

June 2023



WELLESLEY TIMES



Project update

Welcome to our Summer edition of the Wellesley News

Firstly, thank you to everyone who sent photos and articles to go in this edition of the Wellesley Times. It's always great to hear about what matters to the people who live here.

Next, a big welcome to everyone who has moved in over the past few months. We hope you are settling in and enjoying your new homes.

Finally we can reveal some mock ups of the play area we've been working on with our resident, Dylan (aged 9). A couple of years ago Dylan asked us if he could be involved with designing the playground and we were only too happy to bring him onboard! Dylan has worked really hard researching and interviewing local children, but most importantly, he has raised how essential it is to him and the community that the

play area is as accessible and inclusive as possible so that no one is left out.

The following images show just some of the equipment that we will be introducing (subject to planning approval).

There will be a swing suitable for wheelchairs, 2 zip lines, a parkour course for teens, a quiet woodland course, accesible picnic benches, a sound garden, football goals and much more.

Next to the play area will be a large green space, suitable for community events. There will also be picnic benches and even some outdoor chess and ludo tables to enjoy with friends and family. We are submitting our planning application early summer and once approved shall look to start work on site.

Wellesley Playground



Wellesley Residents Trust

Handover of Areas

When you purchase a home on the development you become a member of the Wellesley Residents Trust (WRT) "A management company which will uphold and promote Wellesley's vision for the area as well as ensure green spaces and estate areas are maintained to a high standard."

WRT has not yet accepted handover of any areas that they are to manage on the estate. We continue to work with the house builders to ensure areas are brought up to an acceptable standard prior to being handed over and hope to be able to finally take the first phase on later this year.

It is important to note that when land is sold to a housebuilder at Wellesley, they become responsible for the land (including signage, roads and landscaping etc). If you notice areas that are not up to standard then please contact the house builders directly.

If you are unsure who best to contact please email us at info@wellesleyhampshire.co.uk

Useful Contacts

Bellway Homes Thames Valley Region
0118 933 8020

Bellway Homes South London Region
01737 644911

Ashberry Homes - 0118 933 8020

Barratt Homes - 01483 508456

David Wilson Homes - 01483 508456

CALA Homes - 01784 225300

Weston Homes - 01279 873333

Taylor Wimpey - 01494 509090



Paperless Billing

Residential Management Group - RMG who look after the bookkeeping for the Wellesley Residents Trust, will be moving over to paperless billing from the 31st July. That means for any private owners at Wellesley your invoices, reminders and all other written correspondence will be sent directly to the email address that you registered your RMG account with.

We would urge everyone to check and update their email address prior to these changes being made, which you can do by signing in to your account via the portal www.wellesleyliving.co.uk or calling the RMG call centre on 03450024422.

The portal is a great way of checking your account and keeping up to date. If are a private owner who has not yet signed up to the portal, you can do so by visiting www.wellesleyliving.co.uk/register to get access to statements and make payments.

You can revert to receiving paper correspondence any time by deselecting the paperless option within the profile section of your RMG Living Account.



Wellesley Residents

A note from Simon Wood - Chair of the Wellesley Residents' Committee

The Committee is made up of residents from the estate. We meet monthly to discuss arising issues and work with various other parties to support residents' interest. We are continuing to seek new members, particularly a Treasurer to allow us to access funds from Grainger to support events and activities.

Our key focuses over the past quarter include:

1) Education - we are continuing to lobby for a change in Wavell's catchment area and have been engaging with the consultation on the expansion of Alderwood Secondary School to ensure the estate is factored into decision-making

2) Crime - we supported the recent 'cops and coffee' event and have been engaging with the local police to manage antisocial behaviour and other crime on the estate. The key advice from the police remains: report, report, report. The more reports they have, the higher priority our issues will become. We have also begun work to coordinate the various neighbourhood watch schemes that have begun to start growing in the area.



3) Management company issues. We have received complaints about the services provided by the management companies for some blocks of flats. Please continue to raise issues with Trinity, LRM, etc but do also copy in Grainger on any E-mails: info@wellesleyhampshire.co.uk who will do what they can to support.

4) Traffic issues. Similarly, we would ask people to park considerately - particularly on Pennefather's Road where cars parked on the junctions are causing serious issues and lots of complaints to the committee.

Separately, we have been working with local councillors to improve the safety of the Pennefather's Road/Farnborough Road junction.

We are planning on attending the Victoria Day celebrations in the town with a stall. We have also currently pencilled in an AGM for the evening of 21st September.

If you have a particular issue you would like to champion and are interested in joining the committee, please E-mail us wellesleyresidentscommittee@gmail.com

The Committee

Simon Wood - Chair and Resident Director on the Wellesley Residents Trust Board.
Calum Stewart - Secretary
Jules Crossley
Tim Crawshaw
Eugene Kessler
Haydar Koher
Ian Smith

The committee are looking for members to help with events and take on the role of treasurer, E-mail wellesleyresidentscommittee@gmail.com if you would like to join or find out more.



Aldershot Town Centre



Local students' artwork brightens the town centre

Students aged 11-14 from Alderwood School have created artwork for lamp posts and signs to brighten Aldershot town centre. The students, aged 11 to 14 were challenged to design artwork that could be displayed in the town centre based on one of three themes; the Coronation of King Charles III on May 6th, Queen Victoria to celebrate her strong connection with Aldershot and Victoria Day on June 10th, or Armed Forces Day on June 24th, an important day for the town with its historic links to the British Army. Many students submitted artwork and you can see the best of their creations all over town.

We hope you enjoy exploring their artwork which shows their understanding and commitment to the local community and its fascinating history.



Town Centre Events

Victoria Day is back!
On Saturday 10 June. Don't miss one of the biggest events in the local calendar

Victoria Day is a fun-filled day of family activities, a grand parade, live music, dance and up to 40 stalls throughout Aldershot town centre from 10am to 4pm. It celebrates Aldershot's close ties with Queen Victoria and attracts thousands of visitors to the town centre.

For more information visit www.rushmoor.gov.uk/victoriaday.



RUSHMOOR
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Aldershot's Armed Forces Day Prom in the Park
Join hundreds of people as they wave their Union flags and sing along in celebration of our troops at Aldershot's free Armed Forces Day Prom in the Park on Saturday 24 June, from 2-5pm in Princes Gardens. Bring your flags, rugs, picnics, friends and family to enjoy the mix of modern and traditional live music!

The afternoon's festivities start at 2pm, when the bar, tea tent and street food stalls open, alongside free children's crafty fun, a bouncy castle, face painting and community stalls.

Community News

A Word From 'Resident Rev' Dean Pusey

Spring is springing and a lot has happened since last writing. Each time in my little corner of the Wellesley Times, we have been marking things associated with The Monarchy; The Platinum Jubilee of our late Queen, The death of the Queen, Accession of the King and now a Coronation!

Whether you are an ardent monarchist or a republican, this event is something that not many of us have witnessed as the Queen's reign spanned over 70 years.

The event was visually spectacular with symbols of authority, people dressed in robes or distinctive military dress. The Church facilitating the service with other Christians and those of other faiths participating in this event. What did you make of the Coronation - if anything at all?

Out of everything, for me, it was the promises that I listened to, carefully spoken and serious. I know what it is like to make promises and it is challenging. I'm sure many of you have experienced this too and felt disappointment when they have been broken by yourselves or others. The promises of the coronation were like a wedding and ordination service wrapped into one. Symbolic of 3 chords; God, Monarch and the people, making an agreement together of being their best selves. However, with all of this, my take away were the opening words of the Coronation that I leave with you to reflect on, what does service look like for you and in our community here?

(Chapel Royal chorister):
'Your Majesty, as children of the Kingdom of God, we welcome you in the name of the King of Kings'

The King:
'In his name, and after his example, I come not to be served but to serve.'

Are you 'wild about gardening?'

If you are, you should have a look at the details of this year's Rushmoor Community in Bloom (RCiB) competition and get your entries in! Wild about gardening is this year's theme and we know there are lots of keen gardeners on Wellesley. The event is being organised by Rushmoor Voluntary Services (RVS) and the categories for entries are below, as well as the link for further information. It would be wonderful if Wellesley could put on a good show and make the development as colourful and flowery as it was last year. Looking at some of the gardens, we're already off to a good start!

The deadline for entries is Sunday 23 June and Judges will be doing their rounds between 10 July and 4 August. Don't worry if you're going to be away during that period, the judges don't necessarily need to see you - just your garden! If you are there when they come to judge, they'd love to have a chat of course. RCiB judges are drawn from the local community. There are keen gardeners, previous award winners and people passionate about the environment. Like Britain in Bloom, the team of judges are hoping to see sustainable thinking and wildlife friendly gardens in this year's entries and they're all looking forward to seeing what you've achieved in your gardens.

Entries are restricted to 2 categories per household. There are four categories:

- Best wildlife friendly garden
- Best front garden
- Best community garden
- Most unusual planted container

For more information and to download your entry form, go to www.rvs.org.uk/rushmoor-community-in-bloom/ RVS are trying to reduce the amount of paper they use, however if you need a hard copy of the information, please email your request to info@rvs.org.uk

Community News

The Community Grub Hub

The Community Grub Hub is a collective of people, organisations and businesses in and around Farnborough and Aldershot who care about offering food support to those in need in an open and supportive way, while reducing food waste.

Open 1 day a week, on Tuesday, we typically have 180+ Visitors and provide food & items of good quality clothing at no charge. It's like a shop but stock has been donated by supermarkets, businesses and residents. The food is all good quality (including fresh and frozen items) and we have household and personal hygiene products too. Anyone living in Rushmoor can access the project without the need for a referral - just turn up and one of our friendly volunteers will sign you up. If you are able to, please make a small donation for your shopping. This helps us to continue providing support to our community. You can give back in other ways too - by donating items or volunteering! Those wanting to donate can do so by delivering to The Community Grub Hub on Tuesdays between 10am - 5pm, or to the Karuna Coffee House (11 Wellington Street, GU11 1DX) on Tuesdays to Saturday between 9am - 5pm.

As well as food support, we also have a Community Wardrobe upstairs and often have partners like Citizens Advice, Fleet & Aldershot Lions and local health teams on site.

Open every Tuesday from 10am to 6pm, located at 2a, Windsor Way, Aldershot, GU11 1JG. You can find us in the old St. John's Ambulance building on Windsor Way, Aldershot, just past Holy Trinity Church and the play school.



Farnborough & Aldershot Menopause Support

The next meeting will be an evening mindfulness session on Friday 9 June from 6.30-8pm at the West End Centre, followed by drinks in the bar. Please email: Jules.crossley@rushmoor.gov.uk for more info or to book your place.



Kindly sponsored and supported by Harlow Hall Taylor Wimpey. Please see event on production of money 0 and payments 0 cards. RUSHMOOR VOLUNTARY SERVICES

NEW OPENING HOURS!

OPEN EVERY TUESDAY
10am to 6pm



Just for fun

Complete this summer beach picture



Just for fun

Can you uncover the hidden picture?

0=White 1=Brown 2=Yellow 3=Green 4=Blue

Can you fill in the missing numbers?

5	3			7			
6			1	9	5		
	9	8					6
8				6			3
4			8		3		1
7				2			6
	6					2	8
			4	1	9		5
				8		7	9

Indoor scavenger hunt - how many of each item can you find in your home?

___ Clocks ___ Keyholes ___ Doors
 ___ Windows ___ TVs ___ Toothbrushes
 ___ Glasses ___ Plants ___ Books

S	U	M	S	A	N	D	A	L	S	J	M	H	E	R
S	T	A	R	U	T	S	W	H	E	N	U	I	T	S
T	H	E	S	G	N	U	M	M	E	M	R	L	S	O
H	A	T	S	U	L	B	I	K	I	N	G	S	Y	T
O	I	C	E	S	A	R	U	D	O	U	O	N	D	T
L	H	E	T	T	W	E	N	R	R	E	L	A	X	T
I	Y	S	S	W	I	M	M	I	N	G	F	S	E	C
D	O	B	T	N	D	O	F	E	O	J	U	N	L	E
A	A	A	N	R	S	D	E	F	I	I	N	I	L	S
Y	H	R	E	S	O	R	W	I	T	O	H	T	A	H
T	H	B	E	A	C	H	E	A	A	U	T	U	B	M
N	E	E	Q	S	C	U	S	I	C	N	O	X	E	N
E	A	C	N	R	E	T	H	N	A	T	N	U	S	E
T	W	U	E	N	R	T	Y	S	V	E	C	O	A	N
D	S	E	O	F	S	E	P	T	E	M	B	E	R	R

Can you find the following words?

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| AUGUST | JULY |
| BARBECUE | RELAX |
| BASEBALL | SANDALS |
| BEACH | SHORTS |
| BIKING | SOCCOR |
| GOLF | SUNBURN |
| HATS | SUNSCREEN |
| HOLIDAY | SUNTAN |
| HOT | SWIMMING |
| HUMID | VACATION |

What's on?



The Princes Hall is just a 5 minute walk down Hospital Hill. There is a huge variety of entertainment to suit all tastes. Here are our top picks:

One Night of Queen 15th June 2023

The phenomenal Gary Mullen and The Works, will ROCK you, with their tribute to rock legends Queen.
www.princeshall.com/event/136001/one-night-of-queen

Horrible Histories - Barmy Britain 26th July 2023

A hit West End show, full of crazy new characters and rude new rulers from Britain's barmy past! It's history with the nasty bits left in!
www.princeshall.com/event/139001/horrible-histories-barmy-britain

The Diana Ross Story 21st July 2023

The World's Premier show in celebration of DIANA ROSS and THE SUPREMES Theatre audiences prepare to be taken on a spellbinding journey visiting one of the greatest musical stories ever told.
www.princeshall.com/event/137201/the-diana-ross-story

Tickets are available from the Box Office on 01252 329155 or via www.princeshall.com



The West End Centre Just 10 minute walk away is a space for arts and the community to thrive, here are some of our tip picks:

An Evening of Burlesque 17th June 2023

Join Hundred Watt Club for a vintage inspired, champagne popping evening of burlesque! Boasting a line-up of the cream of the UK cabaret crop; glittering showgirls, madcap comedy and stunning circus acts, expect the unexpected but get ready for some bawdy, brilliant, tongue in cheek fun!
www.westendcentre.co.uk/event/hundred-watt-club-evening-burlesque-vaudeville-0

Westival - Indoor Music Festival 14th - 16th July

Founded in 2006 there are all the best bits of a festival - great music, brilliant comedy, family activities, fun, laughter and grass (yes grass) but all inside. It never rains on Westival!
www.westendcentre.co.uk/event/westival-2023-early-bird

Papier Mache Portraits 22nd, 29th June and 6th July 2023

A mini sculpting course led by a local artist. Includes all the materials you need to create your very own papier mache character.
www.westendcentre.co.uk/event/papier-mache-portraits-summer-2023



Over to you

Thank you to Jules Crossley, Wellesley resident, who has prepared the following article

Artificial or plastic grass is becoming increasingly popular, especially in new developments. It's hardly surprising as it's considered easier to maintain than natural grass (particularly if you only have a small area that you want to cover) it looks neat and the older varieties don't need watering. New hybrid artificial grass varieties do need watering however, so this becomes a disadvantage when there's a hosepipe ban. Natural grass is always better; here's why:

- Fake lawns contaminate the soil beneath them, as well as nearby watercourses, with microplastics. Recent studies indicate that animals and people can ingest these substances as the materials start to break down and are affected by sunlight and heat.
- Real grass stores carbon, while an artificial lawn releases it - from the soil dug up during installation as well as the greenhouse gases created in its production.
- Plastic grass eventually needs replacing and most ends up in landfill.
- Lawn, soil and greenery cool a garden's surface and its surroundings due to evaporation and transpiration. Artificial grass doesn't do this, it can get very hot and burn the skin of animals and people - affecting children in particular.
- Artificial lawns can cause, or encourage, flooding - especially during episodes of heavy rain. Unlike natural lawns, which absorb water, plastic grass absorbs less than 50%.
- Artificial grass provides no habitat for wildlife, insects and worms etc. Even closely mown lawns provide space for birds to dig and worms to live.
- The RSPCA has warned that hedgehogs are under threat in the UK because their food supply in gardens (mainly caterpillars and beetles) is being wiped out by artificial lawns. The charity takes in over 1,700 Hedgehogs a month and most of them are starving. In the past 2 decades, up to 75% of the country's hedgehog population has been lost.

•The UK ranks as one of the most nature depleted countries in Europe. Wildlife populations and biodiversity have declined by nearly 70% in the last 50 years. So, what can we do?

- Use natural grass when possible
- Don't choose artificial grass and, if you have it, replace it as soon as practically possible.
- Use alternatives like woodchip, organic mulch, and pea gravel rather than artificial grass and supplement with plants in pots, diverse flower beds, hedges etc. Hedges are great for biodiversity.
- There are many lower maintenance types of lawn which encourage wildlife, insects and pollinators like bees, these include: tapestry lawns with low-growing flowering plants, camomile lawns, clover lawns, Pratia Pendunculata lawns, creeping thyme and moss.
- Natural alternatives like bamboo flooring or external cork tiles, such as Cork Amorim blocks, can be good for areas you want to use for children to play.
- Plant as many insect-friendly plants, grasses and pollinating flowers as possible - whatever kind of grass or alternative lawn you have!

For more information on plastic grass and natural alternatives go to www.sgd.org.uk



Cork Amorim blocks

We'd love to hear from you!

We want to make sure the news we share in this newsletter is interesting and relevant to all of our residents. Would you like us to share more information on a certain area of the development? Do you have a story or photo you'd like to share about Wellesley?

Whatever it is, we'd love to hear from you, email us info@wellesleyhampshire.co.uk

Wellesley People

Introducing Clare O'Reilly from Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership

"Working as the Countryside Ranger for Wellesley Woodlands means I may well have met some of you while out and about over the last year. My role is to ensure all 110ha of Wellesley's beautiful greenspace is looked after for people and nature.

With my father and uncle stationed at former barracks here, and relatives still living nearby, I have visited often over the years and enjoy getting to know Aldershot. Working in every season in Wellesley has also meant discovering the site in all its guises; from deer that jump out at me in Heather Hill, wood mice sneaking around in Puckridge, overly friendly swans at Chalk Farm, and tawny owls and sparrowhawks that watch me as I work in Wharf.

My day can include anything from chainsawing to ensure tree safety, creating and maintaining infrastructure like paths and bridges, ecological surveying, or teaching training courses to the public. Much of our work throughout the Blackwater Valley, including at Wellesley, is supported by incredible groups of volunteers.

If you would like to get involved in a huge variety of fun, active volunteer days, please feel free to contact us at blackwater.valley@hants.gov.uk. Otherwise, I do hope you head out to enjoy all this fabulous greenspace on your doorstep and remember to say hello if you see me around!

You can see more on Blackwater Valley's work at www.facebook.com/bvcpartnership And more on Wellesley here: www.wellesleywoodlands.co.uk



Contact us

There are lots of ways you can keep up to date with the latest development news.

Email: info@wellesleyhampshire.co.uk
Website: www.wellesleyhampshire.co.uk
Phone: 01252 351966

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