

# Earl's Court Square Residents' Association

## Membership Form 2015

I/we would like to become /remain a member of Earl's Court Square Residents' Association. Please delete as appropriate.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Subscription Rates:

£6.00 per year individual membership  
£9.00 per year family (household) membership

**Please make cheques payable to:** Earl's Court Square Residents' Association  
I enclose cash\* / cheque\* for £6.00\* / £9.00\*

\* *Please delete as appropriate*

### Please return this form, together with your remittance to:

The ECSRA Membership Secretary  
c/o Flat 6, 65 Earl's Court Square  
London SW5 9DG

### Alternatively, you can pay electronically to Metrobank:

Your payment should be made to Earl's Court Square Residents' Association, sort code: 23 - 05 - 80, account number: 10942594. Use your house number as your reference and send an email to [ecsrasmembers@talktalk.net](mailto:ecsrasmembers@talktalk.net) confirming your details and how much you have paid.

# Earl's Court Square Residents' Association



### Important Dates for your Diary

- June 13 – 14: Open Squares Weekend  
Annual BBQ  
*note new date*
- July 14: Strawberry Cornish  
Cream Tea Garden Party
- July 19: Brompton Cemetery  
Open Day
- August 20: Brompton Cemetery  
Annual Lecture

*PLUS ... items of local interest*

With thanks to our  
print sponsor

**FARON SUTARIA**  
t: 020 7835 1577



This newsletter is for Members only. So please note there is a Membership renewal form with this newsletter if you haven't renewed for 2015. A special thanks to those who have given donations in addition to their Membership renewal.

### BBQ 4th July

Join your friends and neighbours at this annual event in the Garden Square, by kind permission of the Garden Sub-Committee. Lit BBQ's are provided, so come and enjoy the music and beautiful surrounds. Bring your own blanket, chairs and tables and of course food and drinks. Feel free to theme up for the 4th July.



## The New Chairman's Address



Chrissie Courtney - New Chairman ECSRA

I am honoured to take over as Chair of the ECSRA, a very active Residents' Association. I have lived in Earl's Court Square for 2 years and was involved with our 2014 BBQ and 40th Anniversary events.

As President of the British Association of Monaco for 4 years, and a New Forest District Council Councillor for 8 years (4 of which were spent as Chair of Leisure Services), I have gained valuable community experience, which I hope I will be able to use as your Chair. With your help, my aim is to increase our Membership during 2015 and I am looking forward to working with the Executive Committee and meeting all our ECSRA Members.



### Report Back on the AGM

The AGM was held upstairs at The Bolton on the 3rd of March 2015. Cllr. Linda Wade was present along with just over 30 Members.

Our guest speaker was Gillian Putterill, the acting head of St. Cuthbert with St. Matthias School, who gave an enlightening talk about the participation of the children in gardening activities. They are wonderful

for bringing shy children out of their shells and encouraging social mixing. Children are encouraged to submit articles about their gardening experience, so creating an educational, well-rounded initiative. ECSRA had donated £100 in 2014 towards this project.

Current committee members are:

Chrissie Courtney - Chairman

Alex Tullett - Hon. Treasurer

Alex also responsible for  
Planning, Licensing & Traffic

Heidi Bradner - Rubbish &  
Recycling

Sue Lupton - Newsletter

Christine Powell - Membership

David Ramsden

Jennifer Ware

Ilke Vowinckel.

The evening concluded with wine and excellent refreshments.

## Local News

### New MP for Kensington



Cllr. Victoria Borwick who has a business background, and has lived in Kensington all her life, has been elected our new Member of Parliament. As Deputy Mayor to Boris Johnson and Councillor for Abingdon Ward for 13 years, she has a good understanding of the issues of our area, both at residents and business levels.

### Planning & Licensing

Northgate Garages: Planning permission was granted for a one story house

## EARL'S COURT SQUARE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

### The Earl's Court Square Residents' Association (ECSRA) is having a Membership Drive during 2015

The Association is very active, on behalf of all the Residents of Earl's Court Square. The Executive Committee monitors all RBK&C Planning and Licensing Applications affecting Earl's Court Square.

They consult with Members and express the views of residents on Traffic and Parking within Earl's Court Square and liaise with the local police on crime prevention.

The Executive Committee also liaises with other local organisations and ensures that the Members of the ECSRA have a voice. One of our success stories has been the reduction of rubbish in our area and we have been actively liaising with RBK&C who have a new initiative "The Earl's Court Project" to tackle this problem- see Heidi Bradner's report in our Newsletter.

The ECSRA produces a Newsletter three times a year, which keeps Members up to date on local issues. We hold two events annually in Earl's Court Square Gardens. A Summer BBQ (4th July 2015) and a mulled wine and mince pies event at the Lighting of the Christmas Tree, scheduled for the 13th December 2015.

Annual Membership fees are £6 for individuals and £9 for family/households. I do hope you will support your ECSRA and become/remain a Member in 2015 by signing the Membership Form on the reverse.

With kind regards



Chrissie Courtney  
Chair

Earl's Court Square Residents' Association  
A Gold Standard RA awarded by RBK&C

## Garden News by Katrina Quinton

As spring gently makes its way into summer and we can enjoy the square at its very best with the blossom and tulips and the trees coming back into leaf it really does lift the spirits. The central bed has settled in well and we look forward to the plants that did not have much time to develop last year being able to put all their energy into giving us a display throughout the summer. The 2,000 wall flowers are giving a fantastic display and being the generous flowers they are will do so for much of the summer. The roses are looking good too and this year they should be reaching for the sky and flowering their hearts out.

Our wonderful horticultural landscaper and designer, and most importantly, neighbour, Charles Wood has yet again helped us out and has introduced Anna to us as our new gardener. Anna is working two days a week and her ministrations to the horticultural needs of the square are already showing. Lucian held the fort admirably over the winter and spring and we are grateful for his continued time in the garden.

We have finally managed to have most of the ivy taken down from the trees that should have come down two years ago when the weather was against us. Sadly, the contractors needed a little more time to finish the tree on the East side but they will be coming back! The hedges and soil at the bottom of the tree in question are now revelling in the light and we will give them a bit of help to restore their confidence.

The playground area is also being restored. We were introduced to a craftsman who will use the existing structure and repair, enhance and replace links and chains so that all aspects are stronger and better.

The benches have all been washed and oiled in readiness for the summer and the shed doors have also been strengthened.



The Square will be part of the Open Garden Squares Weekend on June 13 and 14 and will be open to fee paying members of the public from 10am to 5pm on both days. Needless to say, residents do not need to pay to come into their own garden and we are pleased to be able to share our private oasis with others, who never cease to remind us how lucky we are. We will be having live music in the afternoons and tea and coffee will be available. If anyone is willing to help us on the day, that would be most welcome!

The Garden Committee is flattered to have been asked to host the Strawberry Cornish Cream Tea Garden Party for the people of the area, on 14 July and we thank Jennifer Ware and her wonderful committee for their care and attention to detail in organising this event for the benefit of the members of the Earl's Court Community.

*Note that information about the Earl's Court Square Garden, including how to obtain a key, can be found on the garden gates and on [www.ecsgarden.org.uk](http://www.ecsgarden.org.uk)*

dwelling, with a one story basement and solar panels on the roof. No start date has been advised.

## Post Box

Our useful post box door was found 'jimmied' and split in two, so it was strapped up waiting for a replacement door. Chrissie Courtney our new Chairman, wrote to the Post Office requesting an update on repairs to the box, which is presently unsightly.



The Post Office has reported back that sourcing the right door for post boxes that are very old and of different sizes is proving difficult. Chrissie suggested that Whitechapel Foundry had been recommended as a source and that we would be grateful if the box could be wrapped in an aesthetically acceptable manner in keeping with its location within a Conservation Area, whilst waiting for the new door.

Progress updates from the Royal Mail were prompt and we are hopeful that when you receive this newsletter, our lovely old box will be up and running again. Our thanks to the Royal Mail for their helpfulness.

## Rubbish and Recycling by Heidi Bradner

The Earl's Court Ward is the subject of a new trial for rubbish enforcement and collection, called the "Earls Court Project".

The trial began in February and is expected to last for 6 months. Residents will see cage trucks patrolling daily to collect all illegally dumped bags, which will be

investigated immediately for any evidence. Immediate fines, with no warnings will be issued.

This trial's aim is a "Zero tolerance" policy for rubbish. Residents were sent Section 46 notices in March informing them of the trial. Cllr. Fenella Aouane and Cllr. Malcolm Spalding secured extra funding to run the trial in response to the ongoing chronic rubbish problems in the Ward. The aim is to find solutions that work in order to improve the rubbish problem. I am sure you will join me in saying it has demonstrably made a difference. Garden Waste collection was restarted until the end of June, so that more consultation can be undertaken. For those registered on the garden waste scheme, the remaining Earl's Court collection days are Thursdays: May 14, May 28, June 11, June 25 (last day).

## Parking

The traffic build up at school home time around St Cuthbert's school, from the Warwick Road entrance to the Square, has been a concern for some time.



The Council have now taken this on board and have erected no parking signs at the School. This is most welcome.

## Water Pressure

Late last year there was low water pressure which resulted in a number of the residents working together to put pressure on Thames Water. Both Cllr. Linda Wade and Cllr. Spalding were helpful in adding their weight to helping resolve the problem at that time. There were problems with water pressure and supply in the west and north sides of the Square during the recent



Christine Powell - the outgoing Chairman of the ECSRA - celebrates with committee members

long weekend in May. Should you have a problem, call the Customer Resolution team on 0800 0093965. Offices are open between the hours of 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. Thames Water has confirmed to the ECSRA that they will send a Technician to attend and conduct water pressure tests but will need specific addresses of all affected properties. Should you experience water pressure problems please copy [ecsrachair@btinternet.com](mailto:ecsrachair@btinternet.com). The ECSRA has started a central complaints log to monitor the situation and will be forwarding this to Thames Water on your behalf.

### Christine Powell

The ECSRA Committee thanked Christine Powell for her 10 years as Chairman of ECSRA with champagne and cake!

*“What a wonderful way to conduct our ECSRA Executive Committee meetings,”* exclaimed Christine who was always low-key on the many hours and contributions she made over the years. Christine was congratulated and thanked for her helpful, tenacious and intelligent qualities. She

has handed over to Chrissie Courtney as Chairman and will remain on the committee with responsibility for membership.

### Earl’s Court Exhibition Site Update

Ken Courtenay jointly chairs the Earl’s Court (Development) Neighbours’ Group with Anette Simpson from Capital and Counties (Capco). Their current main concerns are the effects of demolition. Topics discussed so far have included potential unauthorised use of local streets for access to the site, the design and colour of the hoardings around the site and pollarding of trees to the rear of some Philbeach Gardens properties on the boundary of the development. The Group has no authority to approve or refuse work.

There has been some unexplained shaking experienced by nearby residents, including as far as Earl’s Court Square.

The demolition contractors, Keltbray, removed Bridge 19, which connected the EC 1 and 2 buildings, exactly according to plan during the Christmas holiday period.

They had no complaints of disturbance from neighbouring residents.

Concern has been raised that contractor traffic may use inappropriate roads (e.g. Penywern) to access the site. Capco is looking at possible use of the Northern Access Road from Cromwell Rd. and will look into planning approval for this.

Nearly all the asbestos has now been removed. But demolition is generating a lot of dust and this is particulate silicate, which is almost as dangerous. The Earl’s Court Society is waiting to hear about the control of this.

The junctions Swept Path Analysis has been done on all the major junctions to see if they will take the very large demolition and construction vehicles. They are now mapped - RAs can ask for this.

The friezes and the lettering on the building’s façade are to be stored.

There is a great deal of archive stored; volunteers are needed to sift through this.

Unnecessary and out of hours noise should be reported to the Capco 24 hr. help line on 07841 212286.

The RBKC Noise and Nuisance Team on 020 7361 3002, out of office hours ring 020 7361 3484. Alternatively email [environmentalhealth@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:environmentalhealth@rbkc.gov.uk) Quote ref. 165767.

The site manager for Keltbray, Nick Kelly, can be contacted on 07740 069 898

### Crime & Police.

A new Community Engagement System named **OWL** which stands for **Online Watch Link**, has been created for passing information to you in a quick and easy way. Kensington and Chelsea Police in partnership with local Neighbourhood Watch coordinators will send you occasional messages regarding local incidents, crime prevention information

and other police or community related information.

PC Ben Palastanga, our dedicated ward officer for Earl’s Court, tells us that crime alerts can be sent out instantly, sometimes within half an hour of a crime occurring. The system allows messages to be received by telephone, fax, email, mobile phones or by letter. It helps prevent Burglary, finds missing people and even catches suspects.

**OWL** is also interactive, allowing you to send any messages back just as easily.

There is no cost to sign up, it is completely free. All personal information will be stored safely in a secure database and will not be shared with any third parties.

Please go to: [www.owl.co.uk/met](http://www.owl.co.uk/met) for more information and details of how to register.

### Troubadour Offer



2-4-1 ENTRY TO THE CLUB to listen to live music or poetry most nights of the week!



or 10% discount in the Wine Shop, to Earl’s Court Square Members until the 31.08.15. **Which we will honour on presentation of the newsletter.**

For further information, please call us on 020 7370 1434, look at The Troubadour website: [www.troubadour.co.uk](http://www.troubadour.co.uk), or just drop in to 263 - 267 Old Brompton Road.