

# The Heron

the newsletter of the North St Margarets Residents' Association



31 May 2009

## Welcome to the NSMRA Heron newsletter

The North St Margarets Residents' Association represents the views of residents living in Northcote, Haliburton, Heron, and Newry Roads and parts of Talbot and St Margarets Roads



On Sunday 19th July people all over the country will be getting together to share lunch at this new, fun, nationwide event.

A local resident Julia Hilger-Ellis, with the support of NSMRA and All Souls Church, is organising a Big Lunch on the day. The church has offered to open its doors and grounds for the event and we may be able to set up tables in the roads if its fine.

Come and join in. Simply register on the web site and come along, bringing some home-produced or local food.

To register to host or share lunch in your area and to find out more, go to [www.thebiglunch.com](http://www.thebiglunch.com)

You can contact Julia for further information at [jhilger\\_ellis@hotmail.com](mailto:jhilger_ellis@hotmail.com)



## GASS Day '09

GASS day is 19th September this year and as usual we'll be organising our ever-

popular range of events.

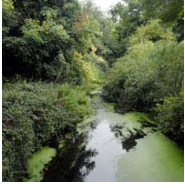
The day will start with Beating The Bounds at 11am where under 12s are invited to come along in fancy dress to recreate the ancient custom of beating the bounds of our parish with willow wands.

The street sale will start at 2pm and everyone is welcome to set up a stall outside or near to their home. It's up to you what you sell, be it food, bric a brac, toys or whatever, though we can't allow commercial stalls. It's just £1 per stall with proceeds towards community events.

In the evening we'll be organising a Residents' Party in the church hall with music from the 1970s and food to match.

Tickets will be limited and details will be available soon. Put the date in your diaries now!

Please call Nick or 020 8580 3960 or email [nsmra@btinternet.com](mailto:nsmra@btinternet.com) for details and tickets.



## River Clearing

The annual river clearing of the River Crane will be on 27th June this year and as ever everyone is welcome to participate in this fun event. Please wear old clothes including long trousers and meet us at 10am at Willow Cottage, 9

Talbot Rd. There will be River Dipping for children while the river clearing is in progress and both will end around 12.30. At 4pm there will be an Afternoon Tea and at 8pm a barbecue for everyone who has helped during the day. Further details are put through doors of river-adjointing houses nearer the time, or email [hilarythomson@aol.com](mailto:hilarythomson@aol.com) Please register if you are coming so we can judge numbers. ALL WELCOME

## Yellow lines on street corners

You may have seen notices to the effect that the council is shortly to paint yellow lines on the corners of some of our roads.

This is to improve access for emergency and delivery vehicles whilst ensuring that there is a safe line of sight on these junctions.

This will remove some of the parking spaces and we are questioning the length of the yellow lines on some corners. We will also be monitoring the knock-on effect on local parking

## Keeping the local police updated on incidents

There has recently been a concerning local incident which reinforces the need to keep the local police aware of any antisocial (or worse) behaviour.

The police have asked that we report EVERYTHING to them as they use the pattern and frequency of incidents to plan where they patrol and how often.

If you see an incident actually happening, even if not that serious, call 999. Also call 999 if you are being threatened (including verbal threats).

If you see cars/quadbikes/mopeds racing up the road, call 999. This is regarded as very serious and police can create roadblocks to trap miscreants at drop of a hat apparently.

If you see something that has happened, or more low-level nuisance (bike riders without registration for example) call our Safer Neighbourhoods team on 8721 2912, mob 07781 472588

Report all damage (such as the smashed mirrors) by calling the Safer Neighbourhood team, then call 0300 123 1212 to get a crime number.

Our local Safer Neighbourhoods Team are holding a Drop-In Surgery at V Thomas butchers, 387 St Margarets Road (near the Good Wine Shop) on Thurs 21st May from 11-12. A good opportunity to meet our local team and discuss any issues you may have.

## A note about the River Crane

Traditionally Spring was marked by the coming of the mayflower – or the first call of the cuckoo. Sadly all we get these days are the usual seasonal piles of garden refuse, willow prunings and grass clippings that appear in the River Crane. Thrown into the river by people who must believe that it all evaporates once it has floated off around the bend, the rubbish is trapped by overhanging foliage and moored boats, forming large, impenetrable rafts that prevent navigation, impede the natural flow of the river – and increase the risk of flooding.

Those of us who live alongside the Crane have a vested interest in the health and well-being of the river because it is ours – literally. Let's look after it together.

## Car Clubs

Car Clubs are here, now, in our area! In response to demand indicated by respondents to the CPZ consultation, the Borough has installed an experimental bay in Northcote Road, near the top. Evidence suggests that each space can reduce demand for parking by between 8 and 10 places so we can encourage local people to consider using them. Check out the car clubs at: [http://www.richmond.gov.uk/home/transport\\_and\\_streets/motor\\_vehicles\\_roads\\_and\\_parking/car\\_clubs.htm](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/home/transport_and_streets/motor_vehicles_roads_and_parking/car_clubs.htm)

## Pit Park

The *park* borders the River Crane just over the footbridge at the end of Northcote Road. Meetings and discussions are continuing to see if this might be turned into allotments or into a more community-friendly recreation area.

## Community Notice Board

We are working with All Souls church to erect a Community Notice Board with information from NSMRA, All Souls and others.

## Conservation Area

NSMRA is looking into whether the St Margarets Estate conservation area might be extended to include our streets. This might also include Ailsa and Gordon Roads.

## Help us to keep in touch

with you and send you updates on community matters.

If we don't have your current email address then please email us at [NSMRA@btinternet.com](mailto:NSMRA@btinternet.com) and we'll add you to our list. No commercial use of the list will be made and your email address will be kept confidential.

You can also access us on Facebook by joining the NSMRA group where there are discussion boards for local issues; You can also create your own and start a new discussion.