

## SOUTHFIELDS GRID RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 23th May 2006 at St Barnabas Church Hall

### The following is a brief resume of the AGM:

Mike Caswell opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. Our main guest speakers included The Mayor of Wandsworth and the Commander of Wandsworth Borough Police.

#### The Worshipful Mayor of Wandsworth

Cllr Jim Madden had been a police officer for 31 years and a Community Inspector for Putney and Roehampton. He had also worked with the National Neighbourhood Watch Association. He asked residents to please tell the police if they saw anything suspicious, nothing was too trivial, but let the police decide. It was important to have a "CCC" partnership - between - the cops, the council and the community.

#### Commander of Wandsworth Borough Police:

Chief Supt Royle said that working together was key. Burglary in the Borough is 19% down from the previous year. There were 4 robberies a day across the Borough. Crime also went unreported. The statistics for youth knife crime also show a decrease. The Safer Neighbourhood Teams were helping to improve community relations. The Commander wanted to ensure that the fear of crime was put back into the minds of criminals rather than there being fear of crime within the community. Unfortunately, juvenile crime is on the increase but the police are working with education authorities and schools.

Sgt Frank Brennan, Wandsworth Police noted that Sgt Gary Taylor had now joined the Southfields Ward team and more police on the beat is being addressed through the Safer Neighbourhood Teams. It was important that residents should report anything suspicious to the police. Dial 999 for an Emergency and for non-emergencies, please

telephone the **Safer Neighbourhoods Team** on **020 8247 8759**. Complaints from the floor generated discussion of cyclists on pavements, children riding scooters on the street, drivers on mobile phones, the speed of traffic on some Grid roads and a recent spate of accidents at various intersections.

#### Larry Davies, Deputy Headmaster, Southfields Community College:

Larry had been at the college for six years, and there have been dramatic improvement in student behaviour. However this is closely monitored and if residents encounter any problems, please do let him know, he always returns calls. Students were easy to identify, 11-14 year olds wear light blue, seniors wear a black jumper with a logo. Students are encouraged to cycle in, it's healthy, but they should cycle with care and consideration for others. The teaching staff monitor the bus stops until 3pm some of the time to ensure that students leave the vicinity when school finishes.

Councillor Lucy Allan said she was very pleased to be able to play a part in such a vibrant community, and hopes to be actively involved, as do the other new Councillors.

#### Treasurer's Report:

The SGRA is in a healthy financial position, printing costs for the newsletter are £2,400 pa. The SGRA's income is mainly derived from residents' donations.

#### Chairman's Report:

Mike Caswell wished to reiterate that the SGRA is a non-political association. The Association is now in a financial position to sponsor some social events for residents. The SGRA raised £345 for the Royal Home for Neurodisability at our annual carol singing outside Southfields Station, and will be carol singing this year for Trinity Hospice on 19th December. The SGRA website has been expanded and updated regularly. We will also be monitoring the new licensing arrangements/outside seating at The Grid Inn, which is for a one-year trial period. Also many thanks for all the support given to our Association by our ex-Councillors, particularly to Jan Leigh and Lord Swansea who have provided excellent support and advice over the years.

### SGRA committee...

Chair:

Mike Caswell

Deputy Chair:

Mark Page

Secretary:

Gill Watmough

Treasurer:

Carol Gray

### Street Representatives.

Astonville Street

Maurice at 478 Merton Road

Brookwood Road

David and Caroline Crowther at xx Trentham Street

Clonmore Street

Nick Steiner at 116

Elborough Street

Mike Caswell at 96

Elsenham Street

Eddie Lewis at 4 Lavenham Road

Engadine Street

Jack & Doreen Gray at 33

Hanford Close vacant

Heythorp Street

Neil Robson at 119

Langton Place

Zarir Vakil at 10 Langton Place

Lavenham Road

Mark Davie at 155 Clonmore Street

Merton Road vacant

Replingham Road vacant

Revelstoke Road

Chris Wright at 190

Trentham Street

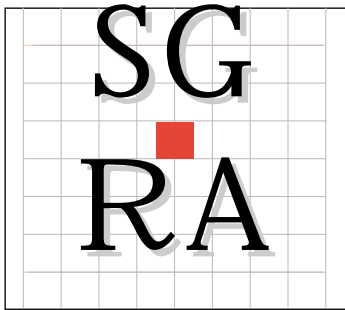
Mark Page at 133

### Dates for your Diary...

**Tuesday 19th December**

#### Christmas carol singin

From 5-30 pm the SGRA choir will be singing Christmas Carols outside Southfields Underground Station. We will be collecting money for Trinity Hospice so please give generously.



# SOUTHFIELDS SLOGGERS

Congratulations to the Southfields Sloggers who defeated last year's winners, the Clonmore Tigers, in the second Grid softball tournament on Saturday 22nd July at Wimbledon Park. Six teams with over 70 players from the Grid competed all afternoon with many more supporting. The afternoon's tournament was followed by a barbecue at St Barnabas' church hall. A very big thank you to David Crowther for organising such a successful event, thanks also to the SGRA for financing the tournament and barbecue and thank you to all the volunteers both at the tournament and at the barbecue. Thanks also to our MP Justine Greening for participating. This event is now firmly established in the Grid's social calendar.

## TREAT FOR THE EYES

The Old Sweet Shop -  
Southfields New Art Gallery

If you happen to have passed by the corner of Brookwood Road and Heythorpe Street you certainly wouldn't have missed the transformation taking place at number 11, the corner shop which used to be the locksmith's and before that a sweet shop.

A collective of designers, artists and curators have taken the task of turning this traditional English corner shop into a modern, eye catching art gallery. The aim is to show, promote and sell work by new emerging artists and bring to the Southfields community contemporary art and design that is accessible and affordable.

The opening on the 21st of September will feature four artists who work in painting, photography, 3D collage and textiles. This small group of artists share an obsessiveness in their making processes and a similarly intense attention to detail, marking a re-emergence of labour-intensive processes (dare we say craft) in contemporary art. The show runs until 19th of October.

The gallery is open to the public on Saturdays from 9.30 to 5.30 and by appointment only from Monday to Friday. For more information please call Joe on **020 8871 2272** or visit [www.tossweb.com](http://www.tossweb.com)

## TOP 10 GARDENING TIPS TO COPE WITH DROUGHT

1. Collect rainwater in a water butt and use a watering can.
2. Even in the hottest weather your lawn only needs watering once a week.
3. Water late at night or early morning to avoid evaporation in the sun.
4. Let the grass grow longer to trap dew, reduce evaporation and stay greener.
5. Most trees and shrubs only need watering until established.
6. Ask your garden centre about species of plants that require less water.
7. Use larger ceramic pots rather than smaller terracotta pots to retain moisture.
8. Using mulches reduces evaporation and suppresses weeds.
9. Slightly depress the soil around the plant to prevent water running off.
10. Use "grey water" i.e. used washing up water or bath water which has cooled down and doesn't contain strong chemicals.

## Eve Sewell – a Tribute

by Neil Robson

Local residents will be saddened to hear of the death of Eve Sewell, who lived for many years in Elsenham Street. To describe her as 'the lady with the cats' implies that she was altogether more eccentric than was actually the case. But, boy, did she love those animals – and what support she gave to other cat-lovers! When our own cat went missing for a few days three years ago, the comfort that Eve gave to my partner and me was extraordinary. Some people have the gift of lifting your spirits in times of trouble; Eve was clearly one of them.

She was a member of the SGRA from its earliest days in the 1970s. In a recent note, the Association's founder-chairman, Tina Thompson, wrote that Eve was a person whom she 'held in great esteem and affection,' and she went on: 'Eve will always be remembered for her kindness to cats. When you visited, there was always a cat to be stroked and a sad tale about a new addition to her feline friends.' In a kindly sense, Eve was 'a character'. Let that be the case; she will be greatly missed none the less for it.

# A NEW PRIEST FOR ST BARNABAS CHURCH

I knew I would miss the Green woodpeckers. One of the delights of living in fairly rural Hertfordshire was watching these stunning birds prodding the lawn in search of ants. Very early on my first morning in Southfields, back in May, I peered out of the window and there was a parakeet clinging to the bird-feeder next door!

I knew Southfields a little before, having two good friends and a godson here, but I certainly didn't know it very well. When I was considering coming to be priest in charge of St Barnabas I paid more attention to the church and its community than to the local area, so almost every day since has brought equally fresh discoveries. I hadn't realised there were quite so many young parents and children here, that Wimbledon Park was such a perfect place for energetic and restful leisure, or that Southfields had inspired the creation of Bob the Builder. The warm welcome Ruth and myself have received has made us feel at home amazingly quickly and we are both looking forward to many happy years here.

Concerning St Barnabas church, I hope that it will become an ever more vital part of the local community. As many of you are aware there have long been plans to build a new church hall, to renovate the church building itself and to improve the facilities within it. We are getting closer now to making those plans a reality. This is not just intended to help those who are part of the worshipping community but also to offer something back to the local community. Already the church provides a space for childcare, birthday parties, ballet, music and much more. In the future it will have even more to offer.

St Barnabas thinks of itself as a liberal catholic church. That is one which treasures the richness and diversity of the Christian tradition and is therefore open to the richness and diversity of people. I have felt very welcome in Southfields and hope that you will feel equally welcome if you ever care to visit us at any of our events or services. And if you bump into me anywhere in the parish please feel free to say hello!

PS Thanks to David for organising such an enjoyable Soft ball competition.

Best wishes Ian Tattum

## THANK YOU

Thanks to the All England Lawn Tennis Club and Southfields Underground Station for their usual magnificent display of flowers and hanging baskets during the Wimbledon fortnight, of which most are still blooming.

Thank you to Lavenham Mini Market, Suzelles, Freshers Fruit & Veg, McCluskeys, The Village Butcher, McCluskeys, Chris Hairdressers Brookwood Road and Southfields Foot Clinic for their kind contribution of raffle prizes for the Golden Oldies Party in April. This ever popular event was attended by numerous "golden oldies" from the Grid. Thanks also to Eddy Byles for his beautiful singing and the Mayfielders for their excellent entertainment. A big thank you also to the Mayor and Justine Greening MP for attending.

Thank you to David and Caroline Crowther for organizing the first Grid Treasure Hunt in early June and Neil Robson for setting many of the quiz questions. Over 40 Grid residents took part followed by a barbecue at St Barnabas Church hall.

## SOUTHFIELDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Southfields Community College is an 11-19 mixed school which has Sports College status, is a Training School, a full service Extended School and has a City Learning Centre on site. The College currently has the following administrative vacancies:**

### **MATHS DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT**

Scale 1, points 6-11 pro rata Term Time Only  
£12,474.41 - £14,348.24 p.a.

To provide comprehensive administrative support to the Maths Department, including data entry and the management of the Department's database, preparing and mounting displays of students' work, dealing with correspondence and stock control.

### **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT**

Scale 1, points 6-11 pro rata Term Time Only  
£12,474.41 - £14,348.24 p.a.

To provide comprehensive administrative support to the Special Educational Needs Department, including administration of Inclusion Panels and Annual Reviews. Maintenance of SEN database, induction and monitoring of performance management of Teaching Assistants.

Applicants for both posts require excellent communication and interpersonal skills, 2 years relevant experience, good clerical skills and the ability to use a word processor and computer database.

### **TECHNICAL ASSISTANT**

Scale 1, points 6-11 pro rata Term Time Only  
£12,474.41 - £14,348.24 p.a.

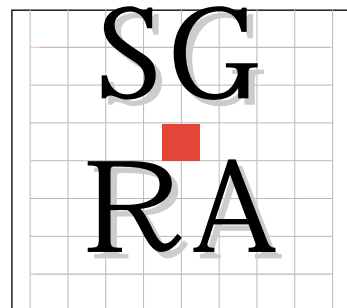
(points to be determined in accordance with relevant experience)  
To provide the Technology Department with support with multicrafts and resistant materials and general support to the Art Department.

Applicants require basic technical knowledge and experience of providing technical support.

Please telephone the College for an application pack, telephone number: **020 8875 2600. Closing Date: Friday, 22 September.**  
The College is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

# Crime on the Grid

from the Editor



Unfortunately we don't have a complete breakdown of all crimes on the Grid for this newsletter, however, by the next newsletter (winter 06) this much requested listing should be resumed.

**We have been asked by the Police to give the following advice:**

Did you know that the average price of the pedal cycles stolen is £562. Most of these cycles were secured with a single cheap lock.

To minimise theft, security mark your cycle eg. Data-Tag/Smart Water.

Keep a record of the frame number of your cycle. Buy a quality locking device or even two. Always try to lock your cycle to something. If you have a quick release saddle take it with you.

Register your bike, mobile phone or any other item, with serial number, **FREE** on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)

If you see anything suspicious call 999 or contact your **Safer Neighbourhood Team** on **020 8247 8759** at Wandsworth Police Station.

SNT mobile: **07920 233931**. email [Southfields.snt@met.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Southfields.snt@met.pnn.police.uk)

To report a crime online: [www.online.police.uk](http://www.online.police.uk)

Will all residents be very careful when using the cash machines at all the banks in Southfields. Please check for suspicious additions to the machine, beware of people in close proximity to you and try to hide your PIN number, especially when entering it on the key pad, at all times.

If anyone has had fuel stolen from their moped/motorbike recently, please inform either the police or street rep. We are trying to establish whether this is a growing problem on the Grid.

## NEWS FROM THE TOWN HALL

- Meet your local councillors

Jenny Nickels has lived in Southfields for over twenty years. She is a former councillor between the years 1990 to 1994, but due to business developments, had to stand down. She has been a Governor for Sheringdale Primary from 1988 to 1991 and Riversdale Primary School from 1987 to 1988. She is now a Governor of Our Lady Queen of Heaven R.C. Primary School. Jenny's interests lie in Law and Order and until recently was the Secretary of the Safer Neighbourhood Panel for Southfields, which she became involved in due to her keen interest in keeping the neighbourhood a safer place for both adults and children alike.

One a wider front Jenny stands on the Audit Committee, Standards Committee and Environment and Leisure Overview Scrutiny Committee. All these give me a depth of understanding the council workings and developments.

Jenny has said "it is a privilege to be back on the Council after 12 years, more especially in the Southfields Ward, where I was a Councillor between 1990-1994. Yes, the Council has changed considerably - I wouldn't see it any other way, as Councillors we are much more accountable to the

community. I am also fortunate to have two excellent Councillors who are both young and energetic, full of good ideas."

Paul Reeve has been a Wandsworth councillor for the last 4 years. Having previously represented another area of Putney, Paul moved to the Southfields ward after the May local elections. Paul has lived in Southfields for the past five years and is a governor of Sheringdale Primary School. Living locally, Paul is very concerned about tackling quality of life issues in Southfields, for example crime and traffic.

Alongside his work as a ward councillor, Paul is heavily involved in borough-wide issues through his roles on council committees. Paul is the Chairman of the Corporate Resources committee, and is therefore concerned with ensuring that the council's high quality services are delivered efficiently and effectively.

Paul is also the Deputy Chairman of the Licensing Committee. This role has enabled Paul to closely monitor the impact of new pub licensing hours on Southfields residents.

Paul Reeve said, "It is organisations such as

the SGRA which are the key to ensuring that residents have a voice on the key issues in the area. My colleagues and I look forward to working closely with the SGRA over the coming years to ensure Southfields remains a great place to live."

Lucy Allan has lived in Wandsworth for 20 years and is married with a 5 year old son. She is a governor of Riversdale Primary School and works locally as a part time employment law adviser. Lucy is particularly interested in quality of life issues and has recently been campaigning on promoting safety and security in our parks and open spaces as well as promoting responsible dog ownership. She is a member of the Children and Young Peoples' Services Committee, the Environment and Leisure Committee and the Regeneration and Community Safety Committee.

Lucy Allan said: it is a great privilege to have been elected as a councillor for Southfields; Southfields is a real community with some residents having lived in the area for many years. I want to make sure Southfields residents have a voice on the local issues that matter to them and affect their quality of life. I am working with my fellow Councillors to ensure that the voice of residents is heard.'

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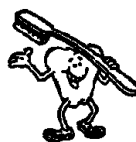
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