



# FORA Grapevine

## Hello from the Forest Residents Association

A big thank you to all of you who attended our AGM this year which was our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. With over 50 attendees it was our biggest turn out yet. The evening started with a delicious curry meal provided by Shah from the Star of India and June Marvin who prepared a cold buffet. The first speakers we had were Ian Greer and Martin Whitfield from Corporation of London Epping Forest who gave a great talk about managing the forest. They shared their many years experience and knowledge of the special nature of the forest land and the management plans in place to safeguard its future. Our patch, the Hollow Ponds/Leyton flats section, is rare in Southern England being lowland acid grassland. This is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSI). There are also future plans to re-introduce cattle. Ian and Martin took time to answer the many questions local residents had for them while explaining recent developments and plans in more detail. John Stewart and Rob Barnstone

of HACAN East provided us with an update on city airport expansion plans and that the final decision is expected in early autumn. We then had the formal part of the evening and I reminded everyone of the 10 events we held last year and some of the local issues raised. I also mentioned some of the highlights over the last 10 years i.e. Lifting the controlled parking zone after the Olympics, opposition to City airports expansion, getting the double yellow lines by Leytonstone School put down and our discount member list which now has 21 local shops. John Rogers was on hand to do some book signing and has also agreed to take us on another walk, so watch this space! Our local Councillors Shabana Dhedhi and Gerry Lyons also took time out from their busy schedule to support the event; so thank you.

I'd also like to thank you for re-electing me for another year to represent you as Chair and for re-electing the existing committee members who have all worked very hard on your behalf.

Present on the night were some of the original committee members Trevor Hurst, Frances Simmons and Trevor Goodchild who told us about the humble beginnings of the association. The evening ended with a celebratory 10 year cake and drinks.

There are some planning applications made in our area which you may want to look at on the council website and comment.

135 Whipps Cross Road E11 1NP Application reference no: 161148 Conversion to five self contained flats.

20 Forest Glade E11 1LU Application reference no: 161007, 161008, 161092 Conversion to flats.

Rear of 111 - 117 Whipps Cross Road E11 1NW Reference 161666, Construction of 2 bedroom bungalow

If you are aware of any other planning applications please let us know.

Most of you have renewed your membership however there are some who still need to pay so if you haven't done it already, please drop off your sub to June at 1 Dyson Road. Remember that your card will not be valid in the shops as the new year started on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016. June and myself will also be coming to you next week if you haven't paid by then. You have been warned!

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[www.forestresidents.org](http://www.forestresidents.org)



FORA (Forest Residents' Association)



[info.fora@hotmail.com](mailto:info.fora@hotmail.com)

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**H.M. the Queen** is having a particularly fine run for her birthday this year and this Saturday she's having a blast for her illustrious 90<sup>th</sup> at St Andrews Road between 3-5pm. Come dressed in red, white and blue and there will be a fancy dress parade for the children. This event is organised in conjunction with St Andrews Church.

And finally a Big thank you to Shah, June, John & Rob, John Rogers, Ian & Martin, Cllrs Shabana Dhedhi and Gerry Lyons who made this such a successful AGM.

I look forward to meeting you at our next event.

Vaseem Gill

Chair

## Future Events

**Street Party Saturday 11th June** - To celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday 3-5pm - St Andrews Road E11 - bring nibbles and drinks. Please note St Andrew's Road will be closed during the afternoon of 12th June, please plan your journey accordingly.

**Guided Tour of Houses of Parliament led by John Cryer MP for Leyton & Wanstead - 7pm 6th July 2016.** Places are limited so please email martinsepion@hotmail.com to reserve your space.

This is a repeat of the event we ran last November see our [Parliament Trip event report](#) (<http://forestresidents.org/fora-visits-parliament>) for an overview of what to expect.

Latest information on FORA events at <http://forestresidents.org/get-involved/events>

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October Autumn Litter Pick - 10 am - 12 noon.** Meet at corner Forest Glade and Poppleton Road.

## FORA Online

Over the past 6 months we have been busy developing FORA's online presence. So in addition to the FORA Newsletter you can follow FORA via the **Website** -[www.forestresidents.org](http://www.forestresidents.org) **Facebook** (look for 'FORA' under Groups) **Twitter** search for '@FORA\_E11' **Pinterest** look for 'Forest Residents' and **Youtube** - search for 'Forest Residents Association'

- Twitter is best for the latest information about what is going on in Leytonstone
- Facebook is good if you have a Facebook account
- Website is good for forthcoming FORA events and activities and more detailed information
- Newsletter is best for FORA activities and planned events in paper form - published quarterly
- Pinterest is best for pictures
- Youtube for films

If you would like to put some content out for others, via our channels, let us know. You could write a blog post for our website, post some photos onto our Pinterest site or make a film for our Youtube channel. The idea is that it must be on a topic of interest to residents of Leytonstone in particular, not for profit, non-political and with aims of cultural or community enrichment. If you have an idea and would like to have an informal chat about it, get in touch with Martin.

**FORA: PLANTING AND TENDING THE SEEDS OF LOCAL COMMUNITY SPIRIT SINCE 2006.**

For any news in the area please email us at [info.fora@hotmail.com](mailto:info.fora@hotmail.com)