

# HEATHFIELDS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (HRA) - NEWSLETTER

## Message from the Editor

Readers will note that there was quite a gap between this edition and the last one (March 2015). We would have liked to publish the newsletter sooner but unfortunately this is a busy time of the year - holidays etc. - so apologies for that. But we still hope you find the information in the newsletter current, relevant and interesting. We will aim to get the next edition out sooner.

## Spring Cleaning

During the summer the Directors have been busy with estate improvements, including path repairs and heavy pruning of trees in the playground. We are also grateful to Lynn for maintaining the planters in Kingsway. This is for the benefit of all the residents and we hope you enjoy the improvements. If you have any

suggestions for further (quick and easy) improvements please let us know. To help with the appearance of the estate residents are requested to tidy up public areas adjacent to their own properties and dispose of any bulk rubbish that has accumulated.



## New Director

The HRA are pleased to welcome Sarah Bellabarba as a new director to the HRA, Sarah says:

*"Let me introduce myself, my name is Sarah Bellabarba. My family were lucky enough to purchase a house on Woburn Place and we moved in at the end of November last year. I asked to become a director of the Residents Association as I feel that the community here is a very 'hands on' situation that I would like to be a part of. The ability of the committee to*

*effect real change on the estate is great, and I am honoured to be a part of it. I hope to be a part of the group that is trying to improve the facilities for children and increase accessibility for all residents. We have met many lovely neighbours in the short time that we have been here, and hope to meet many more of you over the summer!"*

The Committee is very fortunate to have another resident volunteering their services as a director and this now means we have a very strong, forward thinking group who will act in the best interests of the estate. On behalf of the other directors I welcome Sarah on board.

## Speed Limit

Please be mindful of the speed restrictions on the estate, especially as the school holidays are starting. There are several blind corners on the estate and it is even more important that drivers proceed with caution at these junctions. Thank you.

## Playground Update

(Article courtesy of Darren Mullett.) Well the playground is underway, just not as far forward as we'd hoped. Currently it looks like it will have to be done in two stages: first stage we (HRA) can fund followed by a second stage where we are going to need funding.

Unfortunately, estimates were way out --- no surprise there! Account needs to be made for the cost of the safety matting, the installation and the carriage, sorry! To cut a long story short we're not put off, just delayed. To get four pieces of new equipment we're going to need funding which we will have to apply for, hopefully via Thriplow Parish Council. This additional work we need help with please.



However we can and have started! We've addressed the overgrown hedging (see picture) to give us more area and a secure fence to prevent accidental escape; then, we're looking to work on the den, the mound and the tyre park in that order. The wooden climbing equipment will come after. Chippies please note I may be seeking you out....

To progress beyond the den we are going to have to re---home the ball shoot --- but not before it has been repaired and spruced up. We're looking at digging it out to clear the space for the mound, but looking at the size of the concrete lump at the base this may require a mini digger. So this is definitely a job for a working party (see the article below on playground clear up). The Meadows have kindly offered to let me post the upcoming 'jobs' list and information on their fence in the park, so hopefully if I'm not around things can still continue. *(Editor's note, a big thank you to Darren for all the hard work he has done on the playground.)*

# Estate Maintenance

Improvements to the footpaths continue – an external contractor is carrying out further repair work where it is most needed and you should all notice an improvement in the coming months. This is not a quick and easy fix, as the work has to be carried out taking into account funds available.

## Oil Consortium

Are you aware that there is a local oil consortium that is able to obtain heating oil at a more favourable price due to it being ordered in bulk? If you are interested in being a member of the consortium please contact Martin, email:

[mpj6664@gmail.com](mailto:mpj6664@gmail.com). Once you are a member there is no obligation to buy oil. The consortium orders four times a year, usually Feb, May, Aug and Nov. It is preferable to provide an email address or telephone number to the consortium so they can contact you regarding orders. Volunteers run the consortium and they take it in turns to administer the orders.



## AGM

A further reminder: the HRA AGM will be held in September at Thriplow Village Hall (evening). The date has yet to be confirmed and will be announced as soon as possible. We need your support so please come along.

## Advertising

The Directors have agreed that any resident can advertise services etc. in the newsletter. This may be for things like an ironing service, babysitting, gardening. So if you fancy a bit of free advertising contact Martin on the above email.

## Historic Photos

We would be interested in gathering a selection of photos of the estate from the 1980's onwards (or even before) when the first non-military occupants moved in. There has been a significant change in the estate since then and it would be interesting to highlight this (gardens etc). Depending on how many there are, they could be published in this newsletter or on a display board



Early 1980's – before gardens established



at the AGM. Eventually, we would hope to have them permanently archived in the HRA website.

## Playground Clear Up Day



In preparation for the development of the Children’s playground we are organising a clear up and development day. This will take place on **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August** 10.00 onwards. Work includes digging out and re-siting old equipment, tidying up, pruning and general maintenance. So please come along and help out and bring your digging tools – even an hour will be of benefit. See you there.

## Bank Mandate

The Committee intend to place a downloadable bank mandate form on the HRA website which can be used to pay HRA services charges.

## Email Addresses

We still require email addresses of residents in order that we can circulate information quicker and more efficiently. If you would like to be included on the HRA email list please contact the directors or complete the tear off slip below and deliver to 108 Kingsway. The list is **not shared** with anyone other than the directors and you can have your email removed at any time if you no longer wish to be included.



**HEATHFIELD RESIDENT EMAIL ADDRESS**

Name.....  
Address.....  
Email.....  
Signature.....

I agree to my email address only being used by the HRA Directors for the purposes of circulating HRA information and that it will not be circulated or copied to anyone else, nor used for other purposes. I can withdraw from the HRA email circulation list at any time upon notification to the HRA Committee.

Keep up to date with what is going on at [WWW.HRA-DUXFORD.CO.UK](http://WWW.HRA-DUXFORD.CO.UK) HRA This Newsletter is published by Heathfields Residents Association Ltd for the residents of the HRA Estate. Heathfields Residents Association Limited - Registered in England, 1731043  
Distributed free to the houses on the HRA Estate