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#### Affiliated Social Activities

Tennis Club Hon. Secs.: PHIL RYDER, (07958 360380). email: philip.ryder@blueyonder.co.uk

West Barnes Singers Hon. Sec.: PENELOPE PRENDERGAST, 35 Netley Gdns, SM4 6JW. (8648 3987)

Pisces Membership Co-ordinator: HARRY GREEN, 6 Thomas House, 20 Grange Road,

Sutton SM2 6RS. (020 8661 0205)

Raynes Park Bowling Club Hon. Sec.: J. GUINNARD, (07769 185297) email: jguinnard@hotmail.com

Merton Bowling Club Hon. Sec.: TINA SMITH, (07525 001496) email: tinasmith181@live.co.uk

Friends of Cannon Hill Common: CAROLYN HEATHCOTE, 166 Cherrywood Lane,

Morden, SM4 4HQ (8395 6416)

Friends of Sir Joseph Hood

Memorial Playing Field: CAROLINE VENTOM, 89 Marina Ave, New Malden, KT3 6NG.(8942 5605)

Pavilion Social Club Chairman: JILL TRUMAN, 8879 3525

Secretary:

Motspur Park Horticultural Society: DIANNE WALKER, 27 Marina Ave, Motspur Park, KT3 6NE.

email: dijohn2755@hotmail.com or motspurparkhorticulturalsoc@gmail.com

Paddock Horticultural Society: email: secretary@paddock-allotments.co.uk

Readers are reminded that the views in this magazine expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the Association.

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# CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT

#### **Planning Issues**

Merton Council is updating its Local Plan which is in Draft form and is now out for public comment. Responses are meant to be in by 6 January 2019. The details can be found at:

Future.Merton@merton.gov.uk

There are two sites of particular interest to local residents.

#### The Former LESSA Site

The first is the former "LESSA" private sports field bordered by Greenway, Westway, and Grand Drive. The Association fought a long battle to preserve this ground for sporting purposes, defeating a proposal by Barratts to build over 100 flats there. After that the land was eventually sold to Bellway Homes. Bellway succeeded, after a planning appeal, in getting permission to build the houses now known as Meadowview Road. A new tennis pavilion and courts were also constructed for the Raynes Park Residents' Lawn Tennis Club.

The remainder of the land was designated as Open Space and is protected as such.

The planning Inspector's report made clear that he expected this land to be used for sport, and the intention was that a pavilion would be built to facilitate this. It has remained unused since that time, and Bellway have not taken up invitations from the Association to discuss their future plans. Nor have they taken up several approaches from schools and sporting bodies who would like to use the site for outdoor sport.

Bellway has suggested to the planning officers that this site, now known as RP6, is potentially classifiable as suitable for a "Residential development of between 71 and 83 dwellings and sporting facilities". It is hard to escape the conclusion that this was always their aim in leaving the land vacant.

Fortunately, the Council appears to be sticking to the existing designation. Its proposed site allocation states that "Sporting or community use of the whole site will have to be demonstrated as undeliverable before any other uses can be considered".

This should open the door for schools and sports clubs who can make use of the land for outdoor sport, as the Inspector decided, to come forward with proposals, which Bellway will need to consider seriously.

#### **Membership Enquiries to**

Andrew Barwick (8543 0978) andrew@thebarwicks.com
The annual subscription of £3 includes a free monthly copy of "the
Guide" either hand delivered by one of our volunteers
or via email if out of area.

# 265 Burlington Road and Tesco Extra car park site

The second site fronts onto Burlington Road and proposes utilising that part of Tesco's Car Park adjacent to it, and the current office building at No. 265 Burlington Road.

**Redrow Homes PIc** have held public consultations on their proposals to develop this site for a very large number of flats in seven blocks up to a height of 14 storeys. You can read the full details in the comprehensive note later in this copy of The Guide.

A formal planning application is expected in early January, and we will be consulting widely. If the plans remain unchanged it is inevitable that the Residents' Association will be strenuously opposing them on

many grounds, including massive overdevelopment.

It is important to stress is that the many residents who will be badly affected by overlooking, extra traffic, and lack of community amenities for the new proposed occupiers, need to write and send in their own objections as well.

# A reflection on the turn of the year

In our December 90th Anniversary Edition, we printed two excellent articles by John Tarling entitled Building a Suburb and Rebuilding a Suburb. The second one set out the damage done locally during the Second World War. It mentions the V1 flying bombs which fell on Merton, and one that fell on Elm Walk on the night of 22nd/23rd July 1944.

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My parents lived in Elm Walk during the war, and my mother's sister and her two children lived further along Elm Walk and were killed by this bomb. It must have been devastating for my mother, but she never mentioned it, apart from when she visited the Gap Road cemetery where they are buried. She simply got on with bringing up her own four children.

Her generation seemed able to cope with the most enormous grief at the wholesale destruction and death all around them. I cannot help but contrast this with the anxiety now being expressed at something so trivial by comparison as to whether and how we leave the European Union, and at the so- called difficulties of modern life.

#### **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

We wish all our members and readers a very happy and peaceful New Year.

#### John Elvidge



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#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

# ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE AND OPEN MEETINGS 2019

#### January

Tuesday 8th Committee 8.00pm Pavilion

#### **February**

No meeting

#### March

Tuesday 12th Committee 8.00pm Pavilion

#### Anri

#### Wednesday 3rd AGM (Open Meeting)

7.30pm Raynes Park Library Meeting Rooms

#### Mav

Tuesday 7th Committee 8.00pm Pavilion

#### June

#### Wednesday 12th OPEN MEETING

7.30pm Blossom House School

#### July

#### Saturday 6th SUMMER SOCIAL

3.00pm Pavilion

Tursday 9th Committee 8.00pm Pavilion

#### **August**

No meeting

#### September

#### **Tuesday 10th OPEN MEETING**

7.30pm Pavilion

#### October

Tuesday 8th Committee 8.00pm Pavilion

#### November

Tuesday 12th Committee 8.00pm Pavilion

#### December

Saturday 14th Volunteers' Christmas Party Pavilion



#### **CLOSING DATE**

for all contributions and advertisements is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding publication.



# The Residents' Pavilion at 129 Grand Drive

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Managed by the Raynes Park & West Barnes Residents' Association

#### GUIDES BY POST SERVICE

If you live outside the Association's catchment area or have a friend or relative wishing to receive the Guide, postal subscriptions are available for £10 per year.

Please send a £10 cheque payable to RP&WBRA together with name and address to:

George Holder, 131 Grand Drive, SW20 9LY.

# 265 Burlington Road and Tesco Extra car Park site

In the October Guide last year Jill Truman and I set out the basic details of a large residential development scheme on a part of the Tesco car park site alongside Burlington Road. This was based on information provided at a Consultation Exhibition on 18th September mounted by BECG (Built Environment Communications Group) who are acting as agents for the housebuilder Redrow Homes PLC

BECG held a second consultation, again at the Holy Cross Church hall, Motspur Park, on 13th November last year but this time with slightly amended proposals.

#### The Scheme

As I write, (early December) the outline proposals envisage using the Eastern side of the Tesco car park (1.21 Hectares) which would be just under one quarter of the whole Tesco site area.

The Planning Application from Redrow (when submitted) will aim to provide 446 flats in seven blocks ranging from 14 storey on the side furthest from Burlington Road down to 7 storey on the side closer to Burlington Road.

The units would be made up as follows: 90 one bed flats (approx. 20% of the total); 290 two bed flats (64 %); and 66 three bed flats (16 %)

#### " Affordable " Housing

Taken overall it is claimed that 35% of the flats would pass the test of being regarded as "affordable" i.e. they would be social or subsidised housing either for sale or rental

at no more than 80% of the prevailing market-rate costs and prices.

It is quite often the case that developers tend (for obvious reasons) to offer the cheaper (mainly one bed) units to meet the social proportion. Currently, we are not aware how this will work out in practice, but the Planning Application will probably clarify this point.

#### **Car Parking**

The proposals include up to 220 car parking spaces and the current thinking is that these would be at the base of the flats i.e. as an 'undercroft' scheme. It is claimed that 575 car spaces will remain available for the Tesco store shoppers.

#### Site Access

One change to the original proposals is to provide up to 475 sq. meters. of commercial space at ground floor level in the blocks fronting Burlington Road. What type of business would be housed in these units is not known at present, but presumably Tesco would NOT want any competition quite so near their store!

Also, the earlier proposal was that the existing short access road leading from Burlington Road to the Tesco store would become **THE** vehicular access road for the residents of the new flats, but no longer for vehicle access to the Tesco store, although pedestrian access from Burlington Road was to be maintained.

This idea appears to have changed so that vehicle access from Burlington Road would be available for **BOTH** the new residents and shoppers going to Tesco. In short for Tesco shoppers no change to the present (unofficial) arrangement. At first sight this strikes us as far from being

an ideal arrangement, given the single proposed vehicle access, the volume of traffic in Burlington Road even now, and the proximity of the level crossing, Surely the congestion would become even worse. However, it is still 'early days.

#### **High Rise Development**

Anybody familiar with this part of West Barnes will know that it is characterised by inter-war mostly two-storey suburban housing, apart from Raynes Park High School to the North. We leave you to contemplate what it would be like for those residents having to live in the shadow of blocks of flats up to 14-storeys in height.

There is currently great concern about possible flats at this sort of height along Wimbledon Broadway; but is at least that area has a Town Centre designation. Tesco car park certainly has not!

#### The Local Plan

Merton Council now has a New Local Plan out for consultation. This may be seen at: <a href="www.merton.gov.uk/newlocalplan">www.merton.gov.uk/newlocalplan</a>. At present, this document is only a draft, and it is hoped that this will replace two other Planning Guidance documents sometime during 2020. Within this bulky document are Site Proposals for many areas of the borough including several for Raynes Park.

One of these is site RP3 (page 158) named as Burlington Road -Tesco. The map provided (which is intended to show the area potentially suitable for development) shows **the ENTIRE Tesco site**, store, car parking, petrol station, redundant offices in the NE corner: all 5.2 hectares of it. However, the proposals from Redrow relate only to a quarter of the site alongside Burlington Road.

On the face of it, there is an anomaly here. The Council preference appears to be redevelopment of the whole of the site. but the proposals from Redrow - so far – are for only a part of it.

# **Greater London Authority - Office of the Mayor**

We should just mention that because of the large number of housing units involved, the Planning Application - when it is submitted - will have to be considered by the Mayor of London in the first instance. The Mayor and his planning staff have the option either to a) approve or refuse the application or b) leave the determination process entirely to Merton Council. This added layer can sometimes hold up the process of considering the application.

#### **The Local Press**

It is possible - but not certain - that by early January a Planning Application will have been submitted. At that stage there is a strong chance Redrow will seek some publicity in the local press quite apart from an entry in the back pages of the Newspaper under the heading Merton Council Town and Country Planning Act. Once the application has been formally submitted to Merton's Planners, the Association, and most importantly, individual members of the community can make their comments to the Planning Officers and Ward Councillors regarding these proposals.

#### DAVID FREEMAN





Raynes Park Residents' Association

#### **PAVILION SOCIAL CLUB**

The Pavilion Social Club is a social and activity club for residents in the area. The club was established in March 2014 and has been very successful, growing steadily in numbers. We hold weekly gettogethers for men and women. Our club offers an exciting programme of activities including occasional guest speakers, theatre trips, lunches and visits to places of interest in both London and the South East but our main focus is on developing and encouraging social links and also on enjoying friendships new and old. You will always receive a warm welcome!

#### INTERESTED?

Do join us on Thursday afternoons at THE PAVILION, 129 GRAND DRIVE, RAYNES PARK

(The old Raynes Park Residents'
Tennis Club)
from 2.00 to 4.00 p.m.
There is an annual membership fee of £5 and a weekly subscription of £2
to cover costs.

#### **EVERYONE WELCOME!**

Light refreshments are available with thanks to Waitrose - Raynes Park, and local residents for their generous donations through the Community Matters scheme

For more information please do not hesitate to contact

Jill Truman on 020 8879 3525

# News from Epsom & St. Helier NHS Trust

From the lifesaving to the routine, and featuring staff working behind the scenes and on the frontline of our NHS services – Epsom and St Helier have launched a new podcast (thought to be the first of its kind in the country), to help provide more of an insight into the experiences of patients and the diverse and specialised roles that our staff carry out.

The first podcast was released on 30th November and will be available on a monthly basis via the Trust's website at: <a href="https://www.epsom-sthelier.nhs.uk/podcast">www.epsom-sthelier.nhs.uk/podcast</a> and for download from your usual podcast provider – simply search for 'Your Epsom and St Helier.

The 'Your Epsom and St Helier' podcast is being produced by the Trust's Communications and Engagement Team and aims to provide a new platform for both patients and staff to share their stories with a wide audience.

The very first episode covers the story of Rob Glanville – a professional inline skater who suffered a life-changing brain injury while out skating and was subsequently cared for by the neuro-rehab team at St Helier. Rob is joined by one of the speech therapists who treated him – Sally Tan.

Rob gives his account of the very serious accident that he had in Hammersmith, which resulted in him suffering a sub-dural haematoma (bleed on the brain), while Sally tells us what it was like to treat Rob and how she and her team helped him to talk, swallow and walk again.

Director of Communications and Patient Experience, Lisa Thomson, said: "Our Trust is committed to showing members of the public what really happens in our hospitals – people's lives are being saved and changed for the better every single day in our hospitals, but sometimes those stories go unheard. This podcast aims to get these unheard stories out and available to a worldwide audience. This is a pioneering project within the NHS – we can't wait to have more people come on and share their stories with us – and we are very excited about its potential".

"While the focus of the podcast will be NHS services, staff and the patients we care for, the conversations – as with any good podcast – can be slightly unpredictable. So, while in this first episode you might learn a little about what it's like to suffer a brain injury and how NHS experts can help, you'll also hear why we think helmets are so important and why Lewis Hamilton is the best Formula One driver of the moment.





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# Wimbledon Guild and New Wimbledon Theatre Present: MERTON LIVE SATURDAY 26TH JANUARY 2019

Wimbledon Guild, the local charity that supports people across Merton, and New Wimbledon Theatre are holding a brandnew community event on **Saturday 26 January from 10am-5pm** to celebrate local talent in Merton.

Merton Live! will showcase a plethora of local bands, dance, drama and gymnastics groups with performances throughout the day at one of London's biggest theatres. In addition, the theatre will be throwing open its doors for ticketholders to explore this historic building with backstage tours and a host of theatre related activities for all the family including: workshops; dressing up in theatre costumes; face painting; insight to technical side of the theatre; arts and crafts; treasure hunt; food and drink, plus lots more.

Already confirmed to perform on the day are: DanceMode Mitcham; Merton Gymnastics Club; Rock Choir; RR6 Band; Rutlish School; The Study Wimbledon; Urban Dance City; Wimbledon High School; Wimbledon Stagecoach and Wimbledon Village School of Dance.

This family day out will help to raise

money to aid the vital work Wimbledon Guild does to support local people in Merton who are experiencing social isolation and loneliness.

Tickets for the event offer superb value at just £4.50 adults, £2.50 child and under 3's go free.

Merton Live! will be one of the charity's main fundraising events of 2019 and comes at a time when the charity is seeing an increase in the number of people seeking their support, as Wendy Pridmore, chief executive, explains:

We are delighted that through Merton Live! we will be able to showcase local talent and provide a feel-good winter warmer event on a cold and rainy January weekend.

However, New Wimbledon Theatre and Wimbledon Guild have also developed this event for a more serious reason. A recent Arts Council survey highlighted that over 76% of older people felt that cultural and creative activities were key to making them feel happy

Wendy Pridmore concludes: "I am sure Merton Live! will be a wonderful day out for all ages and I look forward to welcoming people from across the borough who will be entertained and impressed by the young talent we have on our doorstep."

Want an Ad? for details Dick Coleman 020 8949 7593

#### **LOCAL COUNCILLORS**

#### RAYNES PARK WARD

#### **Adam Bush**

c/o Merton Civic Centre 020 8545 3396 (Civic Centre) adam.bush@merton.gov.uk

#### **Omar Bush**

c/o Merton Civic Centre 020 8545 3396 (Civic Centre) omar.bush@merton.gov.uk

#### **Stephen Crowe**

1 Southdown Drive, Raynes Park, SW20 8EZ Mobile: 07931 650424 stephen.crowe@merton.gov.uk

#### WEST BARNES WARD

Eloise Bailey c/o Merton Civic Centre eloise.bailey@merton.gov.uk

Hina Bokhari c/o Merton Civic Centre hina.bokhari@merton.gov.uk

Carl Quilliam c/o Merton Civic Centre carl.quilliam@merton.gov.uk

Liberal Councillors may be contacted through their Civic Centre Office on 020 8545 4770

#### **CANNON HILL WARD**

#### Pauline Cowper

c/o Merton Civic Centre Mobile: 07811 595559 pauline.cowper@merton.gov.uk

#### Mark Kenny

15 Meadway, Raynes Park, SW20 9HY 020 8542 4768

#### mark.kenny@merton.gov.uk

#### Nick McLean

30 Monkleigh Road, Morden SM4 4EW 020 8542 4768

nick.mclean@merton.gov.uk

## New AstroTurf Hockey Pitch opens at Raynes Park High School



Raynes Park High School and the Wimbledon Club open new AstroTurf hockey pitch

Raynes Park High School in partnership with the Wimbledon Club has opened its new £500,000 AstroTurf hockey pitch. The new pitch is not only being used for school matches, but also elite hockey games. The Wimbledon Club funded the new pitch and is paying for its ongoing maintenance.

Kirsten Heard, Headteacher, Raynes Park High School, says: "We are pleased to have partnered with the Wimbledon Club on this fantastic project. Students are already using the pitch and the Wimbledon Club has held its first training session there. The AstroTurf hockey pitch is such a fantastic asset for the school and presents opportunities for students to improve their game and learn about the sport from the Wimbledon Club. As a BECSLink Community school, this initiative underlines our strategy to forge partnerships with the local community. It puts us on the map as a community school and garners interest in hockey."

Paul Knowles, Head of Junior Hockey, the Wimbledon Club, says "We're over the moon that the AstroTurf pitch is now open,

and our members have already been enjoying the new facility. Our partnership with Raynes Park High School secures the club's long-term future use of a world class pitch. With 20 international players and 10 Olympians, this is a much-needed facility for our elite players as well as our wider membership. The extended hours of use all year round provides the base for expanding our junior programme and enables us to inspire more local children to take part in the sport."

Crista Cullen, MBE, Olympic gold medal field hockey player and a member of the Wimbledon Club, says "As part of the women's Great Britain squad at the Rio Olympics, we agreed that our team's aim was to inspire the next generation. This impressive new pitch not only provides a much-needed world-class surface but is also a venue to inspire local children to enjoy the sport supported by our team of international players and coaches from Wimbledon."

Next year the Wimbledon Club will offer coaching to students at the school with the aim of developing their long-term love of the sport. The club has already been supporting the school by providing inspirational coaches and players to attend school events and donating new hockey sticks.

The AstroTurf pitch provides a new venue to expand the Wimbledon Club's schools outreach programme. The pitch is predominantly being used for hockey, although it can be used for other sports such as football using temporary football marks which can be brushed off.

The **Wimbledon Club**, founded in 1883, is one of the world's oldest hockey clubs. It is a section of the multi-sport Wimbledon

Club. Wimbledon is one of the largest and most successful hockey clubs in the country with both the men's and women's teams fielding multiple current Great Britain internationals. The club has also recently started working more widely in the community with a schools' outreach project, which to-date has bought hockey to 2,000 local Merton state school children.

http://www.thewimbledonclub.co.uk/hockey



#### **Andrea Hannan**

It is with very great sadness that we announce the sudden death of Andrea Hannan, Secretary of the Pavilion Club, early in December 2018

Andrea's funeral will take place on Tuesday 8th January 2019 at 11,00 a,m at St. Saviour's Church, Grand Drive, and afterwards at the North East Surrey Crematoriam, Lower Morden Lane, Morden.

We send
Our heartfelt condolences to
Andrea's beloved daughter
Josephine,
and all other members of her
devoted family.

# News from the Friends of West Barnes Library

(next to Motspur Park Station)



# Friends of West Barnes Library

#### Volunteers needed

Can you spare a couple of hours occasionally? West Barnes Library urgently needs more volunteers to help at a range of levels to assist staff. You could be helping keep the library open for the people of Motspur Park. Training will be given. For details and to apply, please ask at the counter.

The FoWBL Events team are looking for volunteers to organise events and to come up with some new ideas. If you are interested in helping please contact the Friends at mail@friendsowbl.org.uk or friendsowbl.org.uk

#### What's on?

Coming up at West Barnes Library
To reserve a place where required, talk
to staff, call 020 8274 5789 or email
westbarnes.library@merton.gov.uk.

#### **Book Club**

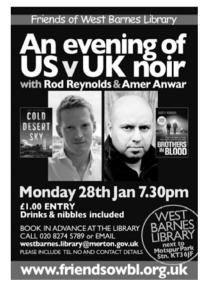
Thursday January 3rd 6pm

#### **Health Month at Merton Libraries**

Tuesday January 8th 10-4pm
Promoting health and wellbeing, stalls include:

- Health Watch
- Merton CII
- Home Instead
- Oral Health
- Action for Hearing Loss
- No booking required

**Author Event** – Friends of West Barnes Library are proud to present 'An evening of US v UK noir' with authors Rod Reynolds & Amer Anwar. See poster below.



The Friends of West Barnes Library are delighted to present a fascinating evening of Us v UK Noir when Rod Reynolds - who wrote Cold Desert Sky - and Amer Anwar the author of Brothers in Blood, come to West Barnes Library on **Monday January 28th at 7.30 pm**. Entry costs just £1 and includes drinks and nibbles.

Book in advance at the Library. Call 020 8274 5789 or email westbarnes.library@merton.gov.uk

To receive a monthly eNewsletter of events at West Barnes Library, write to mail@ friendsowbl.org.uk or sign up at www. friendsowbl.org.uk



RAYNES PARK LIBRARY NEWS

## Coming up at Raynes Park Library

To reserve a place where required, talk to staff, call 020 8274 5718 or email <a href="mailto:raynespark.library@merton.gov.uk">raynespark.library@merton.gov.uk</a>

#### WHAT'S ON

Prevista: Steps to Work Thursday's, fortnightly (12.30pm – 2.00pm). One-to-one sessions will be arranged to support Merton residents 19 years and above who are long-term unemployed (minimum of 6-months) and are actively seeking full-

time work. Booking is required.

Drop-In Police Surgery - Monday 28th January 2019 (10am-11am), Monday 4th March (10am-11am). Come and discuss issues that matter to you in your community with your local officers.

Arty Social, Friday 11th January (All events are on Fridays) 2 – 3pm (Term-time only). Join our FREE friendly art club led by students from Kings College School. Beginners are very welcome.

Get creative, learn new techniques and share ideas. Drawing, still life, painting, sculpture and more!

Action on hearing, Tuesday 15th January (11am – 4pm). Action on hearing loss is coming to Raynes Park Library to keep you informed and connected about hearing loss, deafness and tinnitus. Come

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to our free information event to find out about the support you are entitled to and equipment available to help your help your hearing improve. No Booking required.

**Kids Craft** Thursday (11am - 12pm), 3rd January. All ages welcome to a kids' craft event. No booking required. Materials provided.

## **Police Contact Details**

(Available 24 hours a day)

Emergency: **999**Non-Emergency: **101** 

# **Local Safer Neighbourhood Teams**

(For direct contact with the team but lines **not** monitored 24hrs a day)

West Barnes: 020 8721 2454 westbarnes.@met.pnn.police.uk You can now follow us on TWITTER @MPSWestBarnes

Cannon Hill: 020 8721 2455 cannonhill.@met.pnn.police.uk
You can now follow us on
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Lower Morden: 020 8721 2456 lowermorden.@met.pnn.police.uk You can now follow us on TWITTER @MPSLowerMorden

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You can now follow us on
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Total Policing is the Met's commitment to be on the streets and in your communities to catch offenders, prevent crime and support victims. We are here for London, working with you to make our capital safer.

#### Margaret Sinclair MSc., DCH, DHP, HPD, MNCH, MNSHP, SQHP, CNHC Reg.

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#### Gillian Hibbert

Personal Counsellor 07494 225 796 cwtchcounselling@gmail.com

#### Dr Sharon O'Driscoll

Counselling Psychologist 07703 299 177 stodriscoll@btinternet.com

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Contact your local volunteer Road Steward - see inside back cover for details of our volunteer

Distribution Manager Andrew Barwick Tel: 8543 0978.

#### USEFUL NUMBERS

Below is a list of telephone numbers for Council services. If a service is not listed here which you would like information on, please call the main reception number on 020 8274 4901 and staff will be happy to help.

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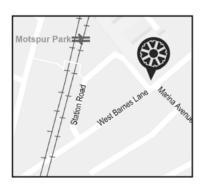
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