

HERSHAM RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

ESTABLISHED 1971

1. Non-political
2. Serving all Hersham residents
3. President Andrew Sturgis
4. Chairman David Lock

Briktor 19a West Grove
Hersham • KT12 5PF
01932 220379 •

andrew.sturgis@btinternet.com
<http://www.hershamresidents.info/>



Hersham is full of surprises; and even if you may have lived here for a while there's always some snippet of local knowledge to discover that may be of interest. With that in mind we have included an item in this newsletter about Bowling Clubs in Hersham.

In our **NEXT ISSUE** read about Hersham's St John Ambulance Division, which has been providing an important service locally and to the wider community since 1946.



A Note From The Chair

We have been busy as normal at our monthly meetings helping to review planning applications, making arrangements for the Jubilee tree and discussing cycle routes, improving the pavements, considering speeding issues and other matters. I have also been contributing to a new monthly HRA column in the Surrey Herald.

However I should report that the HRA also organises occasional social events! The next one is an evening of Beetle Drive with fish and chips, wine, etc. on the 12th of October. Beetle drive, if you have never tried it before, is a bizarre but sociable dice game with a difference, which is suitable and great fun for all ages.

I hope you can make it.

This event, like the HRA itself, is open to anyone who lives in Hersham, so please invite your friends along. This is a great opportunity to have an interesting and unusual night out, whilst getting to know some of the other residents of the village.

Tickets are £7.50 (£2.50 without food) A drink is provided with the ticket and then you can buy more.

NOTE: We are still looking for a volunteer willing to consider the post of Association Secretary, essentially to Minute the committee meetings. If you feel you could take this on please contact David Lock on 01932 703175 (e-mail: david.lock30@gmail.com) or Andrew Sturgis on 01932 220379 (e-mail: andrew.sturgis@btinternet.com) as soon as possible.

Book Now for the 12th October!

Note: Space is limited so book your place now. Please email david.lock30@gmail.com or just leave a message on 01932 703175 with your booking, your contact details and whether you will pay on the door or in advance.

Note: We will only order fish & chips for those who have pledged payment or sent payment in advance by post or on-line by clicking on our new website donate option at: <http://www.hershamresidents.info/>

HRA Committee Meetings

These are held every month and if there are any items you feel we should put on the agenda do please let us know. If you would like to attend one of the committee meetings perhaps with a view to getting more involved with the HRA – then do please contact me to discuss.



Bowling in Hersham

Hersham is very lucky to have two bowling clubs.

Hersham Bowling Club

One of the clubs can be found in Coronation Recreation Grounds and has the benefit of a club house building large enough to allow the option of indoor bowling. The club's excellent website

(at <http://www.hershambowlingclub.co.uk/>) explains its origins from 1905, carries details of fixtures and social events and how you can join. It says it has a very active membership with a full programme of friendly matches against other clubs, league matches and competitions. The Club Secretary is Robin Smith who can be contacted on 01932 225621



Hersham Village Bowling Club

The other bowls club is tucked away behind the Barley Mow and Laithwaite's Wine, with its entrance next to Air Products. Its website is harder to find and provides less detail but, Peter Barrett, the Club Secretary, who supplied the key facts for this article, explains that his club also has a lot to recommend it and would welcome new members.

It was formed in the early 1920's as part of Hersham Comrades Social Club. In the 1980's it became independent from the Comrades club, and in 2010 the club changed its name to Hersham Village Bowls Club. It was felt that the new name was more appropriate as they were near the centre of the village.

The present clubhouse was created from two portakabins acquired from Watneys at Barnes in 1995. The work of assembling the building, from digging the foundations to fitting out the inside, was all carried out by the members at that time. The clubhouse has two changing rooms and toilets, including a disabled toilet, a small kitchen, a small bar, and a large common area.

The idea of the club is to play and promote the game of bowls, and with that in mind they play against various local clubs and some further afield. These friendlies are played on Saturday and Sunday afternoons throughout the season from late April until late September. There are some separate ladies and gents games and also several internal competitions where the winners get a trophy and their name on the club's honours board.

During the winter they have social evenings every other Saturday which include Quizzes, Pictionary and even Beetle Drives! There is also the annual darts match against the other Hersham Bowls Club and on Tuesday evenings there is a Skittles league played on their own alley.

The Hersham Village club, which describes itself as the '*Friendly Club in Hersham*', always welcomes new members, beginners or experienced bowlers, to its Tuesday evening club night. Beginners get three free evenings tuition to see if they like it. All you need is a suitable pair of flat soled shoes. For more information contact the Club Secretary - Mr Peter Barrett on 01932 225468 or by email to pj_barrett@btinternet.com

EXTRACT FROM THE SURREY HERALD DATED 16 SEPTEMBER 2012

Planning is often in the news and is always on the agenda at the Hersham Residents Association (HRA). At meetings of the HRA committee, each month we look at all planning applications for Hersham North and South. Our objective is to help flag up anything that is not likely to be in the interests of the people of Hersham.

Although planning is essentially a local matter, central government also influences the process and tends to lean towards allowing more building work to go ahead. This has been highlighted with recent news reports about making it easier to sell off school playgrounds, discussion about the Green Belt, and new guidance on planning controls that would affect each council's local plan.

In August HRA committee members attended an Elmbridge Council 'workshop' meeting on this subject. The Council explained that it will have to meet an active programme of house building within its local plan or otherwise risk having its planning decisions overruled about future building schemes. The subject of planning and the pros and cons of allowing more development are complex. The arguments and debate revolve around balancing economic development and securing improved infrastructure while still maintaining local conservation and sustainability. Then there are also issues about supply and demand and the North - South Divide.

Although these difficult national issues have been discussed at previous HRA meetings, the Association must always return to its function of representing local residents in Hersham. In practice this has always meant looking at each application on its merits but at the same time resisting overdevelopment of Hersham where this would not be in the interest of local residents. The increasing demand for building land probably means that the HRA's involvement in helping to vet planning applications has never been more important.

If you have any particular views on planning in Hersham, or you would like information on supporting the HRA's work on planning matters please see a member of the committee or send us an email at info@hershamsresidents.info