



SEPTEMBER 2000

STREET PARTY

Hope you all had a good time at the street party! In spite of a very dodgy forecast from Michael Fish (and you know he always gets it right) which prompted the mass purchase of cut price gazebos from the Savacentre, we struck lucky with the evening weather, and it stayed dry. Many thanks to all those people who helped with food, donated raffle prizes etc. and special thanks to the Scotts for their splendid organization.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A date for your diaries. The AGM will be held at Alexandra School on Sept. 29 starting at 8 p.m. This event was not that well attended last year, so please make the effort to come along and say your piece! If you “bring a bottle” with you and play your cards right, then we might even save you a glass or two for afterwards!

GRAFFITI

There has been a big increase in graffiti throughout the area and Barnmead Rd. has not been spared. Bromley Council has set up a “Graffiti Line” 020 8313 4860 which residents may call should the need arise. It should be noted however that the removal of graffiti is dependent on getting prior written approval from the owner of the affected house/fence/garage etc.

SHARE CERTIFICATES

If you have any queries about Barnmead Residents Ltd. Share certificates, then please contact Pam Thompson at number 38 who will be pleased to help!



WEEDING -A MESSAGE FROM LYNDA TOWNLEY

Dear Residents, Thank you to everyone who turned out for the weeding. A small but dedicated band was very successful in clearing weeds near the Total Garage at the east end of Barnmead Rd. and in Plawsfield Rd.-particularly near the planters. Special thanks to Fraser for his zealous strimming and Eric for continuing on in the afternoon despite the extreme heat! Many of you will have cleared frontages and the entire road looks much improved. As mentioned in a previous newsletter, the two large planters in Plawsfield Rd. are due to be replaced. They will be demolished soon and replacements constructed from railway sleepers. Another working party will then be arranged to fill and plant! Perhaps at the same time (depending on how many people turn out) we can revamp the soil and plants in some of the other planters. Can I also mention that planning permission was sought and given for this project by Bromley Council and that they are providing some financial assistance for which we are very grateful.

Thank you again. Lynda Townley
Committee Member and Tree Warden
45 Barnmead Rd.

COUNCIL TAX

Why is it, you may ask, that we have to pay the full Council Tax charge on our properties when some of the Council's services are not provided? It would initially seem that we pay the Council for road/footpath maintenance, tree maintenance and litter collection, even though we fund this work ourselves via the annual road charge. So we contacted the Council to ask for a "Barnmead Council Tax Reduction", and received

the following reply from the Valuation Office, (and I quote), CL . . . the only criterion for determining the Council Tax of a property is its open market value as at 1/4/1991. The fact that the Council may not provide certain services is not in itself, a factor to be considered, except in so far as this is reflected in property values." Well folks, it was worth a try... and at least we now know the official, if unfair reason why we have to continue to pay full Council Tax.

SHARE CERTIFICATES

If you have any queries about Barnmead Residents Ltd. Share certificates, then please contact Pam Thompson at number 38 who will be pleased to help!

PLANNING

Once again, the committee feels the need to point out to residents that any work done within the conservation area may well require special planning permission. All residents should have received a copy of the very detailed planning requirements for Barnmead Rd several months ago and these should be kept in a safe place for easy reference. If anyone has lost or not received their copy, would they please see Tony Pagliuca for a replacement.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

Do you have any news or information that would be of interest to residents and which we could include in the newsletter or post on the website? If so, please deliver to Fraser at number 34 thanks.