



TARAK
Tudor Area Residents' Association Kingston
Spring 2020 NEWSLETTER

Tarak News and Events

The AGM was held on 16th January. In spite of very wet and windy weather there was a good attendance. Derek Brister, Tarak Chairman, asked for volunteers as committee members. Committee members re-elected were: Derek Brister (Chair), Gill Douglas-Smith (Secretary), Kilado Gillett (Treasurer), Chris Curry (Membership Secretary), Sue Canty (bulb planting and social activities), Pauline Theobald (Newsletter) and Margaret Levy (Communications).

Following formal business, Diane Simms from Natwest gave a talk on scams. Natwest is a partner of the Friends Against Scams initiative, which is run by the National Trading Standards Scams Team.

Annual Bulb Planting

In October Tarak members planted bulbs from Squires at each end of Tudor Drive, and the daffodils are now well into bloom.



Sue Canty planting daffodils in Tudor Drive



Wild life found on the verge in Tudor Drive

Tarak Lunch

The next bi-monthly lunch will be on 8th April at Peppe's (formerly The Cardinal) at 12.30 pm. We exchange ideas and information about what is happening locally and chat informally. A good way to get to know other members. If you would like to book, please phone Sue Canty on 020 8546 6529 or email Margaret Levy at margaret.levy@blueyonder.co.uk before the date of the lunch. Otherwise just turn up. We each order and pay for our own food and drink. Subsequent lunch - 10th June.

Kingston Borough Council

Derek Brister attended the meeting when Cllr Liz Green, the Kingston Borough Council Leader, presented the end of year report. She had made these points :

1. No more bicycle lanes will be constructed because the 'Boris money' has run out.
2. The Government has reduced the number of housing units Kingston must build from 1,362 to 967.
3. The Planning Department is being totally re-organised and many employees have moved on! (this answer came as a response to a question from Derek about TARAK members not receiving answers to letters).
4. Liz Green then announced that the Council is setting up a Company to purchase properties, both residential and commercial, within and outside the Borough to form a property developer. There was a stunned silence from the attendees. This apparently means using Kingston income as security against a Government loan for the purchase of such properties (both private and commercial).

Derek said that the decision to borrow money from the Government (using our rates as security!) worried him (especially after the Croydon Council debacle (the abandoned Westfield shopping development)).

Forthcoming Events

- Apr.3rd 'Tea and Treats' at Swinnerton Hall, 62 Gibbon Road. First Friday every month from 11 am – 2pm.
Teaandtreatskingston@gmail.com
- Apr.4th Ham Market – first Saturday each month on Ham Parade.
- May 7th Local Elections (and London Mayor election)
- May 8th Bank Holiday to mark VE Day (this year not on the first Monday in May)
- May 16th Kingston Horticultural Society Plant Sale
- May 17th Petersham Open Gardens
- June 13th Ham Fair

FoLaR

In Autumn 2017 a group of local residents got together as 'Friends of Latchmere Recreation Ground' with the aim of working with the community to improve 'the Rec'. The vision was for the Rec to be known as an attractive, well-managed and valued neighbourhood green space that had something for everyone, from open fields for general recreation to areas for quiet reflection.

They have been awarded money for a pond, an avenue of trees has been completed, and the Council is still considering possible provision of teas/coffees etc. The lavatories have been repainted. TARAK gave them £100 start-up monies.

Residents of the Tudor area are invited to join FoLaR, and can do so by going to the website – www.folar.net. Membership is free.

Tudor Library Friends (TuLF) A constitution was adopted on 15th February and a management committee elected. The aim of TuLF is to support the development of Tudor Library as a community hub for the residents of North Kingston. Some of the ideas currently explored are, for example, garden work around the library, inter-generational activities at the library such as older reads

to younger, board and/or card games between seniors and youngsters, and film 'Film of Book' screenings.

Anybody who wishes to help the library friends, with action or ideas, is most welcome and should contact TuLF via email to tudorlibraryfriends@gmail.com. Tarak fully supports this.

Kingston Horticultural Society A full programme of the year's events, social occasions and outings can be seen on the website <https://www.kingstonhorticulture.com> The annual plant sale is on Saturday, 16th May, 2-4 pm at the Park Road allotments.

20mph Speed Limit Kingston Council propose to implement a 20mph speed limit on all roads across the borough, with the exception of private roads and those under Transport for London's (TfL) control, and have invited residents' views.

Met. Police

Vanessa.Wozny@met.police.uk has sent Tarak the December crime figures which showed Tudor Ward to have suffered by far the least crime in Kingston. However, there have been burglaries this year in Tudor Drive, when the houses were broken into from the back garden, and the police have asked residents to be vigilant. The increase in robberies in the Tudor area will hopefully decline soon and the villains dealt with. Be assured your Tarak representatives are monitoring the situation and will be reporting back.

Police Liaison Officers for our area are: PC Tom Walker -- tom.walker@met.police.uk
and PC Lynsey Ring – Lynsey.D.Ring@met.police.uk

PC Tom Walker 2104SW | NPT NORTH TEAM C

Tudor Ward Officer, Kingston Police Station, 5-7 High Street, Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey, KT11LB . Tel. 020 8721 2580

MP and Councillors

Baron Goldsmith of Richmond Park (now Environment Minister) has said he is sad that his time as our MP has come to an end, but will remain completely committed to continuing his work for the environment. zac@zacgoldsmith.com

Sarah Olney has been elected Liberal Democrat Member of Parliament for the Richmond Park constituency. E-mail office@saraholneymp.org.uk

Our three local councillors are : David Cunningham, Katrina Lidbetter and Maria Netley. They are available in the Tudor Library Annexe on the second Saturday of every month, from 10 am until noon. Appointments are not necessary.

Derek Brister, Tarak Chairman, is in regular contact with the councillors and our local PC Tom Walker.

He also visits the Planning Department in Kingston. If any of you have issues you would like TARAK to help with, please let Derek know - derekbister@hotmail.com

Tarak Membership fee for a year's subscription (Dec. to Dec.) is £5 per household. Direct Debit – 60 60 02 44916345

If you have new neighbours, perhaps you could give them a copy of this Newsletter. They might like to join Tarak.

Enquiries should be made to - www.margaret.levy@blueyonder.co.uk

Previous Newsletters can be found on the Tarak website : www.tarakresidents.co.uk
