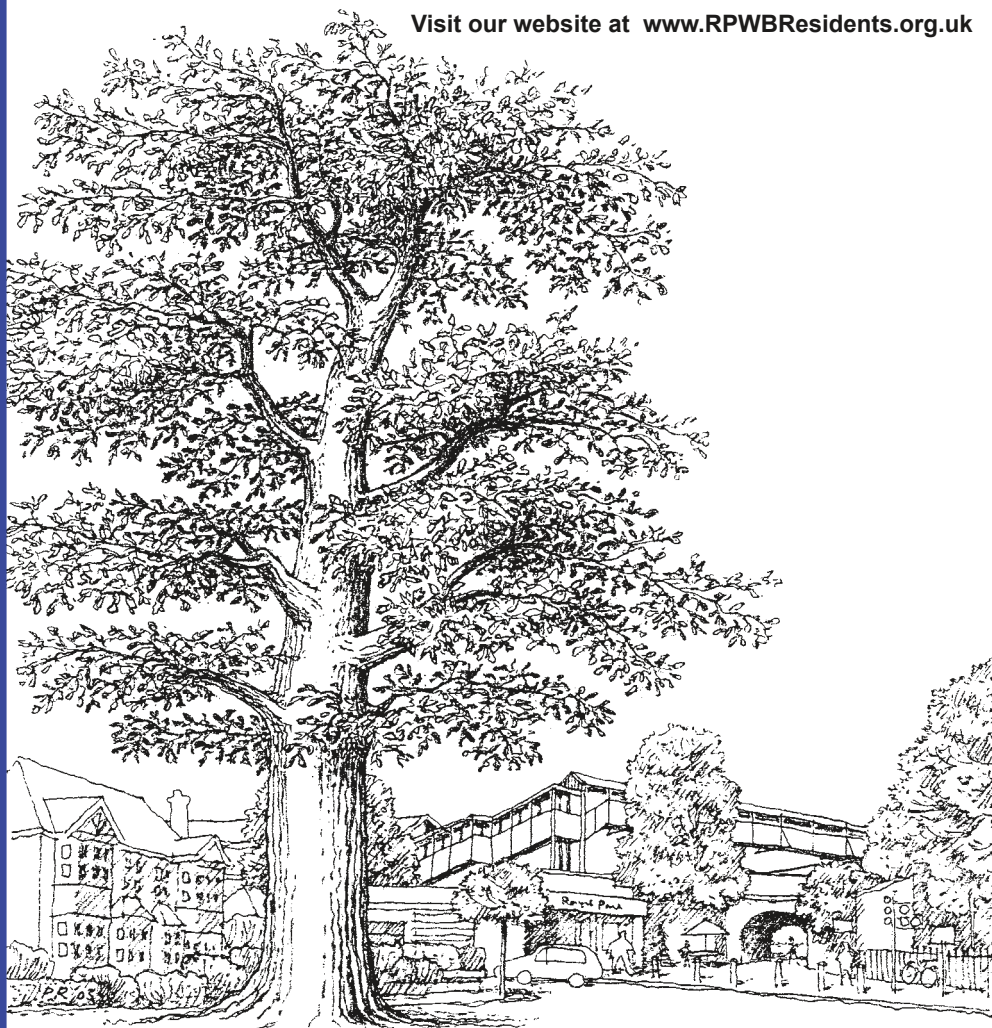


THE GUIDE

March 2018

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Pisces Membership Co-ordinator: HARRY GREEN, 6 Thomas House, 20 Grange Road,
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Raynes Park Bowling Club Hon. Sec.: J. GUINNARD, (07769 185297) email: jguinnard@hotmail.com

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Friends of Cannon Hill Common: CAROLYN HEATHCOTE, 166 Cherrywood Lane,
 Morden, SM4 4HQ (8395 6416)

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

Pavilion Social Club: JILL TRUMAN, 020 8879 3525 &
 ANDREA HANNAN, 020 8540 0164, Email: andrea.hannan@sky.com

Motspur Park Horticultural Society: DIANNE WALKER, 27 Marina Ave, Motspur Park, KT3 6NE.
 email: djohn2755@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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NOTICE OF MEETING

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the

Raynes Park & West Barnes Residents' Association

will be held at **The Raynes Park Library Meeting Rooms**
(via side entrance)

on **WEDNESDAY 11th APRIL 2018 at 7.30p.m.**

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence
- 2. Chairman's Report on the Work of the Association during 2017/18
- 3. Treasurer's Report
- 4. Election of Officers and Committee

Break for Refreshments

- 5. **Speaker:** Ruth Whitehead, Paddock Horticultural Society
- 6. Updates on current Planning Matters
- 7. Residents' Forum and Any Other Business

Please bring a copy of 'The Guide' with you to verify membership



NOMINATION FORM

(The Association invites anyone who wishes to join the Committee to complete and / or nominate suitable candidates for consideration and submit this form to the Secretary by 8th April 2018)

We wish to nominate
As a Member of the Executive Committee.

Nominated by: (Please print name and address).....
.....

Seconded by: (Please print name and address)
.....

Nominations to reach Clare Townsend, 128 Grand Drive, SW20 (claretownsend@virginmedia.com)
no later than Wednesday 8th April 2018

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT

NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL

The council reports that hundreds more parents are applying for school places this year, due to the rise in population and the improvement in local school results. The council has received 2,296 admission applications for September 2018, which is 268 more than last year. They say that there is an urgent need to build a new secondary school.

A new Harris Academy Wimbledon is due to open on a temporary site in September this year at Whatley Avenue (off Martin Way). This will be a non-selective state school for both girls and boys. The school is due to move to a permanent new school building in High Path, South Wimbledon, in September 2020.

Official figures from the government show that all the borough's secondary schools continue to be judged good or outstanding by Ofsted; and Department of Education results show that the progress pupils locally have made between the end of Key Stage 2 and the end of Key Stage 4 in eight subject qualifications, with maths and English given extra weight, is among the best in the country.

ROAD TRAFFIC CRASHES AT THE JUNCTION OF CROSSWAY AND WESTWAY

The local Guardian reports that a resident of Westway has seen six crashes at the junction of his road with Crossway within the last two years, and that he has had to replace his fence three times due to cars crashing into it. He is demanding that the council narrow the road or that CCTV measures are put in place to prevent a serious injury at this junction.

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It is a very busy junction, particularly in the rush hour, and used by vehicles going to and from the two level crossings. Many pedestrians, including children, need to cross it.

The council states that it will carry out a further investigation into road safety in the area and will ask for police reports.

BUILDERS CHURNING UP GRASS VERGES

The trend for people to improve their homes by building extensions, including loft extensions, means that a number of local roads now have large builders' and scaffolding lorries parked near them for much of the day. These roads are often narrow and were not designed for vehicular use. The result is that the lorries park on grass verges,

leaving wheel ruts and destroying the grass, or else on the pavement or asphalt verge, damaging that. Prime examples of this can be seen in Heath Drive, off Grand Drive.

I understand that it is a requirement of planning permission that builders reinstate public property that has been damaged, but it is not always possible to find out which builder has caused which damage.

The problems in Heath Drive have been reported to the council by the Councillors. Building inspectors, when they certify the extensions, need also to make a note of the damage done to the local infrastructure, and ensure that this is re-instated at the builders' cost.

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Editor's Blog

John Braden, the Milkman

Many readers were pleased to see the piece about John Braden, who finally retired at the end of February after 50 years' service.

In making donations to a retirement gift, grateful residents sent their thanks for his devoted service, good wishes for the future, and stories of how he went 'the extra mile' in helpfulness.

Sonya Rubie of Elm Close called me to recount how John had helped her. Sonya regularly arranges the flowers for St. Saviour's, and she usually does this in situ. However on one occasion she opted to do work at home. The arrangements finished, she suddenly realised that she was going to have difficulty in getting them to the Church. Wondering just what she was going to do, she saw John - his milk float nicely empty at the end of his round - and she asked him if he could possibly help. He immediately agreed to come to her rescue by delivering the carefully arranged flowers to St. Saviour's on his milk float.

The Association's Treasurer will continue to collect together any donations for John until our AGM on Wednesday 1th April, after which a cheque will be forwarded to him along with all the letters and cards that have accompanied the gifts.

Wimbledon Flower Club

Look out for the Flower Show to be held at St. Saviour's on **Saturday 21st April** from 2.00 4.30 p.m. The exhibition is being prepared by members of the Wimbledon Flower Club and will be very well worth a visit.

Improved services for Mental Health

Merton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

Hannah Pearson from Merton CCG updated the Raynes Park Forum on future Commissioning Group intentions. The slides from her presentation can be found at: <https://www.merton.gov.uk/council-and-local-democracy/community-forums/raynespark-community-forum>

In response to questions from residents Hannah said Mental Health policy is a high priority for the CCG and there have been a number of recent improvements to local mental health services including:

- Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) service – provides support for anxiety, depression and other conditions
- Merton Rapid Intervention service – a multi-disciplinary team that includes Mental Health professionals - and aims to prevent hospital admissions

- Crisis Cafés – informal, drop-in support services.

Artificial Grass Pitches on Beverley Meads Playing Fields?

A very controversial planning application has been lodged by Wimbledon Rugby Club to install artificial grass pitches on the public open space and Metropolitan Open land that currently form the sports grounds of Beverley Meads and Drax that adjoin Fishpond Woods and Wimbledon Common.

The application which includes a concrete base for the grass, asphalt hard standing for spectators, a two-metre high bund around the application area, a 1.5 metre white picket fence, as well as more floodlighting has outraged many residents living in the adjoining, mostly privately maintained roads.

Objectors point out that apart from the blot on the landscape that this proposal implies, the increased usage (10.00-21.00 hrs on weekdays and 10.00-20.00 at the weekends) will put intolerable pressure on the surrounding roads, as there is insufficient parking provision already; as well as considerable intrusion into their own right to some peaceful enjoyment of their surroundings.

It will be interesting to see how the Council will react to the pressures from significant bodies such as the RFU and Sports England for approval. To residents, it simply smacks of over-

commercialisation and despoilment of public open space.

Details of the application and associated documents can be found on Planning Explorer by going to www.merton.gov.uk/Planning, inputting planning application number **18/P0183** and clicking on that number again, when the details come up.



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Notes from the

RAYNES PARK ASSOCIATION

Raynes Park Enhancement Plan.

Railway News. Chris Larkman said that Stephen Hammond MP has called a meeting of senior Network Rail managers to try and assist us in having a useful dialogue with them. Chris gave the example of the embankments, and the commitment from NR to plant and maintain them. The current situation is that NR denies any knowledge of such an agreement. Whilst there are issues we wish to raise at the meeting, the key outcome we're looking to achieve is an effective means of communication between ourselves and NR.

Bins on the North Side of the Skew Arch. Chris Larkman said he's tried to get some clarification from Cllr Jill West but has not received a reply. Suzanne agreed to follow this up with her. It was noted that these bins are within the RAWW area. It is generally agreed that local bins such as these attract additional rubbish whilst not providing a useful service to local people.

CrossRail2. There is still no news on a timescale as to when the local plans will be published and questions about the Government's commitment to the project. Jerry Cuthbert speculated on the push to provide more funding to the north of England and to the viability of the agreement for shared funding between the Government and London. Meanwhile developments in the local area are on hold pending a decision.

Local Business Issues & Updates.

Members were unclear as to what is happening with Absolute Abode. It appears the café area is being extended, and the notice states it is closed for refurbishment. Chris Larkman said he'd emailed Kirsty but received no reply. He agreed to email her again [Subsequent to the meeting a member confirmed that the company had gone into liquidation].

Other Business

Heathrow Expansion. Pat Erricker queried to what extent any 3rd runway may have on aircraft movements overhead in our area. There is an open exhibition of plans at the Antoinette Hotel from 12.00 to 20.00 on 22 February.

Council Request for Local Concerns. Pat asked whether we were informing the Council of our local needs. Tony said that we have put in a request for CIL money to assist with identified local improvements.

Raynes Park SNT. Pat noted the reduction and therefore lack of Community Police presence now in Raynes Park. It was agreed to raise this at our next meeting.

Waitrose Volunteers. Pat Erricker produced a Waitrose leaflet offering their 'partners time' to volunteer locally. Chris L agreed to speak to the manager asking how he felt we could usefully work with this scheme.

Business Breakfast. The next breakfast is on Tuesday 13 February.

Role of Raynes Park Champion.

Some members queried whether the role of the Raynes Park Champion was continuing. Chris Larkman agreed to follow up on this with Neil Milligan.

Community Forum. The next Community Forum is due on 8 March with Cllr Michael Bull chairing. Matters for consideration include Wheelie Bins, Report back from railway meeting with Stephen Hammond, Bins on the northside, CrossRail2. Future dates: 14 June, 18 September, 6 December, 26 March 2019.

The next meeting of the Raynes Park Association will be on Tuesday 20 March 2018 – to include the AGM



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Fidelis Gadzama

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020 8545 3425 (Civic Centre)
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Notes from the

RAYNES PARK FORUM

Chris Edge (Raynes Park Association) opened the meeting, welcoming everyone and introducing Councillor Lewis-Lavender as the Chair.

Open Forum

Nell Allen (“No Wheelies Please” campaign) reported that following the submission of the petition to the Council the response has not adequately addressed the proposals that had been made and as a result she planned to escalate this to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission). Nell had a meeting with Veolia where they were in favour of her suggestions that: 1. All Merton’s future bins and recycling boxes should be one colour (brown) 2. All bins should be without a Merton Council logo 3. Stickers should be provided for residents to place on each bin to establish content.

A clear majority of those present agreed that these suggestions will now be put to the Council in a motion in conjunction with the Wimbledon Community Forum.

Councillor Suzanne Grocott provided an update following a recent Street stall to talk to residents. A number of street lights were out and need fixing; cycling on the pavement under the Arch remains an issue; a filter on the traffic lights on Grand Drive into Bushey Road could be suggested and the phasing of the lights could be adjusted. Councillor Grocott has raised these issues with

the Council. A resident suggested a roundabout at the Grand Drive junction would be helpful. Another resident commented that a resolution to the cycling on pavement issue would be to improve cycling safety on the road. A resident raised concerns about a recent spate of burglaries in the area, especially in the Apostles Area. The local Safer Neighbourhood Team had provided some crime prevention advice including making use of the Alley-gates scheme and joining Neighbourhood Watch. It was agreed to invite the SNT to a future meeting.

Flooding in Raynes Park area Carl Leadbeater from Thames Water attended the Forum to provide an update on the issues raised at the last meeting and the flooding on Abbot Avenue in July.

Thames Water has begun a catchment study to understand the hydraulic issues that are causing the problems. In response to questions from residents, Carl said that blocked gullies maybe a factor but until the study was complete they could not be certain. Recent price increases in water bills have been in-line with inflation and many customers found they could reduce their bills by installing a water meter. Water pressure is maintained at 1 bar as that is the requirement for most domestic appliances, whilst higher pressure 2 increases the risk of leaks. If pressures are not at this level, please report to Thames Water.

Thames Water agreed to come back to future Raynes Park Community

Forum meetings to provide further updates.

Stephen Hammond MP

Wimbledon Police Station closure –

Stephen will be taking this up with the Borough Commander at a meeting as well as writing to the Mayor of London. The Consultation Institute said this had been the worst consultation of 2017. Stephen said that the decision should be reconsidered on operational grounds, including the impact on shift patterns; the close access to the night time economy; and joint use by British Transport Police.

Crossrail 2 – discussions on the funding package is on-going. The timing of when money from TfL will be available is currently the critical element.

South Western Railway – residents commented that the new franchisee has not been an improvement so far, with strikes scheduled as well. Stephen responded that it was unfortunate that the new franchise started at the same time as the major works at Waterloo, but there remains an ongoing issue with a shortage of drivers. They should soon be providing longer trains and improved frequency, especially at weekends.

Boundary Commission Review – the revised proposals in October included a complete Wimbledon constituency and Stephen thanked all those who had responded to the previous consultation. After the current consultation concludes the Commission will finalise their proposals and report to Parliament in autumn 2018.



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Raynes Park Station – Stephen would be meeting with Network Rail along with the Raynes Park Association in mid-February.

Jerusalem – In answer to a question Stephen said the UK Government's position is clear. We recognise and believe that Tel Aviv should remain Israel's capital. Donald Trump's suggestion/ recognition of Jerusalem as the capital was surprising and likely to impede any peace negotiations. The UK Government did not agree with the President's comments.

Feedback

Christmas Fair Raynes Park
Christmas Fair took place on Friday 1 December and Nick Coke provided an update. This was the best attended Christmas event to date with more than 800 estimated to have come along; as well as more stalls and activities. Nick wanted to thank the 15 local businesses who had supported the event and the many volunteers who were crucial in managing such a large crowd.

Raynes Park Town centre 3 Tony Edwards drew residents' attention to the consultation on the draft London Plan. This could have an impact on the height of new developments and density around stations. Details can be found at <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-wedo/planning/london-plan/new-london-plan>

It was reported that volunteers have weeded planting areas and used Tesco funding to improve them. Astroturf has been laid where

the bins have been removed and additional seating might be installed in the summer. Tony agree to check on the access around the Astroturf. Negotiations with Network Rail are ongoing over access to the embankment but no progress so far.

Date of next meeting: 8 March 2018, 7.15pm, in the Library Hall



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In Memoriam

Claude Etienne Albert Bonnichon



We are sad to report that Claude, known to many as a wonderful neighbour, died in January. We send our condolences to his widow Dorothy and to his children, grandchildren and great grandson.

Claude was an engaging, hospitable and courteous man with a talent and a passion for teaching. He had a great sense of humour and was always ready to support others.

Following a brilliant teaching career, he was appointed the headteacher of Joseph Tritton Junior School in Battersea and remained there until

his retirement. He continued to stay in touch with former colleagues and pupils, kept abreast of educational developments and was an English SATs marker for several years.

Whilst his teaching career was, latterly, mainly London-based, his chosen home for over forty years was in Raynes Park. He lived in Seaforth Avenue, then Westway (where he became a road steward) and he had a great appreciation of the local people and the general area.

Until very recently Claude drove with Dorothy each summer to his beloved area of La Lavandou in France. He was ninety and was still full of energy and enthusiasm for life when, just before Christmas, he sustained a fall whilst out shopping. He did not recover as expected and was then found to be suffering from an inoperable brain tumour. He died peacefully in Princess Alice Hospice with Dorothy by his side.

At his funeral his grandsons spoke of a loving family man who inspired them with his courage - his "no fear" attitude to life's challenges - and his generous, friendly disposition to all he encountered.

Membership Enquiries to

Andrew Barwick (8543 0978) andrew@thebarwicks.com

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CROSSRAIL 2

A NETWORK RAIL UPDATE

Chris Curtis from Network Rail Speaking at December's Raynes Park Forum, provided an update on Network Rail's part in Crossrail 2.

The slides from his presentation can be found at: <https://www.merton.gov.uk/council-and-local-democracy/community-forums/raynespark-community-forum>

Network Rail will be responsible for the sections of the route that are above ground, including south of Wimbledon. Work is already underway to increase capacity in the area, with the upgrade of Waterloo meaning longer trains from **December 2017**; a new wider concourse from **December 2018** and new 10 coach trains from **2019/20**. Even after this work there will still be a need to increase capacity as London and the South East continue to grow. The benefits of Crossrail 2 will extend as far as Portsmouth and Southampton.

The issue of level crossings is a significant challenge. With the increased frequency of trains, the current crossings will not be adequate, so work continues to find an appropriate solution, the priority will be to avoid taking any homes. Building bridges could resolve congestion caused by closing level crossings.

The new trains will also require changes at Raynes Park station with longer, straighter platforms and all stations on the route will be step free. Whilst these works could be delivered

in the early stages of construction it would not be viable to introduce step free access before Crossrail 2. The funding arrangements currently require 50% of the construction costs to be met during the construction phase. Routes have been reviewed but it should be noted that the route south of Wimbledon accounts for 5% of the cost of the project but 30- 40% of the benefit. Chris Curtis agreed with residents that Crossrail 2 could offer an opportunity to provide wider improvements to the public realm in Raynes Park and said that one of the lessons from Crossrail was the importance of working with local authorities and communities.

The next consultation should take place in 2018, with the Hybrid Bill completed by 2023 and then a ten-year construction period would take place.

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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 get-togethers 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?

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Tennis Club)

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE AND OPEN MEETINGS

March

Tuesday 13th - Committee, Pavilion 8.00pm.

April

Wednesday 11th **AGM** Raynes Park Library Hall

May

Tuesday 8th - Committee 8.00pm Pavilion

June

Wednesday 13th - **OPEN MEETING 7.30pm**

Blossom House

Thursday 14th - **RAYNES PARK FORUM - 7.15pm**
Library Hall

**Saturday 30th - June Summer
Celebration - details to be confirmed**

July

Tuesday 10th - Committee 8.00pm Pavilion

August

NO MEETINGS

September

Tuesday 11th - **OPEN MEETING 7.30pm Pavilion**

Tuesday 18th - **RAYNES PARK FORUM 7.15pm**
Library Hall

October

Tuesday 9th - Committee 8.00pm Pavilion

November

Tuesday 13th - Committee 8.00pm Pavilion

**Due to be announced:
November - 90th Anniversary**

December

Thursday 6th - **RAYNES PARK FORUM**

**Saturday December 15th
Christmas Party 7.15pm Pavilion**



CLOSING DATE

for all contributions and
advertisements is the 10th of the
month preceding publication.



RAYNES PARK LIBRARY NEWS

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 Thursday 15 March – Saturday 17 March
 Thursday 12 April – Saturday 14 April
 Thursday 17 May – Saturday 19 May
 Thursday 21 June – Saturday 23 June
 More dates to follow

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All abilities are welcome.

One to One Reading – Please speak to staff for more information. For Children aged 5-11 years (term time only).

Booking essential

Jewellery Making—Monday 2pm-4pm

Come along and make your own jewellery. There is a small charge for materials.

Needlework and Natter—Monday 2.30pm-3.50pm fortnightly

Why not join our fun and friendly craft club for adults here at Raynes Park Library? Share your ideas, swap tips and tricks and enjoy a good natter. Beginners are welcome. Please bring basic materials and resources.

Falun Dafa—Monday 5.10pm-6.40pm

Falun Dafa is a traditional Chinese practice to improve mind and body.

Write Afresh-Tuesday 12.30-2.30pm

This is a creative writing group. All adults are welcome.

Mantra Singing-Thursday 2.45pm-3.45pm

Sounds have a deep impact on our physical and mental health. Mantras are chants with easy tunes and lyrics frequently repeated. Classes are free, and no singing experience is required. The idea is to find in your own voice a tool for well-being and self-healing

Yoga Classes

Thursday 5.30-6.30pm

Bring your yoga mat and a bottle of water. £2 per session

Homework Club-Friday 4.30pm-6.30pm

(term time only)

This is run by volunteers to help children aged 4 to 14 with homework. Children benefit from a space to study, access to a wider selection of books, supervised internet access and word processing facilities.

All our upcoming events and new activities are posted on Twitter and Facebook do Follow us and Like us to find out what is happening at Raynes Park Library and all Merton Libraries

Regular Activities Raynes Park Library Hall

Izzy's

Monday's, 9.45am – 10.45am

Rhyme Time and Storytelling session
£2.50 each child' **Term time only**

Pilates

Monday's, 11am – 12pm

Pilates mat work class, bring your own mat and water. Pre-registration required. £10 or £7 senior citizens/students.

Italian Playgroup

Monday's, 4pm – 5pm

For children aged 1-6 years old. Booking required. **Term time only**

Jiggle & Jam

Tuesday's & Thursday's, 9.30am – 11.30am

Fun, friendly award-winning Music & Movement classes for 0-3 years. **Term time only**

SEN Karate

Tuesday's, 5pm – 6.30pm. Term time only

The Bridge Children's Centre

9.30am – 10.30am

Friday's, 11am – 12pm

ELT Baby programme. 0-7 months.
Booking required

First Class Learning

Classes held between **10.30am – 1.30pm**

Saturday's, Maths & English Tuition

Booking required. **Term time only**



**Want an Ad?
for details
Dick Coleman
020 8949 7593**

News from the Friends of West Barnes Library

(next to Motspur Park Station)



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.

WORLDWIDE SPIN IN PUBLIC DAY (Saturday, March 10, 2-4pm)

Join in the Worldwide Spin in Public Day with Sarah McAlister (FoWBL).

If you have one, bring your spinning wheel or spindle along too. If you fancy having a go, then Sarah will show you

how. Children are welcome but must be supervised.

Children's Mother's Day Craft (Saturday 3 March, 2-4pm) No need to book

NEW Open Community Coffee

Afternoon (3rd Thursday of the month, 1.30-3pm)

Everyone welcome

NEW Police Surgery (Every Friday 3 - 4pm)

Drop in to discuss any issues or concerns with your local police.

Bring & Buy Sale coming soon...

Customers can reserve a table for just £5 to sell their unwanted children's toys and clothes at boot sale prices! Please register your interest with library staff

Regular Events

Computer Classes for Beginners

(Mondays 1-2pm and Thursdays 1-2pm)
Booking essential

Reading out Loud (Mondays, 4pm – 5.30pm) 1:1 reading sessions for children aged 6+ (term time only) Booking essential

Scrabble Club (Monday's 5-6pm) Come and join us every Monday from 5-6pm. All ages and abilities welcome! No booking required

Kiddirama for the Under 5's (1st and 2nd Tuesday of the month only), 10-11am (term time only)

Tuesdays are jam-packed with story, drama, songs, movement and games. Whip up a horrible stew with Witchy Woo or go on an animal adventure with Laura the Explorer. Join us on many wonderful weekly adventures! For more

information visit www.kiddirama.com;
email kiddirama@mail.com or text 07542
170604. £1.50 per child

FREE Local History Coffee Morning

(Tuesday 20 March, 10.30am-12pm)

Huguenot Heritage by Mick Taylor

Rendezvous Club (Tuesdays, 1.30pm-

3.30pm) Weekly club for over 55s. £2

For more information call Gilli on 020
8543 1781

Knit & Natter (Thursdays, 11am-1pm)

Bring your own knitting or crochet. Free
tea or coffee provided.

Falun Dafa (Thursday's 5.30-6.30pm)

This is a traditional Chinese qigong meditation practice to improve mind and body, with simple, easy to learn exercises for all ages and abilities. Falun Dafa (also known as Falun Gong) is an advanced practice of Buddha school self-cultivation, founded by Li Hongzhi. It is a discipline in which 'assimilation to the highest qualities of the universe- Zhen, Shan, Ren (Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance) is the foundation of practice.' No booking required.

FABULOUS FRIDAYS: Term time only

Make Move & Melody Time (Fridays, 10am – 10.45am) Go wild on Fridays as we tell stories, sing familiar rhymes and songs, move along to the rhythm of e.g. marching ants, stomping zebras, tickly

teddy bears or get crafty making, creating, drawing and more...

Book Time After 'Make Move & Melody Time' come and join us whilst we read, play, chat, chill and choose from a wide range of books! Suitable for 18 months – 5-year olds but babies are welcome

Rock Rhyme & Rhythm Time (Fridays 11am – 11.45am) *Have fun on Fridays as we go on a journey singing, rhyming, rocking and moving along to the sound of e.g. splashing waves, swishing grass... Feel the rhythm of stomping animals, clacking insects and more...*

Book Time After 'Rock Rhyme & Rhythm' come and join us whilst we read, play, chat, chill and choose from a wide range of books! Suitable for babies 0 – 18 months but older children are welcome

Colour & Chat Every Saturday. 2-4pm Relax, unwind and join the new colouring craze!

Kids Knit & Natter - 1st Saturday of the month. 12.30-2pm. Learn to knit. For children, adults welcome.

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



VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED!

Two students at King's College London are looking for 55-75 year olds who own a mobile phone to be willing to donate two hours of their time to participate in a focus group to discuss their views and concerns with sharing their mobile phone location data with different health agencies. The focus group will contain 6-8 people. Your views and concerns will be kept anonymous and a report will be written up as part of a Masters dissertation project. You will be paid £15 for your time and food and refreshments will be provided. To participate or to request more information please email either hannah.e.murphy@kcl.ac.uk or lauren.keahey@kcl.ac.uk

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

TWITTER @MPSCannonHill

Lower Morden: 020 8721 2456

lowermorden.@met.pnn.police.uk

You can now follow us on

TWITTER @MPSLowerMorden

Raynes Park: 020 8721 2459

raynespark.@met.pnn.police.uk

You can now follow us on

TWITTER @MPSRaynesPark

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.



RAYNES PARK AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

"Leading women forward"

Once again, the Magnificent Music Hall at Wimbledon Theatre at the end of January gave us a varied, professional and entertaining matinee show enjoyed by the Townswomen's Guild and groups from several clubs in the Raynes Park area and surrounding districts. This company's annual visit to Wimbledon is always popular.

The principal activity in February has been socialising over lunch. First, we visited the busy Morden Brook Pub at Lower Morden roundabout. A delay in service was forecast by bar staff, but in the event the food arrived in a reasonable time and was judged to be good.

Our second visit was to Merton & Morden Guild of Social Service at Morden to join them for their St Valentine's Lunch. With a party of 9 TWG ladies boosting their normal numbers, the Guild had to work hard to squeeze everyone in. The food for a three-course lunch was very good. Our ladies were very appreciative of the pianist who tinkled the ivories while we ate, and the volunteers who worked smoothly to serve the food and clear tables. Many thanks to Merton & Morden Guild for this friendly and pleasant lunchtime visit.

INVITATION TO JOIN US

If you have received the Guide but are not yet a member of the Association please phone Andrew Barwick 8543 0978 who will put you in the picture.

The following afternoon our monthly meeting at St Saviour's Church Hall was the AGM. The committee were returned to office unanimously. Then, we were very pleased two members volunteered to join the Committee. Later the Merton & Morden Guild of Social Service was adopted as our charity for the year. It was agreed the August outing will be on Thursday, 16th to WORTHING. As usual this outing will be open to all to join us to make a successful coach trip. Cost and details will follow.

March activities include Lunch at the Lime & Thyme, Raynes Park on Wednesday, 7th and a visit to the Museum at Bourne Hall, Ewell on Tuesday, 13th. Our next meeting at St Saviour's Church Hall will be at 1.30 for 1.45 on Thursday, 15th March.

Dorothy Raymond
020 8395 9489



Letter from... **MORDEN ROTARIANS**

Morden Rotarians would like to thank all residents who Contributed to our Christmas collection.

It didn't quite beat last year's record as we lost one night due to weather, but it was still an extremely good total.

We'll be letting you know in later issues where this has been spent, but I can report immediately that a very significant sum was donated immediately to St. Raphael's Hospice.

It costs £115,000 per week to operate this service, with just 25% coming from government. Over a thousand local people will benefit from the Hospice this year, so your Rotary Club always views this as a priority for your donations.

Please remember if you'd like to help our

14-26 Natural Health **361 West Barnes Lane, Motspur Park KT3 6JF**

Lesley Reid

Reflexology/Hypnotherapy

07879 440 761

lesley@14-26.co.uk

Gillian Hibbert

Personal Counsellor

07494 225 796

cwtchcounselling@gmail.com

Dr Sharon O'Driscoll

Counselling Psychologist

07703 299 177

stodriscoll@btinternet.com

Sue Ip

Holistic Massage Therapist

07923 053 727

weikeitreatments@hotmail.com

club in any way, you're most welcome to meet our friendly team of men and women of all ages with a common concern for a practical contribution to our community.

We enjoy our work and weekly get-togethers at "The Brook", Lower Morden Lane, every Thursday evening at 7pm.

Many readers have helped us in recent months to collect nearly 500 pairs of spectacles, which we've sent to rural villages in Tanzania. A big thank you again to everyone who helped us get these to our Rotary friends there - who were able to distribute them personally.

We'd like to let you know that every Marie Curie charity shop will gladly accept your old unused specs, and make sure they are put to further use. So, we recommend in future you pop them into the local branch in Worcester Park. If that's a problem, please contact us and we will take them for you.

If you'd like more details

<https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/donate/other/recycle-spectacles>

We're happy to report also that all year round you can contact us (telephone number below) to collect the contents of your boxes, jars and tins of loose change, old coins and foreign currency. Search your drawers today!

We have quite a few regular contributors and all coinage goes to

St. Raphael's - and so far, our total contributions from "Pennies from Heaven" to the Hospice is well past £6000! Please keep up the good work.

Finally, may we send our best wishes to all readers for 2018.

Jocelyn Ollett

*Public Relations, Morden Rotary
(0208 404 6451 - 24-hour office
number, please leave a message if
I'm not in)*



CROSSRAIL 2 – UPDATE

The overall picture

Whilst the Crossrail 2 project team continue to liaise with the Raynes Park community, in reality, not much new information has been forthcoming since the last round of consultation in 2015/16. Yet, we still have no real detail about how Raynes Park might be affected, apart from what might be implied from the broad-brush information from over two years ago.

In 2017, Crossrail 2 prepared its strategic business case and submitted it to the Transport Secretary. While this showed that London could pay for half of the scheme over its life, the Mayor for London and Transport Secretary agreed to see how London might fund half of the scheme during construction.

This would seem to imply that London's 50% share of the funding was partly predicated on income streams generated by the new railway and associated developments along its route.

In February 2018, it was announced that the government has called for an independent financial review to look at the project's overall financial viability and whether or not the costs might be reduced. What the outcome will be remains to be seen. However, it may affect the overall scope and its phasing.

Therefore, no further formal public consultation is anticipated until this new assessment has been completed and reviewed by the Department for Transport. This whole process is expected to take another year, putting back any further public consultation at least until early 2019.

Whilst this is news it heralds further delays and continued uncertainty for

the project.

Additionally, there are now political questions being raised over the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) and competing pleas for more transport funding in other parts of the country.

Against this background, TfL is now forecasting a £1bn operating deficit for 2018/19, although it does have plans to turn this around by 2021.

All these problems will make the Gordian Knot of funding the construction of Crossrail 2 harder to untangle.

Jerry Cuthbert - 22/02/2018



Our Paths Are One

65th Parliament of World Religions, Yoga & Holistic Health

**Saturday 31 March 2018 & Sunday 1st April 2018, 9:30 am to 5:00 pm
at Shiraz Mirza Trust Manor Park Hall, Malden Road, New Malden, KT3 6AU**



Babaji

Join us for a joyful **FREE 2-days** parliament of world religions, yoga, health and experience the depth of unity of our many and diverse (global) holistic religions and traditions.

The Parliament has been conducted annually for the last 64 years, in different city centres around the world. The great Himalayan living Master Babaji Nagaraj is the cause and inspiration of these annual-global parliaments. Further, an opportunity to receive in-depth training in the ancient techniques of Kriya Yoga is available. Although to aid preparation, prior contact on participation is essential.

For further information, please make enquiries via Tel: 0208 397 8695; Email babaji_kriyayoga@hotmail.com; and/or visit our UK website www.bbysuk.uk



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.

Abandoned vehicles - 020 8274 4902
Adult & community education - 020 8543 9292
Allotments - 020 8545 3665
Area Forums (RP&WB) - 020 8545 4400
chrislarkman@gmail.com
Benefits service - 020 8545 4179
Blue badges - 020 8545 4661
Building control services - 020 8545 3145
Bulky household waste collection service - 020 8274 4902
Cemeteries - 020 8545 3666
Citizens advice bureau - 0844 243 8430
Consultation and Community Engagement Team - 0208 545 3896
www.merton.gov.uk/community.living/communityforums.htm

Family Information Advice and Guidance Team - 020 8274 5830
Council tax and finance - 020 8274 4904
Council tax benefit - 020 8274 4903
Education welfare service - 020 8545 4021
Fly posting/Fly tipping - 020 8274 4902
Footpaths - 020 8545 3700
Freedom passes - 020 8545 4901
Garden waste - 020 8274 4902
Housing benefit - 020 8274 4903
Local Police Stations - 101
 (for Non-emergency matters in all Metropolitan Districts)
Merton Adult Access Team - 020 8545 4430
Noise - 020 8545 3025
Pest Control Advice - 020 8545 3022
Road cleaning - 020 8274 4902
Road safety - 020 8545 3205
Road safety - 020 8545 3205
Rubbish & recycling - 020 8274 4902
School admissions - 020 8274 4906
Stray animals - 020 8274 4902
evenings - 08444 996063
Street lighting - 020 8545 3220
Tree preservation - 020 8545 3815

Merton Bowling Club



Looking for new players and social members from
April 2018.

We offer a fun and friendly atmosphere.

Excellent opportunities to compete and socialise.

www.mertonbowlsclub.com

Mrs T Smith : 07525 001 496

Merton Bowling Club
 Joseph Hood Recreation Ground
 Martin Way
 SW20 9BX

SMALL ADS

£1.00 per line or part line. Minimum charge £6.00. Send money with your ad to Dick Coleman, Advertising Manager, 308 West Barnes Lane, New Malden KT3 6NB (cheques payable to RP&WBRA). Or for further details, contact Dick Coleman on 020 8949 7593, advertising@rpwbresidents.org.uk or www.rpwbresidents.org.uk/advertising

CURTAINS, SOFT FURNISHINGS, TRACKS & POLES MADE TO MEASURE BY ELEGANT CURTAINS, made from your own fabric or from our large selection of fabric. All types of tracks & poles supplied and fitted. For a free estimate call Linda Jordan on 020 8337 7145 or 07957 177164 or email: elegant_98@hotmail.com.

HELLINGS BROS. ROOFING SPECIALISTS Friendly family established locally since 1961. No job too small. Special rates for OAPs. Free quotations. All new work guaranteed. FREEPHONE 0808 047 6634; mob: 07803 143145. Email hellingsbrothers@gmail.com

COOMBE DECORATING AND MAINTENANCE SERVICE. For all external and internal property repairs, renovations, decorations etc. All minor building work and odd jobs welcomed. Over 30 years EXPERIENCE, EXCELLENT RATES! Free quotes Tel: 020 8946 5616 Mob: 07941 289 861.

FAULTY GUTTERS AND LEAKING DOWNPIPES REMOVED. Renewed in modern black UPVC materials by experts. All new works are fully guaranteed for 1 year. Please call 07900 977613.

CARPENTRY, PAINTING & DECORATING. For all your interior requirements call Martin Black on 020 8946 8176 for a free estimate.

WIMBLEDON PLUMBING & MAINTENANCE. Toilets Basins, Baths and Showers. Faulty Radiators removed, new ones installed. CH System maintenance. Experienced Qualified Plumbers. Call Mark 07900 977613. Email: mboardman2000@hotmail.com

YOGA IN VERY SMALL GROUPS. Reduce stress, anxiety, aches and pains. REFLEXOLOGY WITH POLARITY THERAPY – special offer, first 1 hour treatment £10. Amazingly relaxing. Centre of Sutton. Christina Langley, 020 8661 0455, email willowtreedyoga@hotmail.co.uk. 26 years experience.

ELECTRICIAN: SW20 BASED DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL SERVICES. Fault finding & repairs. Fuse board upgrades, full/ partial rewire, extra sockets/lights. Free estimates. References available. NICEIC & Part P registered. All work guaranteed. Darren 07710 763841 contact@flying-spark.com

HOLISTIC & SPORT INJURY MASSAGE THERAPIST (ITEC Qualified 10+years) offering ½ hour or 1 hour treatments for general well-being, stress or more specific problems and injuries. Mrs Suki Burne, Parkway, 020 8540 4422.

ANDY'S PLUMBING & HEATING SERVICES. Includes: kitchen & bathroom installation, central heating systems, plumbing & tiling. Ring 07973 733649, 020 8393 0180. Email: andyreeve.plumber@virginmedia.com, www.andyreeve.webs.com.

LANDSCAPE & HORTICULTURAL GARDENER. Merrist Wood trained and qualified. I have a number of years experience within the industry. All aspects of work undertaken from soft and hard landscaping to garden design. Fully insured. Please contact Edward on 020 8543 9893 / 07752 309125.

GRAHAM JEWSON LANDSCAPE DESIGN & GARDEN MAINTENANCE Regular garden maintenance, one off clearance and tidy ups, planting, pruning and new lawns laid. Full landscape design and build service. For further information please contact Graham 07870 125 416, email jewsongardens@gmail.com

AJM FENCING. Fencing - new and repairs. Garden maintenance/landscaping. All work undertaken. Call for free estimate. No job too small. 020 8715 8326 Mob: 07794 265533. ajmfencing@outlook.com.

HANDYMAN, trustworthy & professional. All interior and exterior work undertaken as well as painting, decorating. Free estimates. Please call 020 8942 0834.

REFLEXOLOGIST. Approx. 1 hour of deep pressure foot treatment. Feedback from clients inc: reduced stress & stress related ailments, general sense of well-being, improved sleep & overall feeling of relaxation. Used in many hospitals. REGISTERED MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF REFLEXOLOGISTS. Mrs Anna Gay, M.A.R. Cannon Close. TELEPHONE: 020 8540 3824.

PAINTING & DECORATING 30 years experience, quality work, fully insured, CRB Police checked. References available. Old fashioned courtesy. Free estimates. M. Fry 020 8337 9921. Mob: 07843 625870.

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Hon. Legal Adviser: Hatice Mustafa, Pearson Hards, 2 Kingston Road, New Malden



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HOWEVER
YOU NEED US...**
we'll be there

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