it has been necessary to re-visit. A very time-consuming process, you will agree. If you are interested in joining, we are still collecting for 1998/99 until June.

BARA continues to be popular and we are looking at ways to



increase the membership even further without the need for personal visits. We are pleased to note that Hartley

Road has shown a dramatic 55% increase on the year before. Many thanks to everyone for their support.

## WHAT'S ON

### THE CONSERVATORS OF EPPING FOREST

#### SUNDAY MORNING WALKS

Walks start at 10.30am and last about two hours. Please dress suitably for forest walking. *Well-behaved dogs welcome!*

◆ **11 April: Big View.** Leader: Jeremy Wisenfeld. Meet at Epping Forest Information Centre, High Beach

◆ **9 May: Through the Warren Plantation.** Leader: Ian Cox. Meet at the entrance gates to Copped Hall Park, off Crown Hill, Upshire.

#### EPPING FOREST LECTURE

◆ **Thursday 1 April: Essex Aisled Halls.** Speaker: John Walker. Starts 8pm in the Lecture Room at Epping Forest Field Centre. Cost £1.50, including tea/coffee.

For more details of walks and for lecture bookings please ☎ The Epping Forest Information Centre: 508 0028.

THE TEMPLE in Wanstead Park will again be open on selected Sundays throughout summer, from May onwards. For dates (not available at time of going to press) please ☎ 508 0028.

### FOUND: METALLIC GREEN BEETLE - RARE MODEL

SORRY, all you Volkswagen fans, this collector's item isn't for sale. You probably wouldn't want it anyway, as it's only about 6mm long.

It's the tiny bullet-shaped Jewel Beetle (*Agrilus sulcicollis*) - only the second ever recorded in this country. The Epping Forest Conservators were hunting for Gipsy Moth caterpillars in Waltham Forest woodlands when they discovered the iridescent little creature on an oak tree.

## Pick a peck of paper and Keep Bushwood Tidy

BARA's Spring Litter Pick will be held on **Sunday 25 April, between 11 am and 1 pm.** So come when you like, and leave when you must! We'll be litter-picking on Bushwood Flats and in nearby areas.

Polythene bags and picking-sticks will be provided at the corner of Leyspring Road and Bushwood, but you should wear gloves (ideally rubber) and stout



shoes or boots. Please cover any existing cuts to your hands etc with waterproof plasters. Our previous BARA litter-picks have been very well supported. We'll be most grateful if you can join in clearing up and improving the environment. Several residents have complained that "the litter in Bushwood is disgraceful." So, here's your chance to help!

## JDT SITE TO BE HOME TO NEW RESIDENTS

Council is planning for 34 homes and a car-park

REDEVELOPMENT plans for the John Drinkwater Tower site at the Green Man are moving ahead.

Residents have been given a chance to examine the site drawings for the proposed new housing for the third time; these were available from BARA.

The original proposals included a crescent-shaped block around Henry Reynolds Gardens. However, budget constraints and difficulties with foundations saw this idea transformed into two long blocks, set at an angle to each other. BARA objected to the flat plane roof-line, and this was altered.

A small low-rise block fronting Browning Road is also planned, and altogether the development is expected to contain 14 flats, 20 houses and a car-park which includes five spaces for Browning Road residents.

### Improvements

BARA and Leytonstone's Forum 2000 have been involved throughout the planning process. BARA recently contacted the Council's Planning & Economic Development Department with some suggested improvements to the latest plans:

◆ The Bush Road end of the long block next to the Gardens finishes in an unattractive high blank wall with a false chimney. This was submitted as the proposed impressive "Gateway to Leytonstone" building! We suggested various ideas, including a mural, as a way of livening up the bland wall.

◆ The low-rise block facing Browning Road is out of keeping with existing houses. We suggested a few added design features to give a more Victorian/Edwardian look.

BARA's representative at the Council's planning meeting last month was committee member Robert Gay.

He told *Bush Telegraph*: "The Planning Committee took up both our points for further consideration. They preferred the idea of a mural for the high blank wall, and they accepted that the low-rise block's proposed façade needed to be re-examined."

**Fresh Water Filter Co Ltd**  
Local Sales and Comprehensive Service  
**Drinking Water Systems and Softeners**  
Free Advice

Tel: 0181-558 7495/Fax: 0181-556 9270/E-mail: freshh2o@dircon.co.uk  
Office: Carlton House, Aylmer Road, Leytonstone, London E11 3AD

A report in the *Waltham Forest Guardian* seemed to imply that BARA had objected to the proposed "1960s-type" design of the whole development.

"Not true," said Robert. "Our objection to the design aspect concerned only the 1960s style of the low-rise block - and the Council's Planning Committee agreed with us!"

### Only five spaces

Robert added: "A resident of Browning Road objected to the fact that they had lost a 40-space car-park at the original site, and had gained only the five spaces allocated to non-residents in the new development's car-park.

"BARA agrees that there is a potential parking problem in Browning Road, and we have raised this with the Council over the last six years."

### Survey

BARA chairman Parvez Hussain commented: "Following a survey by the Council of Browning Road residents on parking requirements (the results of which BARA has not seen), it was decided to replace the John Drinkwater Tower car-park. It was felt that five spaces would be enough to fulfil Browning Road residents' needs.

"BARA has striven to get the planners to reconsider this allocation, but we have been unable to change the Council's mind - as in many other aspects of this development."

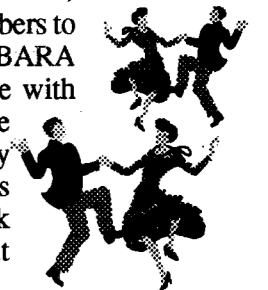
Party! Party! Party! Party! Party! Party! Party!

## The time to get ready is NOW!

NO PLANS yet for celebrating the Millennium? Would you prefer to attend a *local* get-together? (It's easier than trekking all the way over to Greenwich!)

If you'd like to help other members to organise a Millennium party in the BARA

area, just drop a note with your name and phone number through any committee member's door (see list on back page) and we'll put you in touch.



## ON THE SOCIAL SIDE

YOUR committee wants to organise more social events for spring and summer – ideas already proposed include a bring-and-buy and a boot sale. If you'd like to suggest a leisure activity, please ☎ Jo on 530 3569.

## DON'T BE A VICTIM!

COMMITTEE member Ruth Greene was BARA's representative at a series of seminars held recently by the Metropolitan Police. Ruth took part in the "Street Crime" workshop and picked up some useful tips. For example:

◆ Don't carry your shoulder-bag across your body – a mugger could dislocate your neck if he (or she) tries to snatch it.

◆ People are mugged for their briefcases and handbags – but rarely for a plastic carrier-bag. So use one to carry your important items to and from work.

A booklet circulated at the seminars, *London Borough of Waltham Forest Crime and Disorder Audit 1999*, gives a summary of the main findings of the crime audit recently conducted in Waltham Forest. This consultation document has been produced by the Metropolitan Police in conjunction with Waltham Forest Council and local bodies, and is the front-runner of their joint strategy for tackling crime and disorder.

## FORUM 2000 UPDATE

LEYTONSTONE'S *Forum 2000* was set up in October 1997. Its members are representatives of our local businesses and community groups, including BARA.

Some of the the Forum's successes to date include:

◆ The Council's forthcoming refurbishment of Leytonstone Underground subway.

◆ The Council's agreement to fund the upgrade to St John's Church floodlighting. We understand that the Council has altered its proposed lighting arrangements in response to the *Civic Society's* concern about lights directed upwards into the sky.

The Forum is still pressing the Council for :

◆ Extended opening hours for the Pioneer car-park toilets. These are supposed to serve passengers at the bus station, but they close about 7pm whereas the station's buses run nearly all night – which means "no place to go ..."

◆ Coverings to the bridges over the M11 Link Road. Left unenclosed they are an open invitation to vandalism.

◆ Free short-term parking for shoppers, particularly at the Church Lane end of the Town Centre; this will attract shoppers and help save the High Road's shops.

## Be a good neighbour!

BARA intends to ask the Council's Director of Highways to ensure that dustmen replace wheelie-bins where they find them in people's front gardens.

Leaving them in mid-path invites crime, as this tells local villains that the house is empty.

You can help, too. If you know your neighbours are away, why not pop next door and replace their wheelie-bin? They'll be glad of your thoughtfulness!

If you would like to join BARA then contact your nearest committee member. See front page for subscription rates.

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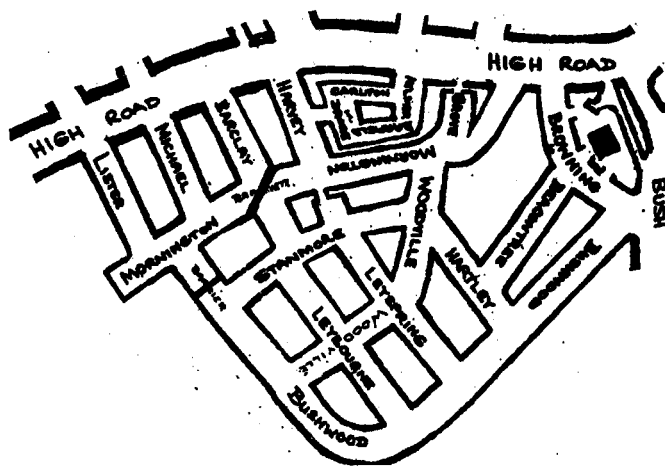
## News around Bushwood

**Green Man Interchange:** The surface roundabout, which is a replacement for the Green Man, is expected to be completed at the end of March. This will permanently replace the three temporary mini-roundabouts which have been in existence for the last two years. At the same time the pedestrian, equestrian and cycle underpass will be opened. Work on the Green Man Underpass is continuing, and is expected to be complete at the end of summer. The total cost of the Link Road is now estimated at £350m. BARA is expecting to hold a meeting with a representative from the Link Road Office in early summer, for an update.

**Tesco:** Construction will begin on a new supermarket on the Leytonstone House site later this summer. The store is likely to be open for business by spring 2000.

**Public Art:** By the time you read this newsletter the Leytonstone Plaza sculpture will have been unveiled. A BARA representative is expected to be in attendance along with other dignitaries. The £15,000 brick sculpture by Lodwyk Prator is supposed to represent buses which have run through Leytonstone ever since they were invented.

## THE BUSHWOOD AREA



## The BARA Committee 1998/99

|                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Alf Addison               | 179 Morningson Road        |
| Treasurer                 |                            |
| Judith Aldridge           | 35 Leyspring Road          |
| David Dowsett             | 74 Morningson Road         |
| Robert Gay                | 137 Morningson Road        |
| Ruth Greene               | 30 St. Augustine's Court   |
| Parvez Hussain            | 4A Bushwood                |
| Chairman                  |                            |
| Jo Pile                   | 57 Leybourne Road          |
| Membership Secretary      |                            |
| Marion Roper              | 35 Michael Road            |
| Bush Telegraph Production |                            |
| Dwight Wood               | Carlton House, Aylmer Road |
| Social Secretary          |                            |
| Vice-chair                |                            |

Vacant  
Vacant

6 July 1999  
Called on him  
with new  
leaflet ad.  
but still  
has gone to  
Madrid