

# BUCKHURST HILL RESIDENTS' SOCIETY

*The price of Freedom is Eternal Vigilance*



Buckhurst Hill Residents' Society  
c/o Broomes Newsagents  
34 Queens Road IG9 5BY

[www.buckhursthillresidents.co.uk](http://www.buckhursthillresidents.co.uk)  
[info@buckhursthillresidents.co.uk](mailto:info@buckhursthillresidents.co.uk)  
(Newsletter Editor: Margaret Sinfield)

**Chairman:** Tony Oliva, **Vice Chair:** Steven Neville, **Treasurer:** Margaret Sinfield,  
**Membership Secretary,** Jenn Page, **Honorary Member:** Lynn Jones  
**Committee Members:** Janice Curd, Margaret Drew, Peter Foxtton, Jean James, Sara Raggett

## GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY NEWSLETTER Autumn 2013

Dear Resident,

This year the Society celebrates 50 years since it originated in August 1963, following a threat by the local Council to completely destroy the character of the centre of Buckhurst Hill.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations started in February with a 1963 Film Night complete with popcorn and usherettes!

At the 50<sup>th</sup> AGM in May the Society was pleased to welcome Heather Thirtle, a founder member of BHRS, to speak about the origins of the Society and to cut the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday cake.



Heather is President of Epping Forest Chamber of Commerce.

During the summer BHRS has been working with the staff and students of Epping Forest College; the College ran a competition to design a new logo to replace the one which Heather and her colleagues designed 50 years ago. There are more details about the competition in this Newsletter. The winning design will be formally unveiled at the December meeting.

At the December meeting, which will conclude the Anniversary celebrations, it is hoped that Caroline Friedman, one of the Society's longest serving previous Chairs, will be present to help to bring the year to a very successful end.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary made me look back at all the record books which have been retained over the years and it is apparent that the same issues continue to appear year after year.

At the end of this year BHRS intends to liaise with the Essex Record Office to deposit all its papers for the last 50 years there, so that future generations will know how the Society fought to keep Buckhurst Hill such an attractive place in which to live.

The Society continues to lobby on behalf of the people of Buckhurst Hill to ensure that the town retains its character and remains an attractive and pleasant place in which to live.

We hope that you will continue to support us in the future so that we can continue to build on the legacy of this first 50 YEARS.

*Tony Oliva, Chairman*



*Members drinking a toast to the Society at the AGM*

## ‘MARY PORTAS’ INITIATIVE

*Margaret Drew reports*

In Spring this year Buckhurst Hill Town Centre Partnership, in conjunction with the Residents’ Society, was successful in its bid for part of the money which had been granted to EFDC from a Pilot Town Centres Economic Initiatives Fund. The overall aim of the project was to increase the ‘footfall’ in local shopping streets and promote the prosperity of smaller individual shops. Each TCP could bid for up to a maximum of £4000, but that had to be ‘match funded’ which in a period of difficult times was challenging. Achieving a grant of over £2000 for Buckhurst Hill was most pleasing.

It was also hoped that the project would raise awareness in Buckhurst Hill of the Town Centre Partnership, especially with local traders and services. Also to form links between BHTCP and BHRS, which in turn would lead to more sustainable community support for Queens Road.

All the work of researching and writing of the original bid, as well as the organisation of this event, was done by volunteers from BHRS.

The bid had to contain the promise of events that would work towards its aims, hence the creation of the **Photographic Competition and Exhibition**, and the **Children’s Fashion Show**. The two events were also seen as opportunities to recruit more members for BHRS. It was most encouraging to see so many of the Queens Road shops entering into the spirit of the two events.

*The researching and writing of the bid, as well as the creative suggestions for events, was actually all done by Margaret Drew, as was a vast amount of the resulting organisation and ‘spade-work’. The Committee is most grateful to Margaret for all the imagination, time and effort that she put into this project.* ed.

## 1. PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION & COMPETITION

In early July this year Queens Road became a photographic gallery! This event was organised by BHRS with the cooperation of many of the shops in Queens Road who donated space in their

windows to exhibit, for two weeks, a large selection of the photographs entered in the Competition.

There were four categories:- Buckhurst Hill–The Forest, Fashion, People at Work and History, themes created a wide variety of images.

With great difficulty, owing to the high quality of all the photographs, forty were shortlisted and put forward for judging by Heather Thirtle, Founder Member of BHRS.

### WINNERS

**History:** Keith Lillywhite (Roebuck Hotel)

**People at Work:** Keith Lillywhite (Broomes Newsagent’s Staff, including cheery Ken Chung).



**Forest:** Tom Peck *Loughton Camera Club*



**Fashion:** Janet Caddock ‘Puppy Kit’

During the two weeks of the Exhibition children from local schools took part in a ‘Picture Hunt’ challenge, to identify ten of the pictures from a written description. The prizes for the correct entrants were book vouchers, which were given to the children’s schools to spend at Loughton Book Shop, which kindly offered a 20% discount on the books chosen.



## HIGHLY COMMENDED



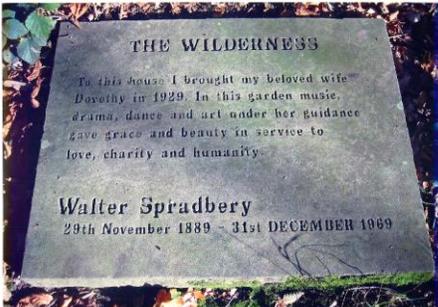
**Forest: Jonathan Stevenson**



**Forest: Chris Bedwell**



**People at Work: Janet Caddock -Toy Shop**



**History: Margaret Sinfield**

## 2. CHILDREN'S FASHION SHOW

This was the second event organised with money from the bid.

A fabulous cat walk was erected in The Bridge in Princes Road. The Bridge, which was most supportive, loaned its premises without charge. Models aged from three to thirteen showed off the best of children's wear available from the shops in Queens Road. More importantly it was an occasion where the best of Buckhurst Hill worked together for a very good cause.

*Briannagh's* little models won everyone's hearts in their pretty party wear, many of them with their hair done beautifully by Eimhear from *Coco* and a little touch of make-up from Tracy from *Fingertips*.



*Arabesque* displayed the absolute best in fancy dress from a demure Alice in Wonderland to a gruesome Halloween spook. They also showed some of the costumes the shop supplies for educational purposes and some of the clothes youngsters require for dancing lessons, both classical and contemporary.

### **1 PALACE GARDENS EPF/1752/13**

This is an application to raise the height of a bungalow and then install large dormer windows to the rear. The property is on a very small plot and the neighbouring properties will now be overlooked and lose considerable privacy in their rear gardens.

The Society has raised objections and now awaits the decision of the EFDC Planning Committee.

### **BUCKHURST HILL FOOTBALL CLUB GATES**

The Football Club recently received approval for the installation of new gates which had to be similar to those at its other entrance.

The new gates do look much better and the Residents' Society did not raise any objections to the planning application.

Unfortunately the issue of the footpath is not one for consideration by the Planning Authority.

The gates actually incorporate a side gate which could be used for pedestrian access.

Unfortunately that side gate is kept locked.

The Society is unable to apply for a formal Rights of Way; enough residents have not yet come forward to complete the statutory statements to verify that the path had been used for over 20 years.

However the Society has not given up hope and the inclusion of the gate in the fence means that that way need not be forever barred.

If you know of any local residents who would be prepared to complete a statement, please do advise them to get in touch with the Society.

### **PARKING FOR WHIPPS CROSS A&E**

*A BHRS member, who recently spent some time in the Accident and Emergency Department at Whipps Cross Hospital, reports*

There appear to be no notices informing the public of the following information –  
After putting the initial £2.50 in the parking meter in one of the Whipps Cross car parks, persons who are then waiting in A&E with a patient can ask at the nurse's station for a form to display in their car which will exempt them from paying anything further during that visit.  
This is especially useful information as the charges in the car park continue throughout the night, 24 hours a day.

### **WALKING THE BOUNDARIES OF BUCKHURST HILL**

Roebuck Green was the start of BHRS's bi-annual Boundary Walk held on Rogation Sunday, led by Peter Sinfield.



*Groups on Roebuck Green at the start of the Walk*



*Boundary Walkers near the River Roding on the way to the 'Hungry Horse' for refreshments*

### **SEPTEMBER COFFEE MORNING**

£265 was raised for MacMillan Cancer Support  
*Thank you to all who made the delicious cakes*



*Briannagh*



*Arabesque*



Caroline from *Stage One* had prepared many of the children to walk the boards with confidence and a cheeky smile.

Stunning wedding dresses accompanied by a lovely bridesmaid from one of Queens Road's newest arrivals, *The Wedding Designer*, provided a real contrast to the rest of the evening.



The nineteen raffle prizes were all generously donated by the traders and boutiques in Queens Road. The prizes included including vouchers for massages, hair treatments and champagne

suppers as well as a beautiful bouquet and an iron doormat!

The new Green Owl Café provided home-made lemonade and cookies as refreshment and gave all proceeds to the Charity.

Photographer, Chris Bedwell, one of the entrants in BHRS's Photographic competition, came to take photographs and adding a final touch to the occasion.

*The photographs in this article can be obtained via Chris's website: [www.chrisbedwell.net](http://www.chrisbedwell.net)*

All the proceeds from the event (£400) were given to Haven House Children's Hospice.

### **HAPPY 101st BIRTHDAY, JOY!**

On a sunny afternoon in June the Ladies of the Committee treated Joyce Kuhns, who was a member of the Committee for many years and who is also the Society's oldest member, to afternoon tea at Mulberry House to celebrate her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday



### **2013 CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

On Friday December 6<sup>th</sup>, between 3pm to 7pm, in and around the Car Park at the Upper End of Queens Road BHRS is organising a Christmas Fayre with Carol Singers, Stalls, a Light Juggler, Father Christmas, Hot Chestnuts, and much more



...

