



CARA

Canbury & Riverside Association

Working to protect and enhance our local amenities for everyone

Newsletter Winter 2018

Help us spend money

We need CARA members to help decide what local projects need support. Latest accounts show some £2000 are available. We could spread this money over several small items and/or contribute to a major project. In the past CARA projects have ranged from the very costly - lighting in Canbury Gardens, to the much more modest - bulb planting. Please tell us about any projects you think would be suitable, however small or large. Members will be sent the list for ranking in order of importance and suitability. Ideas by email to richard@statacom.net or speak to a Committee Member (see the back page).

Space for a personally addressed
Membership Subscription Reminder
delivered with hard copies

Canbury Gardens Working Party

The Canbury Gardens Working Party which CARA has championed is to be reinstated, chaired jointly by local councillors Katrina Lidbetter and Maria Netley. CGWP is a really useful group, bringing together the council officers, councillors, the contractors and stakeholders like CARA and the Thames Landscape Strategy.

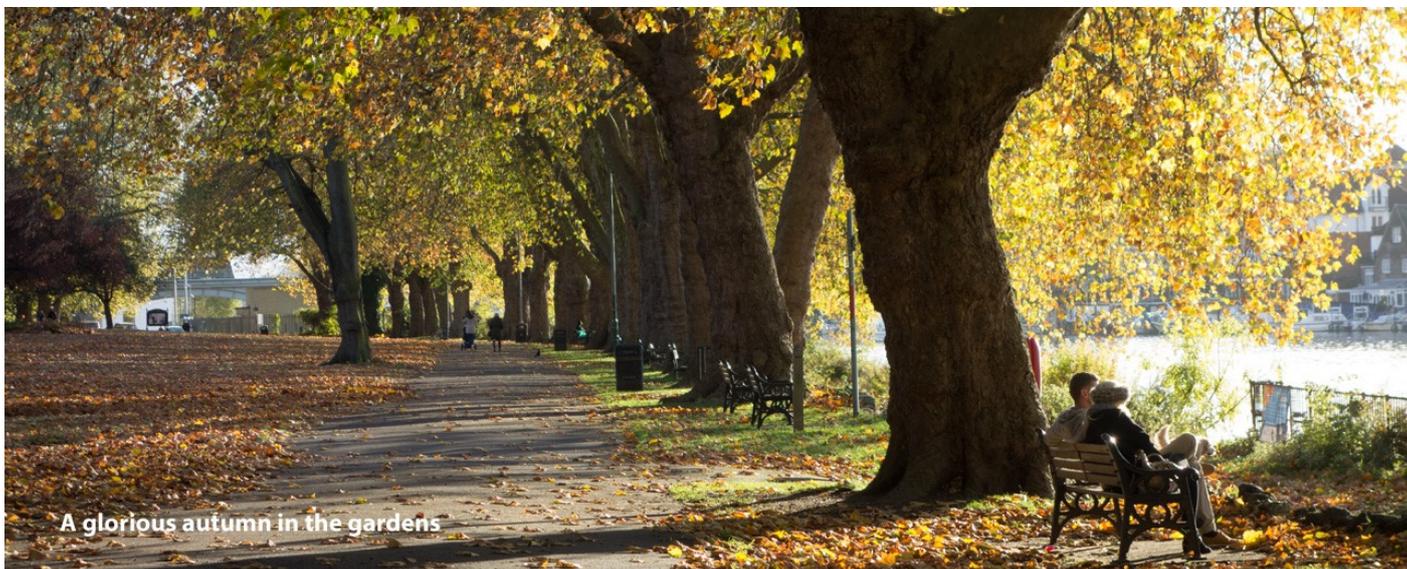
Action in Canbury Gardens

Our last newsletter said CARA was pressing for action in the Gardens. Efforts are bearing some fruit.

- We note the decline in maintenance standards has stopped; some say it is improving, but more is needed.
- To reduce litter, five new wheelie bins were delivered, but they had to be all in one place for collection so they had little impact. Other ideas are being looked at.
- Despite a new lock, the North End Gate is frequently left open and cars parked along the riverside. The

council has promised new signs, and is reviewing the possibility of a self-closing barrier, but that would require significant outside funding.

- There's good news: we are to have more bulbs planted, thanks to our local councillors, and we should be given some new trees.
- The really good news is that the all-weather sports pitch next to the pavilion will be opened (with a fanfare!) in March. You will be invited.



A glorious autumn in the gardens

Planning Pressure

We are told that the target for new homes to be built in Kingston in the next ten years is **four** times the number achieved in recent years. We recognise the need for more homes, but we aim to influence development to be in keeping with our local environment. The North Kingston Forum, who are advising the Council on residents opinions of planning policy, have sought our views. NKF will be asking you to comment on the guidelines they are currently producing for RBK. We urge you to respond when asked. There is a lot of pressure from central and London government to dramatically increase the number of homes in our borough. Every spare plot of land, large or small, is being sought by developers. For example, rumour has it a fresh planning application to build on the **Barge Dock** will come to Kingston Town Planning Committee in January. Whilst the recent planning application for Canbury Business Park has been dropped, a new one will surely follow. The development of the Bingo Hall is going ahead ... Slowly. If you would like to help monitor development and planning, please contact john.parrish1080@gmail.com

CARA AGM 2018

After a brief outline of CARA's many activities during the year there was a lively discussion of work to be done in Canbury Gardens. Of the action reported on p1, litter was members' greatest concern. There was good support for exercise equipment for the new sports pitch. Mike Seigel followed the meeting with a most amusing and enlightening talk about his roles as Kingston's Town Crier and Tipstaff.

Dealing with litter and the "Ploggers"

CARA's Spring and autumn litter-picks are very well established. The litter-pick this October was very successful (see below) thanks to the work along the riverbank and in Canbury Gardens by pupils and parents from The Kingston Academy and the Leander Sea Scouts, who put out boats to pick up the litter at the river's edge, where others couldn't reach. The oddities found included a cash register (no cash!) and a loo seat. We are delighted that others are tackling litter. CARA are in touch with a local group of Ploggers to see how we can combine forces. Plogging originated in Scandinavia where joggers, old and young, pick up litter when taking exercise (see www.facebook.com/plogolution). If you would like to be involved with litter-picking, please contact richard@statacom.net.



Can you see the river? Help us maintain our views of the Thames



The overgrown riverbank, June 2018

CARA is helping to raise money so we can continue to enjoy the views of the Thames. Sponsorship is needed for the Thames Landscape Strategy to manage scrub cutting along the riverbank in North Kingston for a couple of weeks each winter. Last year TLS could only afford to spend a few days in Canbury Gardens, so the rest of our riverbank has become overgrown. They have no funding for any of this work in future, but thanks to generous support from several CARA members we have raised about half the sponsorship needed to for scrub cutting in our area this winter. We are grateful to the Boaters Inn, who promoted donations throughout November to the Father

Thames Trust, the charity that supports the TLS.

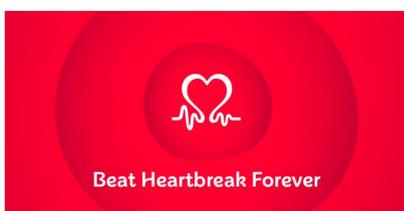
Please help us to complete the job this year, and if you sponsor by an ongoing Standing Order it will enable TLS to plan to keep the vegetation under control in future years. Sponsorship forms are available from Richard (contact details on the back page) or donate online at www.justgiving.com/fatherthamestrust

When asked 'What's your message of support for Father Thames Trust' include 'Kingston Towpath Management' in your answer.



The river view: scrub cutting there in earlier times

Sign up for 'Heartstart' First Aid Training



Would you like to be trained to give first aid for cardiac arrest? Following the enthusiastic response at CARA AGM, there will be a 'Heartstart' training session on 10 January 2019 at 7.00 pm at Canbury Pavilion. The session will last about 3 hours. If you would like to attend, contact Alan Pettitt by phone on 020 8549 2972 or 07802 744 656 or email him at alanchemist@btinternet.com

Chicken Collective comes to Canbury

Canbury Community Chicken Collective's seven members (one for each day of the week) are enjoying observing and caring for their newly re-homed chickens, rescued, via the excellent Chicken Welfare Trust from certain death, as they had reached the end of their commercial laying life. They are very clever chickens, laying every day since their arrival and learning to put themselves to bed after only a couple of days in their new home. They have plenty to keep them interested in their run (constructed by volunteers, mainly out of salvaged bits of wood and wire fencing and the Secret Café's unwanted old gazebo frames), and seem very happy exploring the run and, occasionally, the community garden, where they enjoy scratching around in the autumn leaves for tasty tit-bits.

The community gardeners have had bumper crops this year. Park Brewery harvested some hops in late September to flavour a very local brew. Kingston Rotary donated £100 to the community garden to compensate for the disruption of the Dragon Boat Race day, a very useful contribution towards next year's costs. Filippo of the Secret Cafe is kindly allowing the gardeners and chicken-keepers access to his outdoor water tap.



Moving News

- But first the stopping news! We have just heard that after many complaints from local people the paper parking permits for residents' visitors will not be phased out. Don't be put off by any suggestion that they are only for people "with no internet access". All CPZ residents can order paper visitor's parking permits on the parking phone line.
- Other good moving news is that there has been some serious cutting back of trees and bushes on both sides of Lower Ham Road along the river. The road is now open for two-way traffic and pedestrians don't have to squeeze into the bushes as cars pass. CARA thanked the contractor's manager, Mr Quirke, for the good job.
- Good news for Trees. In addition to replacing fallen or diseased trees the council plans to plant several new trees along Richmond Road, between Lower Ham Road and the three schools.
- More serious, is the speeding along Richmond Road. CARA brought this up at the local police panel meeting. Residents had noticed an increase in this dangerous activity and the night-time noise for those living along Richmond Road. The local police agreed to arrange occasional speed checks.

Films in the Park

This summer Canbury gardens played host to outdoor screenings major films including on Aug 30th the classic if slightly cheesy Top Gun. One visitor commented "utterly ridiculous but a brilliant night out in the open air everyone loving the 'cheese' and singing along to 'You've lost that loving feeling'. The glorious summer evenings enabled very many to attend many well organised performances with well managed sound and an excellent clean up afterwards. We look forward to doing it again in 2019



Christmas Drinks with CARA (see dates on next page)

CARA Committee

Sophie Cavanagh (liaison with local schools
head@thekingstonacademy.org

Penny D'Souza (planning applications; liaison with Canbury Gardens Working Party, Leander Sea Scouts and the Council)
14 Chestnut Road: 020 8549 5331:
pennydsouza@blueyonder.co.uk

Clare Francis (liaison with Thames Boat Project) 16 Chestnut Road: 020 8549 4581; clarefrancis@gmail.com

Nic Lewisohn (social events; liaison with Kingston Riverside tennis club) 23 Grosvenor Gardens; 07710 971917;
nic@lewisohns.com

Richard Mobbs (newsletter distributon; liaison with Thames Landscape Strategy and CARAFoG; environment) 31 Chestnut Road: 07762 598 309; richard@statacom.net

Des Noble (the police and Neighbourhood Watch);
desnoble@blueyonder.co.uk

John Parrish (newsletter content; parking; liaison with North Kingston Forum; heritage), 108 Lower Ham Road; 020 8546 1235; john.parrish1080@gmail.com

Charles Roscorla (Membership Secretary; Treasurer; heritage) 12 Ulster Court, Albany Park Road, KT2 5SS; 020 8546 0202; charos100@hotmail.co.uk

Filippo Selini (social events) Canbury Secret Café;
filippo.selini@gmail.com

Dates for your diary

Monday 10th December

Christmas drinks at the Boaters Inn.

All welcome. No tickets, just buy your drinks at the bar. (CARA cards will give 20% off food). For an idea of numbers please email your attendance to nic@lewisohns.com or phone/text on 07710 971917.

Street Reps

Albany Mews, Maria Netley
maria.netley@btinternet.com

Albany Park Road, Penny Stott
penny_stott@hotmail.com

42A Albany Park Road, Frances Bailey
francesabailey@hotmail.com

Grosvenor Gardens, Nic Lewisohn
nic.lewisohn@kantarworldpanel.com

Lower Kings Road, Jonathan Rollason
thinkkingston@yahoo.com

Waterman's Close, Susannah Rose-Innes
susannahroseinnes@gmail.com

Woodside Road, Mirella Docherty
mirelladocherty@hotmail.com

If you would like to be CARA Street Rep for a road or block of flats not covered above, please contact Des Noble (des.noble@virginmedia.com)

SUPPORT FOR CARA

Could you put a little time into any CARA projects or activities? CARA needs more people to get involved, or the organisation will fade away. If you are willing to help in any way, however limited, contact a member of CARA Committee (see above).

CARA MEMBERSHIP 2018/2019

Please use this form, or join and/or pay your subscription on line at <https://carakingston.org/about-us/membership/>

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone:

Email:

I would like to become a Member/renew my Membership^[1] of CARA.

I confirm that I support CARA's aims and objectives. (see CARA website www.carakingston.org)

Please tick boxes and/or fill in amounts below as appropriate

I have set up a standing order for a payment of £5 now and thereafter annually on 1 September to CARA, Barclays Kingston, sort code 20-46-73, account number 53451518, using my house (or flat) number and street (or block) name as a reference.

OR

I enclose a cheque/cash^[2] for £..... payable to "CARA" for my membership subscription

£5 to 31st August 2019 **or** £10 to 31st August 2020 **or** £15 to 31st August 2021

This payment includes an additional donation I wish to make towards the running of CARA of £.....

I do/do not require a receipt.

Signed:

Date:

Please send the completed form to CARA Membership Secretary, c/o 31 Chestnut Road, KT2 5AP.

^[1] A Member should be an individual person. Other residents of a Member's household within CARA Area^[3] will still enjoy the usual benefits, with the exception of voting. CARA Members resident outside CARA Area will receive only electronic versions of CARA newsletters and other communications.

^[2] You should **send cash only if it will be delivered by hand.**

^[3] CARA Area boundaries are:- to the West, the bank of the River Thames; to the North, Lower Ham Road; to the East, the west side of Richmond Road; and to the South, Lower Kings Road and Canbury Place.

CARA is administered by volunteers. We will process your Membership form as quickly as we can. New Members should receive a response, at the email or address provided, in under 28 days from when we receive your form.