

EARL'S COURT SQUARE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

*Protecting and enhancing Earl's Court Square and
the lives of the people who live and work here*



ANNUAL MAGAZINE | AGM | 2023

On behalf of Earl's Court residents, we:

- Monitor and address environmental issues including pollution, rubbish and recycling.
- Comment on planning applications and transport issues.
- Liaise with the Police, Council and the Earl's Court Garden Sub-Committee.
- Organise a number of social events for the residents of Earl's Court Square.
- Produce a magazine annually with local news, distributed to all residents.
- Publish a website with history and local information.
- ECSRA Member updates on current local issues.

Dates 2023:

23 February:	Annual General Meeting.
6 May:	Coronation Celebration.
10 - 11 June:	London Open Gardens Weekend.
24 June:	Earl's Court Square BBQ and Disco.
17 October:	Member's New Orleans Jazz Evening.
10 December:	Annual Christmas Tree Lighting.

Check for further information on www.ecsra.co.uk

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2022-2023

DEAR RESIDENTS

On New Years Day we received some very sad news. Christine Powell, our Membership Secretary and ex-chair of ECSRA, has passed away after a short illness. Christine who lived in the Square for 45 years was a member of ECSRA's Executive Committee for many years and will be greatly missed. We send our sincere condolences to her family.



As we gradually recovered and learned to live with Covid, the importance of COMMUNITY has become paramount. As a Residents' Association, our focus remains on ways to enable community cohesion within the Earl's Court Square Conservation Area. Our catchment covers around 650 households and our aim for this year is to increase our membership.

Membership of ECSRA now costs £10 (individual) and £15 (family/household) and enables us to fund refreshments and music at our events such as the magical "Lighting of the Christmas Tree", our AGM with complimentary wine and canapés and the DJ at our annual summer family BBQ/Disco. All our residents are welcome at these events. However, they all need funding and ECSRA membership fees provides this – **so please make 2023 the year when the majority of the 650 households in our area join ECSRA - so we can continue providing events for our community.**

EVENTS:

During 2022 ECSRA hosted 6 events – some of which were shared with the Garden Sub-Committee. Our AGM in February, held at The Bolton Pub, started the ball rolling with our guest speaker, The Mayor of Kensington and Chelsea, Cllr Gerard Hargreaves, who brought along his splendid regalia to illustrate his talk on the role of the Mayor.

Then in March, Christine Powell and Sue Lupton led a “History of the Square Walk” - when we all learned something new about the Square in which we live. (See <https://ecsra.co.uk/events/> on our website for their notes on the walk). During June we celebrated The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in the Garden with a brass band and a magnificent array of food - contributed by residents - whilst Katrina Quinton provided endless cups of tea/coffee in her eclectic collection of china teacups.

We held our annual BBQ/Disco in July which was not as well attended as we hoped so we have moved the date to **Saturday 24 June 2023** to catch residents before they depart for their summer holidays - as this event is our main fundraiser.



We held an “Oktoberfest” in The Bottlery for ECSRA Members and their guests and we’re back at The Bottlery on 17 October 2023 for a Members’ New Orleans Jazz

Evening. Our final event was, of course, “The Lighting of the Christmas Tree” in December. It’s magical to see so many neighbours of all ages celebrating the festive season together, consuming Alan Malcolm’s legendary gallons of mulled wine, Katrina Quinton’s 100 “yummy” home-made mince pies and Mariaclara’s delicious home-made cookies.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB):

Increased levels of ASB are the main concern in Earl’s Court Square. Most buildings have been affected by people squatting on door-steps – using/buying/dealing drugs - and there are an increasing number of residents who are concerned about the increase in shoplifting on Earl’s Court Road and scared to walk on our streets.

During 2022 ECSRA actively lobbied for more “bobbies on the beat” and co-authored an ASB Petition in 2021 (supported by 1000+ residents) drawing attention to the increased levels of crime in the area.

Our Councillors, led by the late Cllr. Malcolm Spalding, spearheaded a Call-to-Action which was presented to RBKC, who finally accepted that Earl’s Court should be treated as a priority area, even though this was not reflected in recorded crime.

In response to the Call-to-Action, RBKC funded a month of action with the Borough Police last December resulting in:

- Additional patrols from police, wardens and other council officers to crack down on ASB.
- RBKC conducting a series of street briefings, with Safer Neighbourhood

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Police Officers - talking to residents about their concerns - to help them formulate a sustainable plan to tackle the issues affecting Earl's Court (highlighted in the Call-to-Action) as part of a "Creating Safer Neighbourhoods" programme.



We would ask all our residents to report crime, ASB and drug related activity online to the Police on: <https://www.met.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/> or by calling 101 so the police data will more accurately reflect the levels of crime we are all experiencing which, we hope, will lead to increased policing.

Please always call 999 in an emergency.

ECSRA's Executive Committee recently viewed a presentation by a private security company, whose mobile units would liaise closely with the Police, RBKC and local community.

When encountering drug dealing they would intervene, seize drugs and restrain culprits in a professional manner until the Police arrive - which is all recorded on bodycams and documented.

Although there are advantages, it was felt that costs would be prohibitive (as not all the buildings would be able or willing to contribute) and we are discussing whether the area covered could be increased to include other Garden Squares within Earl's

Court to reduce costs. **Please email me with your thoughts on this proposal or if you would like to see estimated costs:**

ecsrachair@btinternet.com.

CYCLE HANGAR:

Despite some initial opposition, the cycle hangar located in the NE arm of the Square is filled with 6 cycles and has not been vandalised so we are now in discussions with RBKC about the location of an additional cycle hangar (our preferred location is within the NW arm) for which we would again apply for RBKC/NCIL funding. There are a growing number of residents on the Council's waiting list who are looking for a secure space for their cycles.

PLANTERS IN THE SE ARM:

The planters have been effective in blocking cycles and motorbikes from using the pavements to access Earl's Court Road which was dangerous for pedestrians but, due to inclement weather when they were initially planted, the plants have not grown to the height anticipated. We will continue to monitor them and we hope they improve and flourish in 2023.

ECSRA has installed and funded a standpipe to aid watering and added spikes on the planters' edges to discourage people using them as seats and damaging the plants.

FAÇADE RULES:

After considerable work by the Residents' Association the Square was granted full Conservation Area status by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea in 1975. One of its stipulations is that the buildings on the west, north and east sides **must be painted Magnolia BS4800 08B15** with woodwork in white

but the colour of front doors is at the owners' choice. The colour for the house numbers is Black and the typeface is Garamond, 7 inches in height.



The latter detail is not in the Conservation Area document but is something ECSRA recommended. Please keep our Square looking beautiful by advising your Managing Agents/Housing Association when they are re-decorating buildings that the Façade Rules are on our website <https://ecsra.co.uk/facade-rules/>

EARL'S COURT SOCIETY SURVEY:

The Earl's Court Society would welcome residents' views on the future of Earl's Court and particularly on The Earl's Court Development on the old exhibition site. Please do complete this survey on their website as they will be representing residents' views to the Council:

www.earlscourtsociety.com/ecs-area-survey

SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN:

Residents have been concerned about parents double-parking at school drop-off/collection times and parents waiting for children who block the pavements. Langham Mansions has particularly been affected by children dropping litter on their steps and climbing on railings.

ECSRA arranged a meeting with RBKC/ School/Residents and we are awaiting finalisation of a "School Travel Plan" which we hope will address residents' concerns.

We've also asked for signage to be amended to prohibit parking/stopping outside the school with increased times to cover longer school hours and for prominent "One Way" signs in the SW arm to prevent cars using this as an exit onto Warwick Road. I recently met with the School's new Chair of Governors and we hope that the problems in the SW arm can be resolved with a closer working relationship between the School and residents (represented by ECSRA).

BUILT-OUT BUS STOPS ON EARL'S COURT ROAD.

ECSRA has been campaigning for the removal of the built-out bus stops on safety/pollution grounds.

We are also seriously concerned about the impact on the emergency services of TfL's bureaucratic decision to retain them, which could well be life-threatening, and we have written to TfL and our London Assembly Member, Tony Devenish, highlighting our concerns and questioning their decision to maintain them under Freedom of Information.

We await TfL's response which I'll report at the AGM.

THE ECSRA MAGAZINE

After 21years of editing ECSRA's magazine - a lot of hard work behind the scenes to enable it to be self-funded and many hours chasing everyone for articles - taking photographs at events -

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and masterminding distribution to 650 households, Sue Lupton has decided it is time to call it a day so this magazine will be the last printed edition.

We owe Sue a huge debt of gratitude and it is a tribute to her and Judy Head (our web designer) that the magazine has evolved over the years into its present form. The Committee has discussed the way forward and decided that, in future, an emailed “ECSRA News” will be sent to ECSRA Members twice a year – which we hope will also be a good incentive for residents to join ECSRA!

Sue and Judy will still be involved so we’re very excited about the future “ECSRA News” - which will also be on our website for all residents to view. I’m sure you will all join me in thanking Sue for 21 years of dedication and commitment to our ECSRA Magazine.

AGM:

We look forward to welcoming residents to our **AGM on Thursday 23 February 2023 at 18:30** in the Upstairs Hall of St Cuthbert with St Matthias School in Earl’s Court Square.

We are delighted that **Felicity Buchan MP, Member of Parliament for Kensington and Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities**, has kindly agreed to join us to update us on events at Westminster - and for wine and canapés afterwards. There will also be a Q&A session – so it’s a great opportunity to come with your questions for our MP.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my nine colleagues on the ECSRA Executive Committee for another year

of Zoom meetings when we have lively discussions and work together *“to protect and enhance Earl’s Court Square and the lives of the residents who live and work here.”*

Finally, we’re grateful to our Ward Councillors, Hamish Adorian, Tim Verboven and Linda Wade for their continued support. And a huge thank you to the Garden Sub-Committee, chaired by Katrina Quinton (who shares our commitment to the community) for allowing us to use the beautiful Earl’s Court Square Garden, and to Stacy Bouvier for always promoting ECSRA membership, Kevin Colgan for helping with our events, and Tom Brown for auditing our annual accounts.

Wishing you all a very happy and healthy New Year.



Chrissie Courtney - Chair
Earl’s Court Square Residents’ Association.
A Gold Standard RA awarded by RBKC

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Earl’s Court Square Residents’ Association is open to everyone who lives within the Earl’s Court Square Conservation Area. A membership form, to renew your subscription or to join, is included with this annual Magazine.

At last year’s AGM, it was agreed to increase the membership rates as follows: £10 for an individual and £15 for a family / household. Please ensure that you pay the correct amount and if you pay by Standing Order, again please ensure that you change the payment details accordingly.

The membership numbers for 2022 were 114, comprising 35 individuals, 35 family / household, three life members and three family memberships carried over from 2021. It was good to welcome three new members. It is a little disappointing that this is a reduction when compared with the 2021 numbers. We are very grateful to those members who kindly included a donation when renewing their membership.

We look forward to recruiting new members in 2023.

Contact: ecsrachair@btinternet.com

Committee Rotation & AGM Event

Election of Executive Committee 2023. Currently serving, retiring by rotation and offering themselves up for re-election under the rules:

Chrissie Courtney – Chair
Alex Tullett – Hon. Treasurer
Andrew Foster

Currently serving and continuing under the rules:

Heidi Bradner
Shailish Katyal
Sue Lupton
Mariaclara Vilona
Maria Xirou
Magda Zawisza

ECSRA AGM

We invited Cllr. Gerard Hargreaves, the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC) to speak at our AGM in February 2022.

He chose to give a fascinating account of the history of the Mayoral role and regalia, aided by Mr. Rush the dedicated chauffeur. Cllr Hargreaves explained the



Mayor is the legal entity of the Borough. Every May there is a new Mayor chosen. It is a ceremonial post with the Mayor performing around 400 engagements in the year, including visiting schools, charities and community occasions in the Borough. There are eight Council meetings in the year's tenure and three fundraising receptions for the Mayor's chosen charity. The Mayor leads the Borough on Remembrance Sunday.

The Mayor also spends the day at the annual Chelsea Flower Show and meets the Royal Family and liaises with the many Ambassadors and Embassies in the Kensington area.



RBKC is a Royal Borough, as Kensington Palace was the home to Queen Victoria. On her death, she decreed an ORB to The Lords of the Manor. This Mace is hugely symbolic and goes back to 1901. Kensington is the oldest Lords



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of the Manor and the chain of office for Kensington is the oldest.

Lord Cadogan gave an 18ct gold chain when there was a merger with Chelsea in 1964. Cllr Hargreaves brought along both these beautiful chains of office and was very pleased and proud to show us a substantial 3D printed paper chain presented to him by school children as their project.



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GOOD-BYE SUZI



There are some forces of nature which cannot be resisted. I am not thinking of tsunamis or volcanoes. I refer of course to pleas from the editor of the Magazine.

Which of us has not succumbed to her charms to contribute an item, to sponsor an advertisement, to stuff envelopes, to lug huge sacks of the finished item to our letter boxes.

For more than two decades we have been dependent on the infectious drive of Suzi Lupton to keep us informed about what has been going on in Earl's Court Square (and beyond), and what might be about to happen.

She has overseen our Magazine through black and white to glorious technicolour. She has snapped us at play and created a fabulous account of life in a garden square worthy of a sitcom.

She has finally decided to have a rest.
(Ed. does Suzi ever rest?)

Farewell to our great editor -
and Thank You.

Alan Malcolm



CHRISTINE POWELL a Celebration of Life 1945 - 2023

Christine Powell, who has sadly died over the New Year, was a stalwart of the Earl's Court Square Residents' Association (ECSRA) from the time she arrived in the Square in 1977 until her death. Her commitment, organisation skills, attention to detail and hard work all honed during her career as a statistician for the UK Atomic Energy Authority and BAA made her a valuable asset for the development of the Association.

For ten years she was Chair of the Association, and successfully applied for the Gold Standard Award that was given to the RA by RBKC. She headed up organising the wonderful 40th anniversary of ECSRA celebrations in the Poets' House, obtained CLLL funding for the plaques to recognise four notable individuals who had lived in the Square, and most recently, wrote up and took people on a history walk of Earl's Court Square. After retiring as ECSRA Chairman she became Membership Secretary and remained on the Executive Committee. In the wider Earl's Court, for many years Christine served on the Environment Committee of the Earl's Court Society and represented the ECSRA on many events. She served on an RBKC committee seeking to find jobs for young people and represented ECSRA at the Kensington Society.



Christine kept quiet her short battle with cancer, serving minced pies to residents at the December Christmas tree lighting event. Music was Christine's great love. She played the violin in the highly regarded Brent Symphony Orchestra. For many years she was a volunteer host with Opera Holland Park, greeting guests with her warm smile. She

encouraged Earl's Court residents to join her at OHP operas, always with chocolates at the interval. Christine also enjoyed playing bridge and tending her flowers on her balcony. It was known not to call Christine when The Archers was on the radio. Earl's Court Square and the wider Kensington community have lost a great friend and neighbour as well as a valuable community asset. As Alex Tullett said, "If you knew Christine as a friend, that's all you needed to know."

Christine is survived by three elder sisters and nephews and nieces.



Cllr. Malcolm Spalding

A Dedicated Community Champion

What a shock to hear of Malcolm's passing in March last year. At our ECSRA 2022 AGM a month before, he was on top of his game - well informed, advising residents of actions taken by the Council, listening and always working with tireless energy making Earl's Court a better place to live.

Malcolm's role as a local RBKC Councillor was tremendously important to him. But the most important thing for Malcolm was representing Earl's Court – his community, his neighbourhood and the area of London which he had cherished and called his home for many years and which he always championed.

I have lived in Earl's Court for 30 years and known Malcolm through the Earl's Court Business Forum, then the Kensington & Chelsea Chamber of Commerce and more so since he became our Earl's Court Councillor in 2014. Many of us haven't known Earl's Court without Malcolm! Always kind and a force for good.

Malcolm went out on a high, having two days earlier given one of the best presentations of his life at the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee, in the form of a Councillors' Call-to-Action. This was a comprehensive plan to deal with the root causes of issues in the Earl's Court area. The plan gained unanimous support and has been

passed to the Leadership Team, with the recommendation that it be implemented in full.

Sue Lupton



Avril Kennedy

Avril Kennedy who served on the ECSRA committee for 10 years from the early 2000's has passed away. See tribute on the ECSRA website.

Coincidentally, Avril contacted Judy Head (who does the layout of this magazine) regarding a lecturing project in the Middle East. A close friend of hers, based in Dubai, needed a jewellery specialist with visual merchandising and marketing experience. Avril's own business connections with the jewellery industry listed Judy as someone with the right qualifications for this project. It was only after they spoke that they both realised they had another connection - ECSRA!

Yvonne Sabater

Yvonne Sabater née Huguenot Born September 1943 died December 2022. Yvonne a true Earl's Courtier, was brought up in Hesper Mews, and came with her family to 15a Earl's Court Square in 1982. She was married to the late Miquel for over 50 years. In her day she was a beautiful model, a legal secretary and as an illustrator for Disney, where she worked on the character, Bambi. She leaves a daughter, son and grandchildren.

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ENVIRONMENT REPORT

A local group has been set up with particular attention to the environment within the Earl's Court ward.

The following are some of the issues reviewed this year:

- It was disappointing that not sufficient residents came forward to 'Green for the Jubilee' by erecting window boxes along the railings of their property. However, there are discussions about green panels being planted along West Cromwell Road as well as new planting on the central reservation.
- Air monitoring units have been installed on Old Brompton Road near Bousfield School and on Warwick Road near St Cuthbert with St Matthias School.
- It has been reported that pollution is lower when the wind is from the west / north. Introducing electric vehicles is only partly beneficial in reducing pollution as some particulates are as a result of the rubber from tyres.
- Data gathered by a satellite company over the past three years, has shown that communal gardens, over 100 square meters, show the cooling effect offered. This is because the trees, grass and shrubs provide shade, move water from the garden into the atmosphere and deflect radiation from the sun.

Christine Powell



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CREATIVITY ON THE SQUARE

It has to be said, Earl's Court Square is one of the prettiest and more interesting Squares in the hood! It's not surprising we attract various creative attractions for filming, photography and more throughout the year.

Our Square features grand houses built in the Palladian style, with their Corinthian columns, stucco render and some earlier grandeur. We also have the Flemish style, called locally 'the Dutch houses;' a few grand mansion blocks; and a whole arm demonstrating Victorian Cathedral architecture. The Square also features a mews and a few 'odd bods' including the award-winning sustainable house replacing three sad looking garages by architect Sophie Hicks in 2019.

The most fun to witness this year was the fashion shoot. Students from the London College of Style, one of the best fashion schools in London, chose our Square for their shoot whilst the road was being dug up for cabling, the bright red barriers adding a gritty backdrop for the fashion creations.



From our windows in the southeast arm we saw the film set for a record cover using as its background the Evans & Peel Detective Agency, the 1920's speakeasy that can claim to be a unique cocktail bar in London.

Then there was the BBC cameraman spotted expertly whizzing around the Square taking shots of our homes, for 'a slice of life' programme on Channel 4. Last but not least, we saw the children in the Square gathered on the night of trick-or-treat, wonderfully dressed up in theatrical costume.

P.S. Watch this space; some of us (prompted by Emma Kendall of Farmers' Market fame) have been keen to see if the picture painted on the floor of the late Duggie Field's apartment, done by Syd Barrett and used on a Pink Floyd record label, still exists. The flat is being sold so we will have to wait until a new owner gives permission to take away the layers. The Barrett family are keen to see this happen too.

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As I sit down to write this, the Christmas tree has just been lit up and carols sung and mulled wine drunk and another gentle and happy event in the garden has come and gone. The garden really is a focal point for the whole community – not just the keyholders and subscribers but for everyone who passes by and passes through the square. The fact that we can enjoy it with our neighbours makes this privilege even more special.

During the year the garden has continued to provide a source of respite – no longer the only refuge of green space and open air available thankfully. As the whole world has breathed a little more easily so has the garden with slightly fewer demands on it – and then we had no rain! We watered for as long as we could and then when Thames Water asked us to stop we did. Thankfully it then started to rain a bit which helped the planting dramatically but only time will tell how the trees will have been affected. Some of our trees are reaching the end of their natural lifespan namely the Pride of India trees at each end of the garden which were planted about 50 years ago. We will wait and see if they recover but there may well be a need to dig them out and consider what we do next in those flower beds. They are such attractive trees that they will be definitely a tough act to follow!

We have been in touch with the RBKC arboriculturist and I did laugh as I ambled back home from the post office one day to be rather surprised by a bellowing bicyclist who did say, “I’ve been watching it all year Katrina; let’s give it to the spring to see what happens.” It did take me a moment to realise it was James the treeman – so I refer you back to my first paragraph which just goes to show that our garden gives pleasure to those who pass by!

The glories of the Chelsea Flower Show returned in May which meant that I too returned to the annual torture of deciding which tulips to buy. I rather enjoy it when the bulbs arrive in the autumn as I forget what I've ordered. Charlie Woods' lovely team of Dan and Ned especially and also Eyre amongst others continue to ensure that the bulbs will come up, the lawn will recover and the garden will give us all pleasure in the year to come.

This year with the relocation of the Christmas tree we hope the lawn will enjoy life without its huge gap!



THE CHILDRENS' GARDEN CLUB run by Harriet Worsley



The Children's Garden Club run by Harriet Worsley made a number of parents and children happy on Sunday's.



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PLAYING TO THE CROWD - The Summer BBQ 2022

The annual BBQ is one of the highlights of summer in the Garden Square. It's a great opportunity to dance and show off those swivel hips. Jerry Shillingford, a telephone engineer by day and disco DJ by night, did a great job this year.



So instead of focusing on the BBQ food & fun, we thought the fun would be to chat about Jerry. In his 40 years as a DJ, Jerry who calls his hobby 'Off the Record Disco', owns up to carrying 30,000 songs electronically, providing a wide range of music and now much easier to carry than the vinyl of back in the day.

We were so pleased to be reintroduced to Jerry by long-time resident Debbie Mellett. She knew him as a parent at St Cuthbert with St Matthias School where her father had been caretaker. Jerry lived in Warwick Road and then Philbeach Gardens with his young family, moving away in 2002.

Back to those swivel hips! It turns out that Jerry 'just has to dance'. He gets teased by his grandchildren for dancing in the aisles when he takes them shopping. "If there is music, let's dance" is Jerry's lifetime motto. It's no wonder Jerry is a good DJ. He looks for people's reaction to the music he selects and if you are toe tapping or singing along,

you will get more of the same from his huge selection. "It's all about playing to the crowd to give folks what they want", he says happily.

We are sorry Jerry is unable to DJ our BBQ/Disco 2023 as he's booked for a wedding. Our new DJ is Paul of Kruel Intentions who has over 15 years' experience as a DJ and has hosted all types of events across Europe – though he lives in London. During 2022 he has played at The Grand Prix Ball at The Cavalry and Guards Club and at Gordon Ramsey's Studio Party.

Paul plays a huge variety of music - so we are in for a great evening on Saturday 24th June at our annual BBQ/Disco in Earl's Court Square Garden.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee



We were so fortunate to be able to celebrate her late Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. An abundant spread was provided by the neighbours who attended. It was a delight to meet our local police Sergeant too. We all enjoyed the wonderful spread!



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THE TRAIN SPOTTERS STRIKE AGAIN!



Mark Balaam, Nick Woollven and George Jasieniecki, fondly known to the editor as 'the train spotters', are local heroes who have made a difference in the area over many years. Of particular note is the incredible detailed input they prepared on Network Rail which enabled us to be connected to nearby West Brompton.

The latest 'spotting' by the ever-vigilant threesome was the Bolton Pub closure. A full montage of posters on the wall going back to the mid-1950s advertising exhibitions was retrieved ahead of their potential loss for ever.

Mark has given the posters to Stuart Tomlinson at Olympia London who has promised to put them in the Earl's Court Exhibition Centre Archive.

It's been five years since the Earl's Court Centre was demolished. Mark was lucky enough to receive a cast model of the Centre at the time. Others may have similar mementos. These items are invaluable for our local history. Wouldn't it be nice to have a display at our local Brompton Library for this five-year anniversary? There is a move afoot to digitize the display. Hopefully the Earl's Court Society will be able to take the lead on this. Please let us know if you would be interested in volunteering.

The Bolton we hear will be turned into flats. However, the owner also has The Lamb and Flag pub in Covent Garden. So 'watch this space'. Who knows what will happen on the ground floor.

USEFUL NUMBERS

Police ASB Reporting: PC Stephen Dell, PC Matt Bantick and PCSO Danny Wright are our Earl's Court dedicated ward officers: earlscourt.SNT@met.police.uk or on-line: www.met.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/

Too Big for the Bin: Up to 10 bulky items call: 020 7361 3001
www.rbkc.gov.uk/bins-and-recycling

Rubbish collection days:
Monday and Thursday mornings.
Put out before or by 7.00pm

IMPORTANT: Most buildings have vaults where your rubbish can be put anytime, so foxes and pigeons do not tear into the bags on the pavements.

Reporting dumped bags:
online preference to generate a report www.rbkc.gov.uk/report-it/waste-and-street-environment or
Tel. Streetline 020 7361 3000/1

Freecycle: Donate good quality items for reuse www.freecycle.org

Freegle: Redistribute something still useable, from your home.
www.ilovefreegle.org/explore/Kensington-chelsea-freegle

DID YOU KNOW?

1 | Defibrillator: Now available 24/7 at Krystals at 322-324 Earl's Court Road. It is visible and yellow in colour, behind the main counter on the right when you go into the shop. It will only work if it detects that it needs to be used, instructions are by voice in English. ECSRA was instrumental in obtaining



The Defibrillator at Krystals - 322 - 324 Earl's Court Road

the grant from London Hearts towards its installation which was funded by Krystals.

2 | EV Drivers: EV drivers who need to use public charging points are asking for VAT on these charging points (currently 20%) to be brought into line with domestic electricity rates (currently 5%). In RBKC fewer than 10% of EV drivers have off street parking which is needed for a home charging point. With the cost of electricity at public charging points already soaring above domestic tariffs, drivers are starting to question the benefit of driving on electricity, especially those who have plug-in hybrids.

3 | Double Glazing in the Conservation Area: If residents wish to replace traditional windows with double glazed versions that look the same (e.g. white painted wooden sash of the same visual design), the Council has waived the need for planning permission – for people who live in houses. The Leadership Team is now actively working on making things easier for flat owners to do the same, with a simple process. The Council is also currently consulting on making double glazing easier for some listed buildings (via planningconsult.rbkc.gov.uk ending 9th January)

4 | Anti-Social Behaviour: The Council's Leadership Team, working alongside Kensington MP Felicity Buchan, has responded to the late Cllr Malcolm Spalding's "Councillors'-Call-to-Action" and has put together a comprehensive Action Plan for Earl's Court. Cllr Cem Kemahli has been appointed to lead an Earl's Court Task Force to drive through three stages of actions and improvements to reduce levels of crime and ASB as well as smartening up and boosting the Earl's Court area.



Cllr. Cem Kemahli

5 | A Great Send-off: There was a great send-off gathering of the community on the Cromwell Road to see Her Majesty The Queen pass in her coffin on her final



journey to Windsor. God bless the memory of the Queen and long live the King.

6 | The Hanging Baskets: The hanging baskets in the SE arm of the Square looked stunning for much of last year with the lovely sunshine we had. The upkeep is funded by the 100 residents in the SE arm of the Square.



Our beautiful hanging baskets this summer.

Hotspots, Hot on the Heels

Life is never dull for Heidi and her volunteer team when it comes to monitoring rubbish in the Square.

Particularly the hotspots at the ends of the Square, which demand continuous attention.

Even though there are designated storage areas for many of the buildings, there is a lot of 'wrong day, wrong time' dumping. The Residents' Association takes on the

key job of finding responsible people in the various buildings to 'support the cause.' Another ongoing task is reporting issues such as graffiti and repair work needed on bike hoops to the Council. It's helpful if we all keep a note of the useful numbers on page 22.

We should also report what's now called 'antisocial behaviour,' which includes drug taking/dealing on front steps, vandalism and noisy neighbours.

www.met.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime



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EARL'S COURT SQUARE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Protecting and enhancing Earl's Court Square and the lives of the people who live and work here

MEMBERSHIP FORM 2023

I/we* would like to become /remain a member of Earl's Court Square Residents' Association.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

We need to have an up-to-date email address to enable us to contact Members.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

£10.00 per year individual membership

£15.00 per year family (household) membership

Donations are gratefully received.

YOU CAN PAY ELECTRONICALLY TO METROBANK:

Earl's Court Square Residents' Association:

Sort Code: 23 – 05 – 80 | Account number: 10942594

Use your house number as your reference. To confirm your details and how much you have paid, please email: ecsrachair@btinternet.com

Alternatively make cheques payable to:

Earl's Court Square Residents' Association

I enclose cash* / cheque* for £10.00* / £15.00*

The Bank will charge us for each cheque.

Please return this form, together with your remittance to:

The ECSRA Chair

c/o Flat 29, Matiere Place,

35 - 37 Earl's Court Square, London SW5 9BY

ecsrachair@btinternet.com

** Please delete as appropriate*

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 23 February 2023 at 6.30pm

join us for complimentary drinks and canapés afterwards

Venue

Upstairs Hall at St Cuthbert with St. Mattias School
Corner of Earl's Court Square and Warwick Road

THE AGENDA

Followed by a Reception

All residents welcome

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2022 AGM
3. Chairman's Report/Questions and Answers
4. Hon. Treasurer's Report
5. Election of the Executive Committee
6. Any Other Business
8. **Introducing our Guest Speaker - Felicity Buchan MP for Kensington.**

ECSRA Members, open to all ECSRA Residents. ECSRA Members are qualified to vote at the AGM. Chairman's and Treasurer's Reports will be available to view on our website www.ecsra.co.uk from mid-February.



London, Country & International Property

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