

SGCARA NEWS

Sutherland Grove Conservation Area Residents' Association

www.sgcara.org.uk email: admin@sgcara.org.uk January 2019

SGCARA Open Gardens

Following the success of Open Gardens in May 2016, we plan to repeat this event on Sunday 19th May 2019, 2.00 – 5.00pm. It is such a natural way of meeting other residents in our neighbourhood and sharing its special gardens, which display the efforts, ideas and imagination that have been used to create them.

What is a garden? Scope and size are clearly factors but not determinates. Any outside area that has been made a special place qualifies and could carry a wide interest for the average London gardener. It doesn't have to be up to Chelsea standard, nor even a large garden. Perhaps your garden has interesting features, statues or trees. We hope to have plants for sale, seedlings to swap and horticultural advice on hand.

Maybe you have a child-friendly garden and could open it for accompanied children to come and play... bounce on a trampoline; swing or slide; kick a ball around; host a face-painter? Your garden; your rules. Let us know of any other ideas you may have.

If you are a local artist, or you run a small business, please consider opening your garden to display and offer your artwork or products for sale. Could you offer your garden for serving tea and cake? Others can provide and serve the refreshments to make this a less daunting prospect. It will be a ticketed event and tickets will be only be issued to residents from the SGCARA area.

*To register your garden, offer to help, give advice on plants, have plants to sell, lend a gazebo, provide a tea and cake table (cakes and support will be provided), bring a cake(s) or just to get more information please contact **Tessa Lydekker by 28th February 2019** at tessa.lydekker@gmail.com or a note through her door at 22 Sutherland Grove.*

Kerbside 'flower power'

Walking the streets of Southfields "Grid" over summer, you may have seen the results of the "Greening the Grid" initiative. Many residents made a great effort planting flowers often around trees. The results brought alive streets which so often mimic parking slabs. Imitation is admiration; why not have such an initiative in our SGCARA area? We succeeded in 2014 with poppies planted to commemorate WW1. Extra beauty and colour show we care about our environment and people who use it. It would make the journey to school or work a cheerier trip.

After all that gardening...

All gardens generate recyclable waste. If you have never made compost, why not give it a go? It is easier than you think. No fancy equipment is needed, just a couple of bins with holes to help air-circulation. Each time you add matter, just mix it in briefly with a garden fork. Include some kitchen (raw) veg-waste, reducing your non-recyclable rubbish. Little red worms will soon get working, turning it into top grade compost surprisingly quickly.

If this isn't your idea of fun, why bag it and transport it to a disposal/recycle centre when you can have up to five bags collected as part of your weekly rubbish/recycling collection.....organized, effective laziness!

(a few items, *listed in our website*, are excluded)

Local Trade

If there is a valid choice, choosing a local trade can often be good value as well as retaining the economic benefit in our district. SGCARA maintains a list of local traders put forward by bona fide residents who have experienced their work. SGCARA makes no implied recommendations but, on request from a Member for a particular trade, passes on contact details from the list. Tell us your contact details and those of the trader together with any comments by email at: admin@sgcara.org.uk and we can pass on details when requested for a particular type of work, (unattributed if preferred).

Local Ward representation on Wandsworth Council

Since the May 2018 elections the local councillors and their surgeries are as follows:

The whole of our Sutherland Grove Conservation Area, and almost all the properties within the (slightly larger) SGCARA boundaries, are within West Hill Ward.

West Hill Ward

Cllr Peter Carpenter	(Labour)	Cllr.P.Carpenter@wandsworth.gov.uk
Cllr Malcolm Grimston	(Independent)	mgrimston@wandsworth.gov.uk
Cllr Angela Ireland	(Labour)	cldr.a.ireland@wandsworth.gov.uk

West Hill Ward Independent Councillor surgeries are held on the 1st Saturday of each month,
West Hill Ward Labour Councillor surgeries are held on the 4th Saturday of each month,
all at 11.00am – 12.00, Southfields Library, 300 Wimbledon Park Rd, SW19 6NL

East Putney Ward

Also within the SGCARA boundaries, Sutherland Grove east side properties from 166 up to 176 inclusive (even numbers) are in East Putney Ward.

Cllr Mrs Sarah Binder	(Conservative)	cldr.s.binder@wandsworth.gov.uk
Cllr George Crivelli	(Conservative)	Cllr.G.Crivelli@wandsworth.gov.uk
Cllr Ravi Govindia	(Conservative)	rgovindia@wandsworth.gov.uk

East Putney Ward Councillor surgeries are held every Saturday (except Christmas and New Year), at 10am - 11am, Putney Library, 5/7 Disraeli Road, SW15 2DR

If your issue is likely to be relevant or of interest to others in SGCARA please copy us in on admin@sgcara.org.uk. It always strengthens our hand to know where there are common concerns.

Mosque Redevelopment Revisited

Despite local opposition, Wandsworth Council approved an expansion of the Mosque buildings in Gressenhall Road three years ago, subject to, as yet uncompleted, legal conditions. We are represented on ongoing consultative groups with the Mosque. As the original 1926 Mosque has now been listed as a heritage building, the Council is considering whether existing plans enhance rather than devalue the listed building. Worsening traffic and congestion have been reported over three years and these concerns are likely to resurface if the whole position is revisited

Conservation Area/Neighbourhood Watch

Neither of these topics is a new initiative and, surely, both should continue to be keenly nurtured. We have well iterated principles for Conservation and well-organized roles for Watch. However, the informal side, almost culture, appears to be just so important. We guess most of us care strongly for our environment

and safety and suggest that the most powerful enforcement is the collective one. Where does genuine inquisitive care end and nosiness begin? This must often be a personal judgement, but is it not preferable to get this judgement occasionally wrong rather than to do nothing? The action and eyes of the many must be so superior to those of the few.

We note that Combemartin Road has seen several new residents. Caroline Pyper is its Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator and now has missing contact details. *An email please to carolinepyper@gmail.com will keep her information current.*

SGCARA Street Party 19 May 2018

With over 350 tickets taken, this was an extremely well attended event, blessed with beautiful weather. We were delighted to receive so much positive feedback from attendees. There was much to enjoy including a celebrity judged Bake off, Dog Show, Ice bucket Challenge, music and food. Seemingly effortless events are only born from the pre-event skill and endeavour of the organisers and the helpers on the day. Much is our gratitude and admiration for them all.



Caroline Pyper, Simon Crawley-Boevey and Diana Clough presenting the cheque. (Thanks to Anthony Lydekker for the photograph.)

The party including the raffle raised £1,162 for The Friends of Greenmead School in Beaumont Road towards their Project to build a sensory playground. This is a princely sum for a street party reflecting your generosity. Committee members went to the school on 30th November to present the cheque. They were genuinely touched and grateful for the huge difference charitable donations like ours make. We shall seek further collaboration with the school on events knowing the direct impact it makes for the children and their families. *Please visit our website www.sgcara.org.uk for more photos and videos.*

Road works

They came; they irritated; they stayed (too?) long; they went away. It was obviously most disruptive for residents and it reminds us that the available road systems only just cater for the volume of traffic using them. We believe we should understand better how the cost of road works is varied by the length of time roads are partially blocked or closed.

A separate issue is the proximity of the parking bays to the Southwest end of Sutherland Grove which so often causes a one-way bottleneck. We have seen pavements shared by cars and departing school children. *Committee work in progress.*

SGCARA membership

At £2 per year per property (up to two adults) membership of SGCARA is great value. We are so lucky that many Members choose to add donations to their sub allowing us to keep the subscription at £2. Support for planning, traffic, parking, environmental and conservation issues is available. Local events and news are posted. New members joining enlarge our catchment pool of knowledge, observation, expertise and influence. Please join or update your subscription and encourage non-members to join. *Our website www.sgcara.org.uk* includes the annual subscription sheet which is easily downloaded.

10 good reasons for being a SGCARA Member (from 20p each!):

1. To help protect and preserve the area in which we live
2. To support representation for or against Planning and Licensing applications
3. For effective campaigning on local issues
4. For recognition by statutory authorities, local and national
5. To be an active member of the community and larger community network
6. It gives an opportunity for social inter-action and participation in social events
7. It allows reciprocation and support of local businesses, trades and services
8. Numerical strength gives us influence and credibility
9. To give yourself an additional voice in local affairs
10. To show that you care about your community.

Contact

Please ensure we have your correct email address if you would like email contact from us and are not already signed-up. Let us know if your details change. Please use the subscription sheet available from the SGCARA website.

Posting through letter boxes has its place but email is so cheap and easy for a quick timely message. We ask you to trust we will not flood email addresses with irrelevant trivia.

We do urge you to use our website: www.sgcara.org.uk It may not be the most dazzling portal but we do try and keep it current and it contains lots of key bits of information and news which could be useful to you.

And

Due to a change to the editorial team, this issue is later than usual. However, the timing allows us to wish residents of and visitors to SGCARA area all the very best for 2019.

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