



CHARITABLE STATUS— A MESSAGE FROM THE TRUSTEES



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It was announced in the summer newsletter that the Charity Commission had approved the Weybridge Society's application to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) no. 1167053. The Society's entry on the Charity Commission's website can be

seen on <http://beta.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-details/?regid=1167053&subid=0>

The process of transferring the assets and liabilities of the existing Society to the CIO has started; on October 1st the Society's two bank accounts and all the memberships will be transferred to the CIO and formally mark the start date of the CIO .

Initially there will be the following four trustees; Dave Arnold, Barry Judd, John Hanafin and Richard Marshall. The constitution (see link here:

<http://www.weybridgesociety.org.uk/Constitution>) allows up to 20 trustees and the current trustees would encourage those who are interested in becoming a trustee to contact one of the above; details are on the back page.

The Society will still be managed on a day to day basis by the Executive Committee (the same as the current main committee but the terminology has been changed to be in line with that used by the Charity Commission); the members of this committee are shown on the back page of the newsletter as well as on the Society's website.

As part of the transfer to CIO status a small team has been reviewing and validating the membership database and the options for adopting a more up-to-date membership management system that enables, amongst other improvements, the ability to complete membership applications and subscription payments fully on-line. This move is considered essential in order to bring the Society up-to-date and crucially make new membership applications, changes to members' information etc. available for members to complete and amend totally

MEMBERSHIP RECORDS UPDATE

As part of the process of transferring to charitable status we are in the process of checking and updating membership records. With this newsletter you should have found a letter which shows the records the Society currently holds concerning your membership details. It is very important to us that you check these records and correct them where appropriate; also please add any missing information if especially you have a new or amended email address. Your email address will enable us to make efficient contact with you on both membership matters and communications of local interest that the Society sends out on a regular basis. If you have not received such a letter and/or have any questions, then please contact Trevor Lewis the Membership Secretary.

PLANNING PANEL

Are you interested in joining the planning panel? See Richard Marshall's article on *page 2* for more information.

online. The committee believes that such facilities are essential to make the Society easier to access especially for the younger generations who are already very comfortable with this method of joining Societies. We hope that having such a facility will help increase our membership especially amongst younger generations.

In the later part of this year we will be writing to all members requesting them to increase their subscription rates to £8 single and £12 joint as agreed at the AGM in April this year. The majority of members pay by standing order so we will be asking you to adjust your standing order accordingly. Additionally, as a Charity we will be able to claim gift aid on subscriptions providing you are a UK tax payer and we have your agreement. We will be including a form that you must sign and return to enable us to collect gift aid.

CHARITABLE STATUS (*continued from page 1*)

The Society will continue with the same activities as it has in the past for example by holding talks, responding to key local issues, comments on local planning applications and making modest donations to local charities. However, one opportunity that becoming a charity offers is the ability to receive tax efficient donations; significant increases in our income would enable the Society to participate in funding projects that are in line with the Society's objective of improving the local environment. Examples of this could include improvements to the street scene and other amenities. The Committee is keen to develop a list of

projects which hopefully will encourage members (and others) to make donations. We would welcome your ideas on what the Society should have on its list of possible projects; please pass them onto the committee.

As a charity we hope that the standing of the Society will be enhanced within the whole community and enable the Society to increase its membership. We would be interested to receive your comments as to the Society's future activities and would encourage you to consider joining the Executive Committee to assist in developing the Society further.

WHY NOT JOIN WEYBRIDGE SOCIETY PLANNING PANEL TO HELP ENHANCE WEYBRIDGE! HOW DOES IT WORK?

By Richard Marshall

In the last newsletter, there were four articles about how Councillors and others help to steer Weybridge towards good changes rather than detrimental ones. Weybridge Society's Planning Panel has the same objective, and would welcome some new members to offer fresh viewpoints (and to keep our average age from rising). New residents and parents with children would be especially welcome. There are no qualifications required except for the ability to look closely at plans (on line) in their geographical setting and review them against the Council's strategy and policies (not as daunting as it sounds). The Panel meets in the evening about 6 times a year.

Frequently the individual spur to joining the Panel comes from being threatened locally by an objectionable proposal which could have a better outcome if subjected to collective comment or advice. The Panel looks critically and systematically at all significant new planning applications and expresses views for the Society in writing to Elmbridge Council. Our letters typically make constructive criticisms or objections with a view to encouraging better developments in the public interest. Sometimes we may support a good scheme without reservations, or suggest minor changes. We aim to express views which are balanced and considered in the wider context of Weybridge, its residents, workers and visitors. On major or controversial schemes affecting the whole town we consult, where possible, experts on matters of architecture, transport or public amenities. Our letters are taken seriously by the officers and Councillors.

The panel rotates its chairmanship and has members familiar with each of the 3 council wards within Elmbridge Planning Committee's 'South Area' (which replaced 'West Area' in May 2016). These wards are now called Weybridge Riverside, Weybridge St Georges, and Oatlands Park, and the Council produces weekly lists of applications in each of these areas. We find that the historic character of Weybridge is surprisingly diverse and piecemeal. It is often fascinating to find new areas tucked away which many of us did not realise existed until something crops up.

Under the Society's new constitution as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) our approach will be very similar to that taken in the past. We are still an umbrella residents' association but are now required to act more widely for the interest and benefit of the general public. The panel's view may therefore, as in the past, come from several angles, which reflect the Society's charitable objects (in brief):--

- 1) promoting high standards of planning and architecture,
- 2) providing information about local heritage,
- 3) preserving and improving public facilities of all kinds.

Any of these objects may legitimately have a bearing on our stance towards planning applications, many of which quite rightly aim to meet housing needs in accordance with Elmbridge's Local Plan and Core Strategy (including affordable social housing and less dependency on urban car use). We also comment on council policies when applicable.

Members of the Panel will often be able to help the Society's members and residents' street associations to understand how to make valid objections to planning applications, (easily done, by email to tplan@elmbridge.gov.uk). There are now short time-limits

for making objections as Council planning officers are required to process applications quickly. The Government is pressing for many more small housing units to meet public demand, and has placed legal requirements upon Councillors and Planning Inspectors to refuse permission only if valid reasons for refusal can be found. Hence the Panel has to keep alert, be able to respond quickly and

effectively and now needs some new members to join and help with the reviews.

There will always be new planning applications to consider. Without the continuing pressure from the Panel and other concerned residents and organisations, Weybridge could become a much less pleasant place.

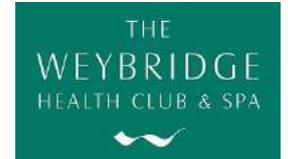
THE FIRST WEYBRIDGE SPORTS 10K RUN

The Asics Weybridge Sports 10k Run & Kids Mini Marathon takes place on Sunday 5th March 2017 and promises to be a great day of fun, community spirit and sporting success.

Online entries are now open and we look forward welcoming runners of all abilities. Organised by the Weybridge Sports Shop, this is the first running event in Weybridge that takes you through the high street and past the town monument, come and join us!

Join over a hundred runners that have already signed up since we launched in May. Enter yourself or enter a team for a reduced entry price and enjoy a running route that starts and finishes at the Weybridge Health Club & Spa and takes you past the river, through the town high street and by Walton Bridge.

#RunWeybridge with us and enjoy the post-race celebrations at our race village visit: www.weybridgesports10k.co.uk



SEEKING A LOST RELATIVE – A MAN WHO LIVED IN WEYBRIDGE IN THE 1960S

By Miranda Brooke

If you remember Trevor, and have any information you would like to share, please do get in touch with me.

He was born in 1926 and in 1960, at the age of 34, worked as a maintenance engineer for a company in Weybridge. In the early 1960s he was working as a driving instructor locally, and may have had his own driving school business. At the time, he had a girlfriend called Valaria (an unusual name). It might jog somebody's memory. In his mid 40s - in the early 1970s, he was working at Woolworths in Walton on Thames for a while, so someone might remember him from there. His surname was originally Balharrie.

There's a chance Trev himself is still around, or maybe he has friends, even a relative who might recognize him from the description or photo.

I'm writing on behalf of a member of his family in the USA.

My name: Miranda Brooke
 Write: 11 Kingsway Mansions, Red Lion Square, WC1R4SE
 Email: jjmbrooke@gmail.com
 Please call: 07873252442 (I can call you back)



The photograph above was taken when he was on holiday in Ireland in about 1938.

OLD GEORGIANS RUGBY CLUB

By Tom Sutton

Wish you were fitter? Fancy taking up a new sport? Like being part of a team? Want to get back into rugby, or discover what it's all about? Then why not join the O2 Touch revolution. Old Georgians Rugby Club with the help of England Rugby are running summer **O2 Touch**.

OGRFC are one of the newest and most exciting prospects in Surrey Rugby and as part of our community outreach we are aiming to get people active through this fun, sociable and highly energetic sport.

O2 Touch sessions are open both men and women, totally non-contact, and act as a great introduction to rugby or a great way to ease back into the sport after a long spell out. A fast, simple and exciting game it promotes the

fundamental rugby skills of handling, evasion and support play, without the physicality of the 15-a-side game

The sessions will take place at St Georges College, Weybridge on Mondays 7pm and will run throughout the summer (except for the Bank Holiday on 29th August).

O2 Touch ambassadors will be on hand to help facilitate and support anyone who is new to the game. Should you have any questions feel free to get in contact;

Peter@zionsport.com

Neil@zionsport.com

For more information on Old Georgians Rugby Club, please visit <http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/oldgeorgiansrhc/> or email Tom Sutton : sutton725@hotmail.com

INTRODUCING: STEVE MCCARTHY – OUR COMMUNICATIONS & WEB EDITOR

Steve has lived in Surrey most of his life with his school years spent in Horley and then Reigate. He moved to Weybridge twenty years ago, having previously spent seventeen years in Staines.

Steve qualified as a Chartered Engineer after University working in the rail and traffic control industries and also for a major confectionery manufacturer. He later moved into the fast developing world of computing with a major European computer services company. Over a 23 year period he managed significant international businesses providing hi-tech systems in the areas of telecoms and the internet.

After early retirement Steve became involved with local health services in Surrey as a patient representative which he continues today with the local NHS Clinical Commissioning Group. For nearly six years he has also been a Public Governor of Ashford and St Peters Hospital for the Elmbridge area.

He spent nine years as a board member of a Surrey housing association and currently sits on the board of a retirement housing provider.

Since 2008 Steve has been responsible for the Society's website and email communications.

Steve's other interests include; sailing in the Solent and further afield, minor restoration work on his classic car, and wider family activities.



PESTER POWER

By Nick Thrupp

Pester power. Who hasn't experienced it, whether from one's own child, grandchild or the child of another relative or friend? It's a powerful force, which is why advertisers often try to attract children to a product to influence their parents' buying behaviour.

While pester power and art don't normally go together, they do in The Triangle, the roads within the triangle formed by Queens Road, Hanger Hill and the London –Portsmouth railway line.

It was Bernadette Keane's brainwave to harness pester power and put it to productive use. Bernadette, one of the Triangle Residents' Group's founding committee members, had the idea of enlisting local children's help in the effort to

address long-standing local traffic and parking problems. So she approached Manby Lodge School, which was delighted to cooperate by asking its youngsters to draw colourful and amusing posters urging drivers to be considerate when driving and parking.

Not only would the posters raise the consciousness of passers-by about these issues, hopefully the children's heightened awareness of them would also be transmitted to the adults who drive them around.

Accompanied by the Surrey Advertiser, who photographed and reported the event, members of the TRG committee, teachers from Manby Lodge and a crocodile of children affixed the posters along Pine Grove and Princes Road in prominent positions at houses where residents had volunteered to take them.

If you would like to see the work of some budding young artists, why not take a walk along Pine Grove and Princes Road and see how many posters you can spot?

TEA COSIES & SUNSHINE: THE SUMMER PARTY 2016

By Haley Jenkins

On July 3rd 2016, *Splash!* - the beautiful home of Anne (Membership & Distribution Committee Member) and Ray Lindsay – played host to the Weybridge Society Summer Garden Party. This year our raffle raised £450, which will be donated to Sam Beare, many thanks to all those who bought tickets and joined in with the fun, by all accounts everyone was brimming with enthusiasm and took the opportunity to relax in the summer sun.

Many of our regulars arrived on the scene and we were delighted to see so many new faces as well, such as Ramon & Janet Gray (Weybridge Surrey County Councillor), Michael & Caroline Freeman (Riverside Elmbridge Borough Councillor), Simon Foale (Weybridge St. George's Hill Councillor) Rachel Lake (Deputy Mayor) & Ian Lake (Consort), Malcolm Loveday (Chairman of the Chertsey Society) and Margaret Nichols (Chertsey Society Committee Member). Also a big thank you to Margaret Wicks, Anne Lindsay & Lorraine Arnold for their fantastic party organisation and for making sure everyone had food, drink and tickets!

If you haven't been to one of our Summer Parties, why not join in next year? There are always delicious treats and tempting tipples, along with gorgeous scenery and friendly locals. I myself was new to the Weybridge Society scene last year and I couldn't have asked for a better welcome.

Photography by Mike Buhagiar

Top: Stefania Salvador & the band was in full swing! Middle: Rachel Lake & Lorraine Arnold read out the raffle numbers.

Bottom: Overview of the party.



LONDON PRUDENTIAL RIDE LONDON 2016

By Haley Jenkins

Cheering and clapping ran through Weybridge on 31st July. A wonderful wave of community spirit and joy rushed up to meet me as I ran into Church Street, eager to see the cyclists that had just started to pedal by! Up by *Sullivan's* crowds had gathered to show their support and encouragement to the cyclists who were only roughly 32-33 miles into their London-Surrey 100 route. The weather was kind to them, hitting around 22° at its highest, with scattered clouds and a gentle cool breeze to help them along the way.

Many of the cyclists were racing for charity and wore their chosen-charity emblems with pride. Since the race began in 2013, the London-Surrey 100 has raised over £2.9million (link at the end of the article) and Sunday's cyclists will only add to that figure. I wandered up Church Street towards Monument Green, the sound of motivational music and the voices of Brooklands Radio flowing down the street, only adding to the feel good vibe as people waved their flags and personal signs for family members taking part in the ride. The National Autistic Society held up banners outside *The Slug & Lettuce* that read: *You're amazing!* and I spotted many *Sam Beare* balloons floating above the crowds.

Following the success of Party On the Green, Weybridge Town Business Group organised a similar event on Monument Green, inviting businesses to run activities, set up stalls and generally add to the fun. If you wanted to get creative, *Potty About Pottery* had a wealth of mugs, bowls and plates who you to paint; while if you wanted to test your accuracy, *Mind Zone* hosted a 'mini-minds tennis' game! This editor particularly enjoyed the food stalls, such as the pork and apple scotch eggs at *Simon's Pies* or the sweet chilli dipping sauce & glaze from *Bickerton's*. The beautiful art of local Walton-on-Thames artist Lesley Blackburn also took pride of place, be sure to check out her gorgeous paintings on the website below.

A big well-done and thank you needs to go out to the wonderful volunteers who helped ferry people back-and-forth across the roads, who found gaps in the cyclists so that people with prams and wheelchairs could get across safely. Many thanks!

London-Surrey 100 Prudential Ride Charity figures:

<https://www.prudentialridelondon.co.uk/charity/charitable-trust/>

Link to Lesley Blackburn's artwork:

<https://www.artgallery.co.uk/search/default5.aspx?show=true#b>

Brooklands Radio: <http://www.brooklandsradio.co.uk/>

And if you want to get involved with the Weybridge Town Business Group, you can find more information and contact details here:

<http://www.weybridgetown.co.uk/>

Alternatively, contact them via:

info@weybridgebusiness.co.uk 07710 036 881



Top & middle photograph taken by: Haley Jenkins. Bottom photograph by Liz Montgomerie (permission granted for newsletter use)

LOVE COMFORTETH LIKE SUNSHINE AFTER RAIN

By Nick Thrupp

Elmbridge Literary Competition for poets and prose writers

In his book 'On Writing' Stephen King, one of the most successful commercial writers in the world, admitted to having received so many rejections for his work he kept them on a spike next to him to spur him to greater efforts. JK Rowling was famed for the number of times her work was rejected. John Le Carre's rejection letters make amusing reading in the light of his subsequent successes. These are just three examples of many why persistence and practice are necessary for anyone with literary aspirations.

Many aspiring writers enter literary competitions because they provide an opportunity to hone their skills and, if they are successful in winning or being placed, to build their literary cv, which can be invaluable in differentiating themselves from all the other hopefuls in the literary agents' or publishers' 'slush piles' (i.e. their unsolicited submissions).

It is therefore very heartening to see Elmbridge once again supporting budding writers of all ages by taking the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death as the inspiration for its twelfth Elmbridge literary competition. This year the focus is on one of the most prevalent themes in his work - Love.

This year's Literary Competition is asking for short stories or poems that offer a fresh and new perspective on one of the oldest and most mined themes in literature

There are several age groups – Ages 5-7 (Little rhymes & stories), Ages 8-11 (Junior), Ages 11-13 (Secondary), Ages 14-18, Ages 19+. All these categories - except Ages 5-7 - can submit poems and short stories.

Full details on how to enter can be found at:

<http://www.elmbridge.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/whats-on-in-elmbridge/literary-competition/>

A panel of professional authors, the Director of The RC Sherriff Trust and the Arts Development Officer for Elmbridge Borough Council will judge the entries.

Winners will receive prizes of book tokens. The winning and short-listed entries will be showcased online on the RC Sherriff and Elmbridge Borough Council websites and will be given a public reading in November at the Prize-giving event, to which all winners and short-listed writers and their guests will be invited.

The closing date for entries is Monday 24 October 2016 at 5pm and entry to the competition is free.

For further information, please contact the Arts Development Officer at Elmbridge Borough Council or the R C Sherriff Trust.



TRIANGLE RESIDENTS' GROUP (TRG)

By Nick Thrupp

When six residents from Pine Grove and Princes Road met up informally back in January 2016 to discuss what could be done about long standing and ever worsening traffic and parking issues in 'The Triangle' (those roads within the triangle formed by the London-Portsmouth railway line, Queens Road and Hanger Hill) they didn't imagine they were in the early stages of setting up a residents' association and they only called themselves the Triangle Residents' Group, or TRG for short, as a matter of convenience.

Several weeks later, following numerous discussions with Councillors at the Surrey and Elmbridge Borough Council levels on the matters that concerned residents' most, they concluded they would carry more weight if they

formalised their status as a representative body. As a result their constitution was endorsed at a well-attended inaugural AGM on 7th June.

TRG's objectives are:

(1) To monitor planning, traffic and related matters that have the potential to impact significantly on the interests of local residents living in 'The Triangle'.

(2) To influence the decision makers in the Council and other appropriate public bodies by ensuring that the views of those residents are presented to them in a clear and timely manner.

(3) To maintain open communication with local residents on the outcome of these activities.

The matters that will be addressed by TRG will be those that have a significant impact on 'The Triangle' and it is not expected that TRG will become involved in individual planning applications or neighbourly disputes which do not have broader implications.

So what has TRG, the 'new kid on the block', actually done in its brief existence?

The roads in The Triangle form one holistic system. Both Pine Grove and Princes Road are used as cut-throughs by traffic between Queens Road and Hanger Hill, and if changes are made to one, they will have an impact on the other.

TRG therefore canvassed views, by means of a questionnaire, of about 400 households living in Pine Grove, Princes Road and the side roads they serve.

Analysis of the results revealed that residents considered there to be a serious problem with the volume of traffic (which includes a high commercial vehicle content) frequently moving at speed along roads with blind corners and junctions made even more awkward by parked vehicles obscuring sight lines and reducing road widths to single lane.

In Pine Grove residents additionally considered narrow or non-existent footways frequently obstructed by parked cars to be serious problems. In Princes Road poorly maintained roads and obstructed drives and access ways were additional serious problems.

Drawing on these survey results, supplemented by some further observational research, TRG compiled a set

of Proposed Strategic Options, and embarked on an ongoing process of discussing these with Surrey County Council and Elmbridge Borough Councillors with a view to seeking their support to address traffic and parking issues within The Triangle.

TRG also gave feedback on the proposals emerging from the Weybridge Parking Review.

At the same time, TRG is endeavouring to raise awareness of the need for consideration in driving and parking within the Triangle. It is working closely with Manby Lodge School whose children drew a number of posters on these themes which they and members of the committee put up around the Triangle on 16th July.

Of course, at the time TRG was formed, another major issue was looming over the Triangle - the application to re-develop the former Trident Honda site at 30 Queens Road - so TRG became involved in that too. To TRG's disappointment, the Inspector finally found in favour of Cleanslate Limited's second application. Nevertheless, a number of conditions will be specified following this decision. TRG will ensure they are adhered to by producing a simple summary and circulating it to Triangle residents before building commences, so that they can make a point of looking at the site when passing and let TRG know if they spot any failures to comply.

To contact TRG, please email trgweybridge@gmail.com

PORTMORE PARK & DISTRICT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (PPDRA)

By Miles MacLeod

Portmore Park & District Residents Association (PPDRA) was founded in the mid 1960s to help give local people more of a voice on local issues. It covers the area between Weybridge High Street and the rivers Wey and Thames, and is concerned with local heritage, quality of life and community.

PPDRA has a history of campaigning on matters which affect the local community, with some success, for example over action to calm the speed of traffic in our residential roads, and helping win amended plans for Walton Bridge, where PPDRA evidence at the Public Inquiry helped prevent a huge cloverleaf junction that would have deprived the community of valued riverside land at Cowey Sale and would have increased rat-run traffic along Walton Lane and through Weybridge.

Recurring issues include parking (and the need for more off-street parking for Weybridge), community amenities, traffic, riversides, footpaths, flooding, Green Belt, litter, and of course Town Planning. Current concerns include pressing for Broadwater Path to become reality; seeking a positive outcome from the Weybridge Parking Review; the local impact of the River Thames Scheme, and plans for improving our local stretch of Thames Path.

PPDRA is very active in working with Councillors on local issues, and in participating in consultation with bodies such as the Environment Agency on matters which affect local residents. PPDRA membership is open to residents of roads around Portmore Park, Thames Street and Walton Lane.

New members are welcome. You can learn more at the PPDRA website, at portmore.org.uk.

WEYBRIDGE PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (WPRA)

By Diane Cowden

Weybridge Park is managed by the Weybridge Park Residents Association Limited (WPRA) and the day to day function of the board is to administer, monitor and maintain the common parts of the estate for the benefit of all residents. The board organises regular cleaning and maintenance of the roads, gardening around the estate entrances and ensures that 3rd party services are operating efficiently.

WPRA also seek to improve aspects of the estate where appropriate. For example, recently the entrance and exit of Weybridge Park was widened at the junction with Hanger Hill which has significantly improved both safety and access for vehicles.

Earlier this year the board started communicating with virtually all residents by email (eWP). This is a notable achievement, which allows instant contact providing information on both Weybridge Park developments and notification of any problems arising. In addition to these, eWP also provides a medium for general communication through newsletters and statutory communication such as the AGM notification.

Very importantly, this communication is two-way ensuring that all residents can immediately access Directors with their views on current events and future estate projects.

Projects that are under consideration and consultation include landscaping parts of the estate as many trees are now becoming over-mature, improving surface water drainage and upgrading the gates to the estate.

WPRA and their residents are in constant communication and work together to maintain and improve the estate so that it remains an attractive and exciting place to live in now and for the future.

2016 ELMBRIDGE PARKING REVIEW

By Dave Arnold



For many years SCC Parking Team has undertaken an annual review of on-road parking restrictions within Weybridge. Its considerations were based on comments made by the public and its own assessments of parking “problems” within the town. Often changes were made which merely displaced a problem from one location to another creating much displeasure with the newly affected residents. Changes were made without an estimate of the demand for spaces (e.g. those required by residents, workers and visitors etc.) and to the way in which off-street parking made a key contribution to providing part of the solution; it should be noted that Elmbridge is the authority for off-street parking.

It was therefore refreshing to see that the Elmbridge Local Committee, which has overall responsibility for implementing on-road parking restrictions, changed the policy on parking reviews in 2015 to ensure a more holistic review was undertaken area by area every three years. The first review undertaken covered Cobham, the second was for Weybridge and was initiated in late 2015. In early 2016 the public were asked to submit comments on

parking to be subsequently taken into consideration by the SCC Parking Team in its evaluation and formulation of its proposals. The proposals were published in June and can be seen via the following link

<http://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/documents/g5008/Public%20reports%20pack%20Monday%2027-Jun-2016%2016.00%20Elmbridge%20Local%20Committee.pdf?T=10> (Item 13 pages 29 to 62).

The Society was disappointed with these proposals and submitted its views to Local Committee members before the Local Committee meeting on June 27th. The Society’s main concerns were based on the lack of an assessment of demand (i.e. overall requirements for car parking spaces within Weybridge) and the lack of an holistic approach and which would have assessed both on and off street parking to provide workable solutions. Additionally, no consideration was given to the traffic calming benefits of on street parking, for example residents in the TRG area (see article on Page ??) see a trade-off between reducing



on-street car parking and the consequent increase in vehicle speeds and increased safety concerns

At the Local Committee Meeting on June 27th many members expressed their concerns about the SCC Proposals; at a private meeting it was agreed that an informal meeting would be held at the end of July with the Chairman and local Weybridge Councillors to agree the way forward. This meeting was held but it is understood that some attendees were unhappy with its outcome as their proposals for changes were dismissed. It is understood now that the SCC Parking Team proposals referenced above will be advertised for comment. We will advise Society members through e-blast when this occurs; we would encourage you to make your comments known to both the SCC Parking Team and your local councillors.

Evidence of a joined-up approach between Elmbridge and Surrey Councils in the provision of parking spaces before any recommendations are made would have been welcomed; with more information on the requirements for parking (i.e. demand), a better baseline would be available on which to analyse requirements and evaluate solutions. This would give residents and businesses alike confidence that a well-considered holistic approach had been adopted to provide justifications for any changes in on-road parking restrictions and off-street parking arrangements. For the future the Society will be encouraging a joined up approach between Surrey and Elmbridge Councils on the provision of an evidence based balanced and supportable solution to the parking needs in Weybridge.

WEYBRIDGE PLANNING NEWS

Disclaimer: The following information is summarised from the Weybridge Society's Planning Panel's records; it is up to date at the time of writing and we hope that it is a true representation of the panel's opinion.

WAREHOUSE AT 47 THAMES ST.

In previous newsletters we have reported that the application for the conversion of this redundant warehouse has been permitted. Our Panel is resolved to continue to support local residents and resist unsuitable proposals as this development progresses.

More than a dozen applications make the situation extremely complicated. The plans for a very large window in the front of the building was unfortunately permitted on appeal. We believe this was because the grounds for refusal were not adequately transmitted in the refusal notice, costs were awarded against the Council. An application for ventilation has been permitted with conditions attached, another for underground parking has been refused, and a similar application is pending a decision.

2015/2143 - THE LITTLE MILL BULL DOG ISLAND JESSAMY RD SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION

The Weybridge Society has objected to this application on the grounds that this is creeping development in the Flood Plain, Conservation Area and Green Belt. We are pleased to report that this application has now also been refused on appeal.

2014/2815 - 2015/2699 – ARBROOK FARM, WALTON LANE

You may have noticed a large barn close to Walton Lane, which has been permitted as a farm building. A second application has been made for additional storage containers, fencing and an access road on this site. The Planning Panel has objected to this in support of the many members of the public, who consider this inappropriate use of the Green Belt. This application was withdrawn. This site should have been returned to agricultural land after the new Walton bridge had been completed. The Elmbridge enforcement officer informs us that the application will now be amended by removing the containers, reducing the area of tarmac, changing the fences to something more suitable and replacing the security barrier.

2014/3423 - HONDA GARAGE DEVELOPMENT

Unfortunately the planning Inspector has decided to permit this second application, despite the Planning Panel making a very good case in support of the Council's decision to refuse.

2015/3339 -2016/1287 SITE OF 287 AND 289 BROOKLANDS ROAD

Following the first application, which had 49 objections and was refused, a new improved application has 2 objectors and 2 supporters. This application is for 2 houses to be replaced by 1 detached house, 1 pair of semi-detached houses and a block comprising 14 apartments. We expect this application to be approved.

2016/1403 - LAND REAR OF 17/19 CHURCH STREET.

There is an application to develop a small finger of land bounded by some fencing, adjacent to the Library and Churchfields car park, also next to the Idris House office building. This application is for 7 one/two bed flats, in part 1/2 storey buildings, with no parking provided. There have been 9 objections, including that of the Society lodged so far. In our consideration this is clearly over-development and totally out of character with the area which includes the Grade II (starred) St. James Church.

2016/1001 - ALBANY COTTAGE, WESTDENE WAY

This proposed development is to replace one house with 2 large houses and an outbuilding. Our Planning Panel has supported the 14 residents objecting to this application. Previous applications in 2013 (for three 2 storey houses) and 2014 (again, for three 4/5 bed houses) were both refused and the latter dismissed on appeal. The current proposal is of a scale altogether out of character with the established local built form. In particular the ridge height, roof bulk and the mass of the office building are of concern.

2016/1644 - 7/9/11 - HALL PLACE DRIVE & 165 QUEENS ROAD BEHIND NETHERBY PARK.

This large development that has been proposed is for 22 residential units, replacing 3 existing houses. There have been 39 objections submitted so far which includes one from our Society. The basic grounds of our objection are that the development proposes intensive overdevelopment. This is totally out of character with the surrounding area and detrimental to the street scene and views from the existing houses. It would appear that over 78% of the trees currently on the site will be removed. The proposal has a serious lack of amenity space. The mass and scale of the main part of the proposed development “coalesce” virtually as one block, resulting in unwanted intrusion and overlooking by totally dominant buildings. Nearby Netherby Park properties would also be affected.

2026/2023 - CARANDAL BROOKLANDS LANE

This site is opposite the public open area of Weybridge Heath and green belt.

Our reasons to object are: 1) The development with a high crown roof has a dominant mass when viewed from the Heath 2) The side elevation on March Road is also very dominant and not compatible with the existing street scene 3) The entrance to the site is on a narrow part of Brooklands Lane, which serves Heathside School. This lane is already exceptionally busy during term time, especially at the junction with March Road. We think this unsympathetic development on a key site opposite to a public open space should be refused.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

23rd September 2016 – Dementia Coffee Morning – Surrey Libraries are organising a coffee morning for people with dementia and their carers. The Alzheimer’s Society will be attending the event and will answer any questions.

Venue: Weybridge Centre for the Community, Churchfield House, Churchfield Road, Weybridge KT13 8DB. **Time:** 10.00am-12.00noon

24th September 2016 – Mach Tea For 2 - Re-live the atmosphere of the golden age of supersonic flight with Concorde, and the elegant style of afternoon tea in London’s great and grand hotels on a ‘Mach 2 for Tea’ afternoon. Sip Champagne on Concorde, enjoy Afternoon Tea in the Vickers Suite to the accompaniment of evocative ‘Palm Court’ music, and chat with a British Airways Concorde Pilot and Concorde Stewardess about a day in their lives flying ten miles high at twice the speed of sound!

Venue: Brooklands Museum – Contact: flyconcorde@brooklandsmuseum.com 01932 857381



Price: £75 per person (Champagne may be purchased by the glass or bottle during the Tea)

25th September 2016 – Brooklands Great War 100 - Join us as we mark the centenary of World War One, with a special event encompassing the many aspects of Brooklands' involvement in the Great War of 1914 – 1918. For this special event we will be gathering automobiles, motorcycles, bicycles, commercial vehicles, buses and aircraft from the period up to 1919. All pre-1919 vehicles are welcome to join us - please enter via the Campbell Gate off Brooklands Road, the B374. All other parking is in our Visitor Car Park at Mercedes-Benz World or in The Heights - please follow event signage. Gates open at 10am.

Venue: Brooklands Museum – Contact: Brooklands Museum events@brooklandsmuseum.com 01932 857381

29th September 2016 – Brooklands College Talk - The Weybridge Society is pleased to announce that there will be a talk by Gail Walker about Brooklands College. Gail is the Principal and CEO of Brooklands College.

Venue: St James Church Centre (park in Churchfields car park)

Time: 8.00pm (doors open 7.30pm). All welcome - **Members Free, Guests £3**

1st October 2016 – Autumn Weybridge Male Voice Choir Concert – Venue: Catholic Church of Christ the Prince of Peace, Portmore Way, Portmore Park Road, Weybridge, Surrey KT13 8JD. **Price:** Tickets £10. **Box Office:** 01252 326 514

23rd October 2016 – Transportfest - Transportfest returns in 2016 with extensive bus displays, including rarely-seen early examples, and smaller displays of taxis, commercials, military & emergency vehicles. There will be heritage bus trips, horse bus rides (extra charges apply), a large collectors' market, live music and children's attractions. This event is not just for transport enthusiasts, but fun for all the family as well! Normal admission charges apply and there will be extra parking in The Heights - please follow event signage. **Venue:** Brooklands Museum – Contact: events@brooklandsmuseum.com 01932 857381

12th November 2016 – Treble Clef Ladies Choir Concert - Charity Event In Aid Of RNLI (Byfleet & Weybridge Branch) - horal and Solo songs from opera, showbiz and religious repertoires, followed by "Meet the Choir" reception, and RNLI Christmas goods sale. Immerse yourselves in glorious song while raising funds for Saving Lives at Sea, on rivers and from floods, around the UK and Eire. **Venue:** St Mary Oatlands Church, Oatlands Avenue, Weybridge, Surrey KT13 9TS. **Time:** Doors open at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start.

23rd November 2016 – 'The Birds of Ancient Egypt with John Wyatt' - North West Surrey RSPB Talks & Meetings At Weybridge - John is both an Egyptologist and ornithologist and has combined his specialisms to discover 245 species recorded from the age of the pharaohs. Hear how birds were selected for hieroglyphs, as food, in art, and for mummification. Unless otherwise specified, you do not need to be a member of the RSPB (or the local group) to join us on our events, and birdwatching experience is not necessary. If you have any questions please get in touch with the contact shown with the event details. **Venue:** The hall of the Catholic Church, Christ the Prince of Peace, Portmore Lane, Weybridge, Surrey, KT13 8JD. **Time:** Open at 7.15 pm for 7.45 pm to 10.00 pm meeting. **Price:** RSPB Members £3.00, Local Group Members FREE and Non RSPB Members £3.00. Optional donation. Contact: Ken Sutton kd.sutton@ntlworld.com

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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***Would you like to join the
Weybridge Society?
Please contact any Committee
member- see Page 8***

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