

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2004



NEIGHBOURHOOD- WATCH

We are fortunate to have an active Permanent Beat Officer, PC Liz Huggins, who is keen to establish contact with us. She patrols the area regularly on foot and is happy to visit anyone who has concerns or problems. Contact her on 8246 9764 or Elizabeth.Huggins@met.police.uk.

Crime is still with us! Main problems are vehicle crime, burglary, snatching of handbags and mobile phones in the street and bogus callers. Sensible precautions can prevent much of it, but **REPORT ALL CRIMES TO THE POLICE**, even if you are not involving insurance. If you see anyone or anything suspicious call 999. There is a designated **TERRORISM ALERT** line: 0800 789 321.

BE ALERT at all times and do what you can to inform and assist the more vulnerable members of our community



MEMBERSHIP

The total number of households in the Acton Green area is about 1500 and at the present time we have only 153 paid up members for 2004. Last year our total reached 196 which is about 13% of the AGRA area. Committee members regularly attend meetings with Council officials, Transport groups, local Police and Neighbourhood Watch and your support is vital if we are to continue to represent your concerns and interests. Talk to your neighbours and friends in the AGRA area and encourage them to join us. The subscription for 2004 remains at £5 per household and £2 for Senior Citizens. If you have not already paid your 2004 subscription, a membership form is enclosed with this newsletter.

We held our Annual General Meeting on 11th March and this was well attended with 57 members present.

www.actongreen.org.uk

Our AGRA website has received more than 2,500 hits since it was started last year. It continues to be well informed about topics which concern us all and is updated on a regular basis. There is also a detailed history of the Acton Green area.

You can email AGRA on:
actongreen@bopenworld.com

CPZ

This has now been introduced in the Acton Green area and suddenly residents find they are able to park in their own street. There will be a further consultation in about six months at which time residents will have the chance to raise any concerns about the present arrangements.

It is interesting to note that cars are now parked on both sides of Bollo Lane between the level crossing and Acton Town. One wonders where the rest of the them have gone!

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STREET CLEANING

We hope you have noticed that our streets are cleaner now thanks to the efforts of Committee member Susan Evans who has been badgering the Council for improvements. Streets are now all cleaned weekly. The current contract with Cardinal runs out in December 2004 and the Council is looking at tenders for **CLEAN** and **GREEN** contracts when street cleaning, recycling and refuse collection will be carried out by the same company.

A new Dumped Rubbish Investigation Unit has been formed which will go after individuals who dump waste on the street and penalty fines can be introduced.

CROSSRAIL

The threat of high speed trains running along the North London Silverlink Line, or a new interchange at Chiswick Park Station, have gone away to be replaced by the threat of a tunnel from Wormwood Scrubs to a new interchange station at Turnham Green to be built under the Back Common. The tunnel would then emerge onto the current District Line behind Sainsbury's and the trains would replace current Underground services on the District Line to Kew, Richmond and beyond. LBH have suggested Chiswick Business Park as a better site for the new interchange station, but this is opposed by people who feel this is too far from the High Road. The final decision is due to be made by Alistair Darling soon, but some press reports suggest that funding will only be found for the main East-West line from Liverpool Street to Paddington and Heathrow.

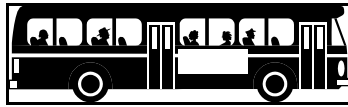
SILVERLINK TRAINS

AGRA participated in the recent consultation. We made the following suggestions -

- A ticket machine on the south platform
- Open trellis type walls
- CCTV on the bridge
- More regular station announcements
- Longer trains

The Route Manager received them positively and promised to keep in touch. Track problems between South Acton and Gunnersbury should be resolved shortly by Network Rail who are also considering lengthening the platforms

WEST LONDON



TRAM

AGRA attends the regular Acton Consultation Group meetings and has voiced members' concerns about the extra traffic diverted to our area if Acton High Street were to be closed to accommodate the tram. The preferred option of the Group, which would avoid any road closures and allow both traffic and trams to run down the High Street, would require selective demolition of some existing buildings, a few of which are locally listed. Tim Jones, Project Director, said that TfL could only consider this option if none of the others was viable as they had no statutory powers to demand compulsory purchase orders.

The public consultation will be from June to September and will include several exhibitions.

ACTON GREEN

COMMON

We have been battling with the London Borough of Ealing about the broken street lights on Acton Green Common. Apparently these are only checked once every 6 months. To report broken lights please telephone 8825 6555



S106 MONIES

The sum of £450,000 will be shared between Acton Green and South Acton and we will receive £10,000 from another sum of £111,000 which is being divided between Acton Green, Acton Town and South Acton. It is proposed that this money will be used for improved lighting in the area, upgrading of the playground on Acton Green Common

CHISWICK BUSINESS

PARK

AGRA, in conjunction with the West Chiswick Society is closely monitoring the process of the planning application for 8 and 12 storey buildings at the Bollo Lane end of the site. We have voiced our objections and have attended a recent meeting of the Hounslow Sustainable Development Committee at which Councillors deferred a decision pending advice from the Borough Planning Officer. However it seems there is considerable confusion about the relationship between this development and the release of S106 money and we are doing our best to raise objections to these new buildings because of the effect on our local environment.

94 BUS ROUTE

With the replacement of Routemasters earlier this year by new, larger buses the timetable has been enhanced to give a very frequent 24 hour service. Work is going on at the present time to increase the area of the bus stand outside the Duke of Sussex in order to accommodate more buses.