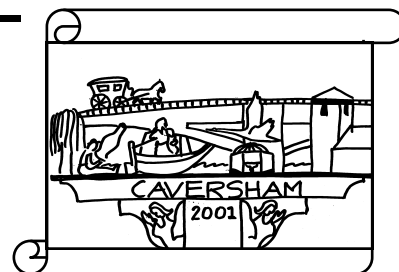


CADRA news

Caversham And District Residents' Association

The voice of Caversham for over 40 years



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www.cadra.org.uk

Celebrations in Caversham

This has been a very busy year so far, with the 'Caversham 100 Years On' project building rapidly.

The team comprising CADRA, Friends of Caversham Court Gardens and the Rotary Club of Caversham, with support from Reading Borough, made a successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund. As a result, a programme of events is underway, a series of heritage exhibitions has been produced, a display in Reading Museum is being prepared, a booklet on Caversham Court developed and a heritage sign is planned.

The major event was the Grand Caversham Garden Party in Caversham Court Gardens on 10 September. A large marquee was



'... series of ten heritage exhibitions...'

installed which held the heritage exhibitions at one end and the Caversham Horticultural Show at the other. In the evening the show made way for music and dancing.

CADRA managed the series of ten heritage exhibitions and prepared

five of them. They drew considerable interest at the Garden Party and will be displayed at different events and locations for the rest of the year—see page 3

The CADRA open meeting in November forms part of the event programme and will be hosted jointly with EGRA and WADRA. The exhibitions will be on view from 7pm with light refreshments served courtesy of Waitrose. The formal part of the evening in the main church will be opened at 7.45 by the Mayor. Margaret Simons, Local

History Tutor, will talk about the changes that have taken place over the 100 years which are fundamental in the shaping of today's Caversham. Everyone is welcome.

Meanwhile, planned changes to the 22 bus route have proved extremely controversial. There was a well attended meeting on 6 September to hear a presentation by James Freeman of Reading Buses. CADRA's response to the planned changes is available on the website. The subsequent revision to the new route which brings buses along Kidmore Road is also causing much concern and this to be kept under review.

Finally, a series of local meetings are planned in Caversham for 4, 5 and 6 October for you to make your views known and influence the way the Council operates. Full details are on the Council and CADRA websites and leaflets are in the library.

Helen Lambert

Open Meeting

Wednesday 9 November 2011
at the BAPTIST CHURCH, PROSPECT ST.

7pm for 7.45

'Caversham—a century'

An illustrated talk by
Margaret Simons

Transport

CADRA continues to monitor proposed travel, traffic and public transport changes that could affect Caversham residents. This involves response to formal consultations, scrutiny of the local press and any items brought to CADRA's attention by members.

Reading Transport Limited announced changes to bus services within Caversham that will increase services along Hemdean Road, and remove Route 22 from Priest Hill, The Mount and Albert Road between The Mount and Highmoor Road. The revised route uses Hemdean Road, to Oakley Road, Kidmore Road then Albert Road. Other changes will restore services to Courtney Drive. CADRA sent a detailed report to Reading Transport on the proposed changes to Route 22 and this can be viewed on the CADRA website.

Reading Transport is required to remain viable financially and revenues from most

of the Caversham services are not meeting their costs. Route 22 is the least viable, partly because it has the highest proportion of concessionary fare travellers which was made worse by a reduction in the reimbursement to the bus company earlier this year.

This change would leave three bus stops with no service - The Mount, Blenheim Road and St Anne's Well and Reading Borough Council made funds available for a limited replacement service.

Subsequently, a very well attended meeting was held on 6 September at which CADRA was represented and James Freeman of Reading Transport gave a presentation. We are now advised that from 26 September the new route will run from Oakley Road, along Kidmore Road, before resuming the present route from The Mount to Albert Road. This has in turn caused considerable concern about

the suitability of Kidmore Road for double decker buses. Reading Transport has agreed to keep all the changes under review and CADRA would welcome comments on the changes in practice.

Frequencies are being changed to:

2/2a	30 minutes
22	30 minutes
23	15 minutes
24	30 minutes.

In September, the new shorter double-deck buses on the 22 are to be changed again to more modern double-deckers, which have more bell pushes on the lower deck.

The Bus Stops in Friar Street are also due to change on 26th September and will include an extra pick-up for Route 9 for Royal Berkshire Hospital adjacent to the Caversham stops.

Gravel Quarry at Sonning Eye

Lafarge has an obligation to provide amenities and public access to the now unused section of the gravel quarry, south of Henley Road. Water areas have already been developed for wild fowl habitats and fishing and a bird hide built. Some paths and trails have been designated and a disabled parking area made. One area has been left for sparse vegetation on coarse gravel soils, to attract specific species of birds.

CADRA and other groups were invited to visit the area and make suggestions. There was agreement that visitor number should not prejudice the important wildlife habitat. Suggestions included limited improvements to the path surfaces in a few areas, trail signage and the installation of interpretation boards providing information on the flora and fauna. Further announcements are expected.

Neighbourhood Action Groups

Upper Caversham NAG

In July, the group agreed that having focussed on its three specified issues (speeding, burglary and bicycle theft and environmental) for the past 18 months, it was time to seek fresh input from local residents about which issues the NAG should be concentrating on. Surveys were issued out at the end of July and the returns are now being assessed.

A Public Meeting has been arranged for Monday 17 October at Highdown School to present the results of the survey and to agree the initial ways forward to address the selected issues.

Lower Caversham NAG

The Lower Caversham NAG met on 4 August and discussed issues raised regarding anti social behaviour, speeding

and vehicles travelling the wrong way down the one way system on South View Avenue. The Caversham Neighbourhood Police Team together with Reading Council Transport Department are working to address these issues.

The three current NAG priorities are:

- Traffic
- Burglary and Bike Theft
- Environment Issues

Caversham - General

There have been a number of domestic burglaries during recent weeks in both the Upper and Lower Caversham NAG areas - mainly bicycle thefts. The majority of burglaries were opportunistic, with entries to houses, garages and sheds mostly being via open or insecure doors. At least 80% of burglaries were committed by amateur opportunists using open or insecure doors

and windows, keys left in insecure 'hiding places' or unlocked side gates.

The local Police Team will complete a free home survey of your property with advice on improving security.

Caversham has been selected as the next area of the Community Alcohol Partnership to tackle the problems caused by underage drinking.

You can register to receive free Community Messaging via phone or email about crime and police activity in the Caversham area.

More information on these issues is on the CADRA website. Police contact details are on page 4.

'Caversham 100 Years On'

Exhibitions

The exhibitions will be on display at each event. In addition St John's Church will display them 12 noon to 4pm daily from 24-30 September and 26 November to 2 December. In October, individual exhibitions will again be on display in the library and in the window of The Picture Framer. The boards can be booked on loan for other events and for schools. A smaller bound version is planned for libraries and schools.

The exhibition on Caversham Village has been dedicated to May Kift, author of 'Life in Old Caversham', whose lifelong work on Caversham history has been so important.

Events

The project was represented at the St Peter's and St Margaret's Church fete and the Caversham Festival event in Christchurch Meadows in July. It linked closely with events over the Heritage Weekend including the telling of the epic tale, 'The Land of Walter Giffard.' Walter Giffard was the first Lord of Caversham Manor after 1066. You can read more about him in the exhibition on Caversham Park.

In addition to the meeting on 9 November, the anniversary of the boundary change (see page 1), further events include an open meeting at 7.30pm on Friday 28 October 2011 at Church House on Caversham's industrial heritage. This is being run by the



Berkshire Industrial Archaeology Group. Caversham boasted a major joinery works and produced sports cars and marine engines so it promises to be a very interesting evening.

Further details of events, exhibitions and a host of sources on local history are on www.Caversham100yearson.org.uk or you can call 0330 100 2828.

Mapledurham Pavilion

If you have used the Pavilion recently, you will know that it is more than likely not repairable. The decision of the RBC Cabinet/Trustees is to rebuild the changing rooms alone, but designed with the ability to add a new hall in the future. However, there is now work to achieve a design for the entire replacement and upgrade of the Pavilion, costing approximately £500,000. WADRA members along with RBC are pursuing a package of grants, Section 106 money, fundraising events and Festival Republic donations to enable a complete

replacement and upgrade of the Pavilion.

Fund-raising events over the summer included a dinner dance, car boot sales, a 4-day metal recycling drive and metal recycling after Reading Festival. Close to £7k has been raised. This has raised the profile of the campaign locally which is also important when applying for grants if a replacement pavilion is to serve the local community for a wide range of activities.

A Google Group has been set up to communicate by email about upcoming events. To join the Google Group, go

to <http://groups.google.com/> and enter mpfag in the search box at the top of the page and follow the instructions.

Upcoming events include a Quiz Night, Christmas Fair, and a Summer Dinner Dance on 16 June 2012. If you have any ideas for fundraising or would like to help out on some of the forthcoming events, please contact Elisa Miles at elisa@delgaldo.co.uk.

Planning

The committee continues to review all significant local schemes. The monthly summary is displayed on the CADRA website, providing a direct link to the plans for each application on the Council website. Recent planning decisions include:

Highdown School – approval for the resurfacing of a hockey pitch with perimeter fencing, and directional flood lights used up to 10PM as needed.

Outlands, Upper Warren Avenue — appeals against refusal for new dwellings at the back were dismissed.

3 Knowle Close – the appeal against refusal of demolition of house to provide two chalet bungalows was dismissed.

4 Kidmore Road — refusal of outline application for the erection of three dwellings with new access road.

St Martin's precinct — approval for limited tree surgery to the Holm Oak and Horse Chestnuts in the precinct. The work was carried out on 26 June 2011

Former Sorting Office — outline approval for a scheme varying from eight to sixteen storeys.

Local Development Framework

The Secretary of State has appointed an inspector to test the legal compliance and soundness of the Sites and Detailed Policies Document. The Pre-Hearing meeting is scheduled for 11 October. Public Examination Hearings are planned between 29 November and 16 December. Further information from 07711 203 573 or email programme.officer@reading.gov.uk

Can you help?

CADRA would welcome general support with the work of the association in representing local interests, supporting community events and activities and helping to keep local people informed.

In addition, we would be particularly interested to hear from anyone who would like to play a part in preparing articles, newsletters and editing material for the CADRA website.

For further information, please contact Helen Lambert, Helen.Lambert@cadra.org.uk.

About CADRA

The Committee

Chairman: Helen Lambert,
5 Derby Road, RG4 5HE Tel: 947 3165
Treasurer: Stewart Bolton
11 Graveney Drive, RG4 7EG Tel: 948 2687
Secretary: Linda Watsham
159 Kidmore Road, RG4 7NJ Tel: 947 8744
Voluntary Liaison: James Frost, Gurney Drive
Licensing & Lower Caversham NAG: Mike
Gilbert, Notley Place
Upper Caversham NAG: Les James,
Wincroft Road
Safer Caversham: John Roach, St. Peter's Ave
Transport: Paul Matthews, Albert Road
Planning: Mo Prins, Haldane Road
Website and IT: David Ferguson, Patrick Road
Membership: Jacque Tomson, 121 Upper
Woodcote Rd, RG4 7LB Tel: 9476984

Committee Support

Planning Research: Liz Killick,
Upper Woodcote Road
Footpaths & Traffic: John Lee, Hemdean Road
Local Correspondent : John Mullaney, Derby
Road
Informal Links: Jo Munday, South View
Avenue

Contacting CADRA

Please write to the Secretary or better still, email us at:
info@cadra.org.uk

Our aim is to:

"preserve and enhance the quality of life in Caversham and the surrounding District"

We follow planned changes relevant to Caversham and look for opportunities to improve or protect our shared environment. We avoid party political bias, working closely with Reading Councillors and Officers, other local groups, the Police, companies and individuals.

We issue two newsletters a year, hold two public meetings, write columns for the Caversham Bridge local newspaper and maintain a website with a wide range of information on local and current issues.

Membership

Membership of CADRA is just £3 per year per household. Membership leaflets are available in Caversham Library and Wordplay in Prospect St. or from the Membership Secretary, tel. 0118 9476984. The stronger our voice, the more impact we can have on local decisions. Please encourage your friends and neighbours to join!

Useful Information

Ward Councillors

Contact via: 0118 939 0287

Mapledurham

Fred Pugh

Caversham

Andrew Cumpsty

David Luckett

Tom Stanway

Peppard

Jamie Chowdhary

Mark Ralph

Richard Willis

Thames

Isobel Ballsdon

Jeanette Skeats

David Stevens

Caversham Neighbourhood Police

Inspector Graham Markham and Sergeant Rob Pitman
PCs Tristan Khezzadeh, Michael Campbell-Montgomery and Michelle Clements
PCSOs, Karen Vaughan, John Hendy and Ian Chaston

Caversham Police Office in Church House: 0118 9474269 - use answer phone.
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, Liz Herbert: 0118 953 6250

To report crime, suspicious incidents or contact individual officers: 0845 8 505 505 or
email: police@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

In an emergency or if a crime is being committed call 999

www.thamesvalley.police.uk

To register for community messaging go to

www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org/rmwebportal/startup.aspx

Reading Borough Council

Switchboard 0118 937 3737

Call Centre for Refuse Collection, 0800 834 035
Graffiti Removal,

Call Centre for Planning Permission 0800 626 540
& Enquiries, Licensing, Road Safety,
Noise Nuisance, Environmental
Health.

The free phone numbers may be withdrawn later.

www.reading.gov.uk, gives information on a wide range of
issues including planning applications.

Links to specific parts of the Council web-site can be found
on the CADRA website: www.cadra.org.uk.