



OWGRA

Osterley & Wyke Green Residents' Association

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Newsletter No. 5 September 2017

THIS NEWSLETTER CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR AREA.

IF THIS NEWSLETTER IS BEING DELIVERED TO YOUR HOME, THEN YOU LIVE IN THE OWGRA AREA.

OWGRA newsletters are published quarterly. However, we send frequent updates in an e-newsletter to those on the OWGRA e-mail list, but we can only include you if you give us your e-mail address.

HEATHROW AIRPORT EXPANSION

PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday 10 October 2017, 7.30 pm

Isleworth & Syon School for Boys, Ridgeway Road, TW7 5LJ

Heathrow expansion has been approved by the Government but remains a hugely divisive and controversial project. Those in favour expound the benefits to the UK economy and the need to maintain the airport's pre-eminent position. Those against expansion cite the adverse impact on the environment in terms of air and noise pollution and general infrastructure. The arguments continue and it is doubtful that construction will commence

any time soon. OWGRA has invited two speakers to attend our Public Meeting to present the case FOR and AGAINST the expansion.

This is an opportunity for local residents to hear the arguments at first hand from two very knowledgeable and experienced campaigners, so do come along, listen and then put your questions to them.

AGENDA FOR OWGRA PUBLIC MEETING, Tuesday 10 October 2017

7.15 pm	Registration
7.30 pm	Welcome and introduction
7.35 pm	The case FOR expansion - Speaker: ROB GRAY , Director of Community & Stakeholder Engagement, Heathrow Airport Limited (and former Head of the 'Back Heathrow Group')
7.55 pm	The case AGAINST expansion - Speaker: JOHN STEWART , Chairman, HACAN , Heathrow Association for the Control of Aircraft Noise
8.15 pm	Refreshment break
8.30 pm	Q&A session
9.15 pm	Close of meeting

Public Meeting & AGM 23 May 2017

OWGRA had a successful AGM on 23 May followed by a session on Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB). You can find out about the new Committee and read more about the meeting on the OWGRA website home page www.owgra.org.uk

FOR YOUR DIARY - December Public Meeting

OWGRA's December Public Meeting will be on the theme of 'Waste Management & Recycling, Littering & Fly-tipping', especially in light of the recent changes introduced by Hounslow Council. In the meantime if residents have any queries or wish to report missed collections, go online or telephone 020 8583 2000.

POLICING NEWS

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (NW)

Neighbourhood Watch is a voluntary scheme designed to bring people together to make their communities and residences safer. It involves the police, the local authority, voluntary organisations and most importantly local residents. To set up a NW the police will knock on doors to determine if there is enough support for the scheme, and if so, a volunteer Co-ordinator will be sought and appointed. It costs nothing to join and there is no requirement other than to keep your ears and eyes open where you live. Residents may report non-emergency matters to the designated Co-ordinator who will also be available to answer any queries, and you will be given a free brochure with useful information.

OWGRA is advocating the establishment of Neighbourhood Watches throughout the Osterley and Spring Grove area.

If you are interested in becoming a NW Co-ordinator for your street (or part of your street) which isn't on the list, then please get in touch.

THE BENEFITS OF A NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

- ◇ Free to join
- ◇ Improved home security
- ◇ Free NW road and home signs
- ◇ Cheaper home insurance premium
- ◇ Greater community spirit
- ◇ Reduce fear of crime

Active NW streets

Braybourne Drive / College Road / Crowntree Close / Harvard Road / Lingwood Gardens / Ridgeway Road North / Roxborough Avenue / Stags Way / Syon Park Gardens / Wood Lane (north) / Wyke Close

Imminent set-up

Hexham Gardens / Northumberland Avenue / Otterburn Gardens / Redesdale Gardens / Rothbury Gardens

Any serious incident should be reported immediately to the police on

- 999 for emergencies
- 101 for less serious issues

If you encounter any instance of crime or attempted crime in your street, please inform your local NW Co-ordinator as well as the police.

For live updates on Twitter, follow @MPSOsterley (Osterley police) and @OsterleyNW (Osterley Neighbourhood Watch).

CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB)

Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panels are meetings between the Police, Local Authority and representatives from a neighbourhood to discuss issues of community safety in that area. They are locally based and Metropolitan Police managed. The Osterley & Spring Grove Ward Panel meets 2-3 times annually and comprises police, local councillors, residents, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators and OWGRA. PCSO Robert Miller is currently the police lead for our Safer Neighbourhood Team and he has been very active in forming new Neighbourhood Watches and recruiting co-ordinators. The Panel focuses on known 'hot spots' such as Braybourne Drive (fly-tipping) as well as roads where ASB has occurred. Local residents are encouraged to report anything untoward in their area so that appropriate action can be taken. OWGRA fully supports the efforts of all concerned to reduce the impact of crime in Osterley and Spring Grove. Crime figures are regularly compiled by the Police and made available to the Panel and in our Ward the main priorities continue to be burglary, theft from motor vehicles and ASB.

The police crime map for our area is available through the OWGRA website (under **Local matters**). The current version includes crimes up to June 2017.

LOCK, CHECK AND KEEP SAFE! are the watchwords!!

Simple actions can make all the difference to keep your home and property safe:

- ⇒ Lock all doors and windows before leaving the house (even if you are out only for a few minutes as thieves only need a few minutes!)
- ⇒ Check outside to see if there are any windows or doors that can easily be forced open.
- ⇒ Consider adding trellis to fencing and planting prickly climbers such as roses as these can deter burglars from climbing over.
- ⇒ Don't leave laptops, 'phones, valuables, bags on display in your car. Thieves will break a car window to get them.
- ⇒ Get a 'crook lock' in addition to your existing car locking system. It will prevent your car being stolen.

As we are all aware, police resources have been significantly reduced, despite the importance of maintaining law and order and preventing crime. But we can all contribute to the safety of our area by keeping vigilant and reporting anything suspicious. The Ward Panel is always open to new members so if you are interested in joining, please let OWGRA know.

Local updates

IBAF: Isleworth & Brentford Area Forum is a Hounslow Council committee that considers various matters important for the area's four wards. Residents can submit questions and comment on agenda items, updates on petitions, local traffic and occasional planning matters. Osterley & Spring Grove Ward's Councilor Tony Louki will chair IBAF until May 2018 and welcomes all readers of the OWGRA Newsletter. Forthcoming meetings are:

Thursday, 28 September 2017 at Spring Grove House, West Thames College, London Road, at 7.30 pm.

Items include the Draft Great West Corridor Local Plan Review and Cycle Superhighway 9.

Monday, 9 October 2017 at Brentford Free Church, Boston Manor Road, at 7.00 pm.

Local Democracy Week Special Meeting including a Young People's Open Forum, IBAF Action Plan updates from Transport for London, Hounslow Highways, LBH Parks, LBH Traffic and LBH Enforcement.

Thursday, 23 November 2017 at Clayponds Community Centre, Brentford.

Wednesday, 7 February 2018 at Isleworth Public Hall, South Street.

Osterley Park Access: The National Trust now allows pedestrian access through the wider Osterley Park estate on a 24 hour daily basis throughout the year, to provide residents and visitors with freedom of choice. The vehicle gates will remain locked out of hours, opening at 7am daily until 7.30pm in summer and 6pm in winter. It is hoped that with these changes the estate will become self-policing with the core local audience engaging in the life of the property and informing estate staff and volunteers of any issues arising. The park's network of improved multi-use pathways is proving very popular with local commuters and those wishing to take advantage of the enhanced access earlier in the mornings and later in the evenings.

Libraries: From 1 August 2017, full control of local libraries has been assumed directly by Hounslow Council, with a view to improving services to residents. Do please continue to use the library, it's a precious commodity and we don't want to lose it.

Fly-tipping and litter: This is a growing problem throughout the country and has arisen through a combination of changes in council waste collection and recycling plus charges levied at waste disposal centres. Residents can report fly-tipping online at the Hounslow Highways website (public land), via email at pollution@hounslow.gov.uk (private land), or telephone on 020 8583 5555.

Osterley Bookshop: Located in Thornbury Road (north), the Osterley Bookshop is a haven of wonderful books, bric-a-brac, postcards, greetings cards and much more. It has been patronised by numerous luminaries over the years, so do pay it a visit and spend a while perusing its abundantly full shelves. For the month of September it is holding its annual sale when all books are at half-price.

NHS Patient Online Service: GP appointments and repeat prescriptions can now be arranged online through all Hounslow GP practices, meaning you no longer have to call or visit your GP practice for routine matters. For full information and how to sign up for the service go to: www.nhs.uk/patientonline.

Hounslow Family Services Directory: There is now a single online point giving information and advice for families, including childcare, nurseries, children's centres, youth clubs, counselling and many more. Visit: fsd.hounslow.gov.uk

Updates on local developments

Bolder Academy	<p>The Bolder Academy was approved by Hounslow Planning Committee on 3rd August. It is scheduled to open in Sept 2020 at the end of MacFarlane Lane (off Syon Lane) on the current Grasshoppers site, but will go into temporary accommodation in Sept 2018 (we have not as yet been informed of its location).</p> <p>Whilst OWGRA was not opposed to the school, we raised serious concerns in respect of transport, traffic and access issues and had hoped for a deferral so that these important issues could be addressed, as these had been raised as far back as December 2016. It is hoped that the Committee and the planners will take on board these matters as the eventual prospect of some 3000 children and staff of the Nishkam and Bolder Schools using a small congested area (mainly along Syon Lane) on a daily basis is an unwelcome one and can only be alleviated somewhat if additional access to the Bolder School can be achieved (ideally via Harlequin Ave). The Bolder School made much of the prospect of a 'Park & Stride' agreement being concluded with Tesco Osterley, but as it stands we are aware of no such agreement having been reached. All in all the situation contains numerous 'grey areas' and we can but hope that these will be addressed and resolved before both the Nishkam and Bolder Schools actually open.</p>
Grasshoppers	<p>Work has commenced on the new Grasshoppers site, located to the north of the new Nishkam School between Syon Lane and Wood Lane. OWGRA has met with the construction company, Dawnus, and we will be closely monitoring all activities until completion scheduled for August 2018. The main activity will comprise the establishment of the various sports pitches and the construction of the new clubhouse and related facilities. Dawnus has confirmed that the area on the eastern border with Syon Lane where the ancient thicket was wantonly destroyed in March will be extensively replanted with mature trees and shrubs this coming autumn. However, in the course of the excavations Dawnus has unearthed a considerable amount of builders' and household waste presumably dumped on the site many years previously. This includes asbestos which is to be removed by specialist personnel. Exclusion zones have been established and it is stated that there is no danger to residents. On the western extremity along Wood Lane, there will also be replanting and a 'wildlife' sanctuary area will be established.</p>
Nishkam School	<p>Construction of the school is proceeding according to plan and it is scheduled to open in Sept 2018. Local residents will be working very closely with the school and the Council to avoid traffic chaos and illegal drop-offs by parents outside of the designated 'Park & Stride' site at the Wyevale Garden Centre. Such a facility has not been agreed by Tesco Osterley.</p> <p>The roadworks along Wood Lane have now been completed but there has been some 'confusion' in respect of the implementation of double-yellow lines, as local residents had not been consulted and the lines have extended too far south whilst the northern part of the road is not included at all. This appears to have been an error on the part of the construction company and is being addressed by the council.</p>
Gillette South	<p>The application for an 11-storey mixed residential/office/storage development on the site of the former Shell garage at Gillette Corner (south west site) was refused planning permission on 11 August 2017 by the Council planners. But that won't be the end of it; there will be more plans for the site no doubt, but for the moment it's all gone quiet. OWGRA will monitor the situation.</p>
Jersey Gardens	<p>Hedge cutting and maintenance on the boundaries of Jersey Gardens along the A4 opposite Ridgeway Road is currently the responsibility of Carillion. Any issues or problems should be referred directly to Carillion on hounslow.info@carillionservices.co.uk or 0845 456 2796.</p>
CPZ - Controlled Parking Zones	<p>There are numerous consultations on-going in the OWGRA area about parking. We are conscious that when a CPZ is introduced it just shifts the parking problem elsewhere.</p> <p>The CPZ hours in St Mary's Crescent have been reduced to 10-12 in the mornings allowing parking for Osterley Library and the Bowls Club in the afternoons.</p>

OWGRA membership

OWGRA is entirely run by volunteers and relies totally on subscriptions and donations to fund our public meetings, newsletters and other activities. If you are not already a member please do join us so that we can continue to serve the residents of Osterley. It only costs £5 per person per annum. A Membership Form can be downloaded from our website on www.owgra.org.uk or contact us at the address below. Do keep an eye on the website as we are adding information there regularly. If you have any comments on the website or would like to help with it then do please get in touch.

Keep in touch

If you would like to be kept up-to-date on what is happening in our area then sign up to our e-newsletter, which is sent every few weeks, by e-mailing
info@owgra.org.uk

We also have an informative website, so check that out on
www.owgra.org.uk