



Remember the hopes in the UK at the time of the July 'Reaching out to Residents' that we might avoid the second CV19 wave that was beginning to move across Europe? Here we are... with Tier 3 having cast a long shadow over London & Tier 4 announced on the day of writing, along with the cancellation of the 5-day Christmas relaxation of restrictions. Many will be feeling frustrated & distressed that the chance was taken away to spend precious time with family not have seen for months. Some SGCARA residents will have spent Christmas Day alone. We will all be trying to look out for neighbours at this difficult time for so many...maybe getting to know people in our street we have never really talked to before? So many sources of support - both from institutions and from kind, caring neighbours – are swinging into action again. A number of SGCARA residents work in the NHS & Care sectors, or as key-workers elsewhere. We all owe you a huge debt of thanks & hope everyone can stay safe & well through the next months. Thanks again to our letter-box deliverers being willing to 'do their bit' at this tricky time. This circular is posted on our web-site [www.sgcar.org.uk](http://www.sgcar.org.uk) where any links are accessed easily. Updates on CV19 protocols will be posted on the website, and also emailed to our circulation list as fully and quickly as we can.

Our front doors are symbols of hospitality, & the festive wreaths this year especially lovely.



### Let there be Lights!

Front-garden lights started appearing in the November Lock-down to raise our spirits, and as part of the various winter festivals of Light. Anyone taking an evening walk in the area now has a fantastic light show to look forward to! The traditional 1930s doors with round or oval glazing, especially those framed with stained-glass panels, are perfect to display Christmas wreaths. Here are just a few of the many beautiful lights & wreaths to enjoy.

### Best Wishes for 2021

When the original front door of a local house had to be replaced, the owner had a reproduction made, along with new stained-glass panels, & was delighted with the result. No more draughts! Repro doors are quite an investment, but can be sourced to keep the character of the 1930s houses. For general advice on Conservation Area Permissions required, email SGCARA at: [admin@sgcar.org.uk](mailto:admin@sgcar.org.uk) or the council at: [WandsworthConsUrbDesign@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:WandsworthConsUrbDesign@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk) (Phone 020 8871 6631).

**There is a SGCARA Form on the back page. Chance to get your 2021 Membership done & dusted, &/or to subscribe to Information Emails, & also to let us know if you DON'T have internet-access. With the lack of meetings in 2020 serving as Membership reminders, we encourage any who haven't yet paid for 2020 to please pay a *minimum* of £4 – extra Donations *very* welcome - covering the period to end Dec 2021. Ways to pay are all shown on the form. Please complete & return the form in any case!**

## SAINT CECILIA'S SCHOOL – Volunteers wanted to help with CV19 testing from January

At the time of writing, St Cecilia's Church of England School are setting up regular CV19 testing for pupils & staff at the school in January & would welcome support from local volunteers to assist its staff in running the testing centre. The aim of the testing centre is to reduce the number of pupils & staff who are sent home from school as potential close contacts of someone who has tested positive for CV19. The school & the test centre will operate in line with Government guidance to ensure it is Covid secure. Volunteers will be supervised & supported by school staff. The testing is likely to be Monday-Friday 8am-midday during term time. It is expected that the School will need to continue testing until the summer holidays. **If you are interested to know more, or to volunteer for a few hours, a few days, or more, please email: [admin@sgcara.org.uk](mailto:admin@sgcara.org.uk) in the first instance. DBS clearance not required.**

## SGCARA Future plans?

At this point we cannot realistically set a date for a Members Meeting & AGM for the year 2020, although we are hoping May 2021 will be a possibility. The Annual Members' Meeting is a much-valued opportunity for Members to meet up with neighbours over a drink & buffet, to hear speakers & discuss issues that concern us. This just wouldn't be the same by Zoom & would exclude those who do not have access to the internet. As changes happen so fast because of CV19, we can only use email to give SGCARA residents up-to-date information on CV19 protocols, issues such as traffic & Environment, as well as circulating major Planning Application consultations.

We are always pleased to hear from members interested in joining **SGCARA Committee** (or who have enthusiasm or expertise that they would be prepared to offer for particular one-off issues).

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH vacancies** Following the item in the July circular, we understand that there are still NW vacancies for parts of Sutherland Grove in particular. If interested in giving this a go, please email [admin@sgcara.org.uk](mailto:admin@sgcara.org.uk) and we can put you in touch with the local & council organisers.

## FOXES... again

At least two SGCARA residents had the horrible experience of finding a dead fox in their gardens in 2020. There are local accounts of foxes actually entering properties & taking items away...along with fox-faeces in the gardens, unpleasant scents from territory-marking, digging under garden sheds, etc. Quite a list...

We do realise this issue is divisive, with some residents taking pleasure in visits from the foxes they feed. However this is a renewed plea *not* to feed foxes for all the reasons above. This same advice is given on the council website.

## HEDGEHOG PROJECT

A number of you responded to the July 'Reaching out to Residents' item, inviting contact from SGCARA residents interested in making their garden hedgehog-friendly for a possible re-introduction of hedgehogs into our area. We hoped for a family-friendly meeting on an Autumn Saturday morning or afternoon to be inspired by a 'Hedgehog Champion' - not possible for the relatively short window in Autumn. Let's wait until we can have a Live meeting rather than yet another Zoom encounter. Any others who are interested, please email Julia direct at [JuliaRaeburn@aol.com](mailto:JuliaRaeburn@aol.com)

## ...and now a less-desirable 'animal'... 'RAT-RUNNING' MITIGATION update

Residents will know that the successful trial for the Monday-Friday 7.00am-10.00am 'No Left Turn' into Withycombe Rd and *Northern* entrance to Inner Park Rd was made permanent in the Autumn.

The new ETO (Experimental Traffic Order) of 'No Left Turn' at the *Southern* entrance to Inner Park Rd was setup in November, with 'No Left Turn' signs (7.00 – 9.00am Monday to Friday) at the Southern entrance to Inner Park Rd.

The council is still resisting requests to implement a way of excluding local residents from receiving PCNs (Penalty Charge Notices) eg by ANPR, (Automatic Number Plate Recognition). A few residents have described having to make long detours to avoid a PCN. **We would like to hear from others who have to do this, or have received PCNs.**

Hammersmith and Fulham Council started a trial of such a scheme on 20.07.20, currently under Consultation.

<https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/transport-and-roads/sw6-traffic-reduction-scheme>

It may be that Wandsworth Council is waiting to see how H&F Council's trial scheme evolves.

## 'ENFORCEMENT' OF 20 MPH SPEEDLIMIT ON OUR STREETS - chance to get creative?

As there is no visible Enforcement, the 20mph speed limit is being ignored by many, and no likelihood of measures like the 'smiley face' reminders in sight. The idea has been raised of having 20mph reminders in the rear-windcreens of our parked cars, which might just prick a few consciences! These do not appear to be available to download for free. How about designing our own? A4 size. Maybe including '20's Plenty' or the 'Kill your Speed, not a Child' or similar. They need to be clear for drivers to read, use colour, especially to emphasise the 20mph limit when drivers are...speeding. Send us your designs! Book Voucher prizes for the best under-16s & over-16s. The winning designs can then be made available to all who would like to display one in their car rear-windscreen.

## PLANNING MATTERS

### 5G MAST Application (July/August 2020)

Many SGCARA residents (up to 150) Objected to the application to build a 20m tall 5G Mast etc right outside St Cecilia's School, contributing to its Refusal by the Planning Dept. So many of you cited the Conservation Area in your Objections. Without Conservation Area status, we would have much less protection against applications like that. That protection will be even more valuable if the Government's Planning Reform proposals are enacted. An almost identical application for 5G Mast etc. on Putney Bridge Rd close to two Primary schools was also Refused in September.

### 2A COMBEMARTIN RD

You may have noticed 'For Sale' & 'Sale Agreed' notices appearing & disappearing outside 2A! The original builders became insolvent & the property repossessed by the relevant bank. Most of the Conditions imposed by the Planning Dept have been fulfilled, but the cedar-cladding & sedum roof were mysteriously dropped from the requirements. Lets hope we are coming to the end of this very sorry saga.

## EXPANSION OF SAINT CECILIA'S – New Classroom Block



We are proud to have St Cecilia's School at the heart of the Conservation Area, and to be welcomed there for SGCARA meetings & events. Recent residents may be unaware of the history of the St Cecilia's School site. Wandsworth County School came to the Sutherland Grove site in 1927, its original main building (*pictured left*) now having pride of place at the top of Arcadian Place. It became one of the country's first comprehensive schools in the 1950s, expanding from 550 to c2000 pupils when substantial additional buildings made that possible (*pictured right, aerial view*). Under Music



Director Russell Burgess, Wandsworth School Boys Choir became world-famous, making many recordings & being highly-regarded by composer Benjamin Britten. He once sent a Christmas Greeting telegram to 'My Favourite Choir at my Favourite School'. The Choir even had its own BBC Panorama programme called 'The Wandsworth Sound' in the 70s. A number of past members of the choir still live around Southfields, and the choir usually has its Annual Reunion in St Cecilia's in October... *not in 2020 of course*.



Wandsworth School merged in 1986, becoming John Archer School, but closed altogether in 1991 through falling pupil-numbers. The bleak 1950s buildings (*pictured left with their broken windows*) were a blight on Sutherland Grove until their demolition around 2000.

When a C of E Secondary School was agreed for the site, around 2000, (opening in 2003), SGCARA & local residents played a big part in achieving the current school building, which is generally considered attractive and in keeping with the Conservation Area. We had urged

Wandsworth Council to put the much-loved 1927 school building at the heart of the new school, with additional buildings in keeping. However, the 1927 building was finally included in the area to be sold off for development. Current occupants of the converted lovely 1927 school building are living somewhere very special!

Twenty years on, St Cecilia's School is now earmarked for expansion because of the increase in secondary-age children. St Cecilia's will take in some 200 extra pupils over about six years (about 30 per year, in one additional Y7 class). Back in 2000, SGCARA & interested residents unsuccessfully urged the council to retain more of the site for the new St Cecilia's to allow for possible expansion. The resulting lack of spare space on the school site means that the Classroom Block will be uncomfortably close to some nearby properties in Combemartin Road & Sutherland Grove. Some of you may have attended the community consultation by Wandsworth Council/Kier Construction on the proposed design for a Classroom Block extension in Sept 2019. The design was generally greeted with dismay, & the council's priority appeared to be to minimise costs, rather than add a lovely building to our Conservation Area. Following a rather unsatisfactory re-Consultation, the slightly-revised building was Approved in Sept 2020. It is *still* considered ugly & out of keeping with the existing school & our Conservation Area. This is especially frustrating since residents have to follow Conservation Area planning constraints when we want to amend own properties!

The choice of colours (dark & lighter greys) seems rather gloomy. SGCARA is currently encouraging the Planning Dept, & developers Kier Construction, to consider colour-palettes we feel would be more sympathetic, eg shades of brown, & cream that would blend in with the existing school building. St Cecilia's itself is supportive of SGCARA's effort.

We will also keep an eye on the plans for tree-planting to screen the new building effectively, & also ensuring that an effective school Travel Plan is agreed, to minimise the inconvenience & environmental disadvantage of pupil drop-off & pick-up by car.

# SUTHERLAND GROVE CONSERVATION AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION - SGCARA

## SGCARA 2021 - CONTACT UPDATES : SUBSCRIPTIONS : MEMBERSHIP : DONATIONS

**SGCARA**, founded in 1975, is the residents' association for those living in or very near the 1992-designated Sutherland Grove Conservation Area (which is within West Hill Ward) in Southfields SW19 & SW18 and East Putney SW15.

SGCARA is non-party political. Its work relates to all residents within the SGCARA Constitutional Area (slightly larger than the Conservation Area). Following more recent developments, **SGCARA now covers** within its boundaries just over 1,000 residential properties - apartments, flats and houses. These include residents in Sutherland Grove (*odds*, and *evens* up to 168); and the roads leading off it up the slopes to the west and northwest, from Augustus Road (*evens* up to 18) and Albert Drive (*odds* up to 7), together with Augustus Road (*odds* up to 43) and Chalfont Mews; Combemartin Road; Arcadian Place; Artemis Place; Skeena Hill; Girdwood Road; across Whitelands Park: Whitelands Crescent, Scott Avenue, together with West Hill (*odds* 93 to 99); and Whitefield Close.

**SGCARA's Purposes** under its constitution are to "promote and assist the preservation, conservation, protection, enhancement and improvement of the Sutherland Grove Conservation Area together with the amenities available to it, and to discourage anything which would tend to be detrimental to the area or its amenities".

For its 46th year, **SGCARA welcomes both longstanding and newer residents as contacts, subscribers and Members**, including those living in the more recent developments such as Whitelands Park. **You are warmly invited:** 02012b

- > to ensure that in any case we have your up-to-date contact details, underlining any changes - please use sections 1, 2, and 3 below;
- > to subscribe to **SGCARA's** Email distribution list/s for **GENERAL INFORMATION & SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**, available Free to up to two eligible residents per property - please use sections 1, 2 and 3 below;
- > to sign up for sole or joint **SGCARA Membership** - up to two eligible residents per property (one subscription and one vote per property); and > to **pay your Membership subscription and/or a Donation** - minimum Membership subscription is £2 p.a.

Subscriptions and donations are essential for **SGCARA's** work, and the Committee greatly appreciates the generosity of so many who add donations to their subscriptions. Member subscriptions, and donations, may be paid *either* direct to SGCARA, *or* via your bank direct to SGCARA's bank (see full details in section 5 below) - please as appropriate use sections 1 to 5 below.

**Enquiries welcome. Please complete for each subscriber, duly signed as appropriate.** Return (with any payment due) by hand, post or email to: Mrs E Collingridge, SGCARA, 56 Combemartin Road, Southfields, SW18 5PR Email: ecrov.z2@googlemail.com Tel: 07525 435 396

## SGCARA 2021 - CONTACT UPDATES : SUBSCRIPTIONS : MEMBERSHIP : DONATIONS

Personal details provided are used by SGCARA's volunteer workers for SGCARA's constitutional purposes only and are not disclosed to third parties.

<b>1</b>	<b>YOUR RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS:</b>	No. <b>BLOCK:</b>	No. <b>ROAD:</b>	POSTCODE: <b>SW</b>
	<b>SUBSCRIBER A.</b>	Please use BLOCK CAPITALS		<input type="checkbox"/> = Please tick as appropriate
<b>2a</b>	<b>YOUR NAMES:</b>	PREFIX GIVEN NAMES SURNAME	PREFIX GIVEN NAMES SURNAME	<b>SUBSCRIBER B.</b>
<b>2b</b>	<b>CONTACT DETAILS:</b>	Use of phone numbers is rare but may be vital e.g. if emails sent to you bounce back, or in emergencies.		
	<b>Phones:</b>	MOBILE: LANDLINE / OTHER:	MOBILE: LANDLINE / OTHER:	
	<b>Personal E-address:</b>	E-MAIL: I DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO: INTERNET / EMAIL <input type="checkbox"/>	E-MAIL: I DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO: INTERNET / EMAIL <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>3</b>	<b>SGCARA E-LISTS:</b>	Available Free to eligible residents - Contact details needed, including as above <span style="float: right;">02012b</span>		
	<b>Which?</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>SOCIAL</b> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>INFORMATION</b> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>Where to?</b>	TO MY E-MAIL AS ABOVE <input type="checkbox"/>	VIA SUBSCRIBER B.'S E-MAIL <input type="checkbox"/>	TO MY E-MAIL AS ABOVE <input type="checkbox"/>
		TO MY E-MAIL AT:		VIA SUBSCRIBER A.'S E-MAIL <input type="checkbox"/>
		TO MY E-MAIL AT:		
<b>4</b>	<b>SGCARA MEMBERSHIP:</b>	I SUPPORT SGCARA'S PURPOSES (see text above). I AM RESIDENT AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS AND AGED 18 OR OVER:		
		SIGNED PREVIOUSLY <input type="checkbox"/>	I WISH TO CONTINUE <input type="checkbox"/>	I WISH TO JOIN <input type="checkbox"/>
		Signed: X	X	Signed: X
<b>5</b>	<b>PAYMENT:</b>	If paying via bank: Please quote a Payer ID reference indicating your block/road & number/s, and surname/s. Under bank Standing Order, for future years' payments, please specify a date between 3 and 21 January. Bank Payee: <b>SGCARA</b> Bank account: <b>9086 1456</b> Sort code: <b>20-90-69</b> (Barclays Bank plc)		
	<b>SUBSCRIPTION</b>	sent herewith <input type="checkbox"/>	sent previously <input type="checkbox"/>	by cash <input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>DONATION</b>	sent herewith <input type="checkbox"/>	sent previously <input type="checkbox"/>	by cash <input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>TOTAL: £</b>	=====	Please don't send cash through the post!	

**Enquiries welcome. Please complete for each subscriber, duly signed as appropriate.** Return (with any payment due) by hand, post or email to: Mrs E Collingridge, SGCARA, 56 Combemartin Road, Southfields, SW18 5PR Email: ecrov.z2@googlemail.com Tel: 07525 435 396