

Q1 2026

Issue 1



Annual General Meeting - Thursday 5th March 2026 at 7:30 pm at Shortlands Golf Club

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| | Roland Perrin – musical greeting for attendees prior to the start of the meeting. | |
| 1 | Chair’s welcome, opening remarks, apologies and introduction of guest speaker. | MB |
| 2 | Guest Speaker: Gita Bapat: Samaritans - here to listen. This will be a PowerPoint presentation about the general work of the Samaritans and then specifically about their work in Bromley and Orpington. 15-20 minutes + Q and A. | GB |
| 3 | Music: Live Jazz from Roland Perrin | RP |
| 4 | REFRESHMENT BREAK (20 mins) | |
| 5 | Approval of Minutes of previous AGM – download here | MB |
| 6 | Chair’s report Other officers’ reports are posted on our website. They will be taken ‘as read’ although there will be an opportunity to discuss them under item 11. | MB |
| 7 | Treasurer’s report and subscriptions update | SR |
| 8 | Location and format of future meetings | MB / All |
| 9 | Election of Officers: Voting on any applications (the various officer job descriptions are here (https://www.ravensbournevalley.org/Committee.php). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As announced previously, our current Treasurer (Sharon Richardson) is retiring from this post. We have a firm application for the post of Treasurer from a RVR member who is also a qualified accountant. All officers must be elected /re-elected at the AGM. Some current officers may be willing to stand again but this should not be taken for granted. Please note that the Membership Secretary, the Newsletter Editor and the RVR Secretary have stated that they will not be continuing in their current posts. You are urged to read the job descriptions and consider contributing to the running of Association. | All |
| 10 | Reappointment of Auditor | MB |
| 11 | Any Other Business: Q & A to Councillors (if present); elected & appointed RVR Officers – e.g. planning, recruitment of new members to RVR | Chair Cllrs |
| 12 | Chair’s closing remarks | Chair |
| 13 | Chat & Music: socialising to the sound of jazz from Roland Perrin until 10 pm | All |
| | MB: Margaret Brearley; GB: Gita Bapat; NF: Nigel Foster; SR: Sharon Richardson; JS: Jay Sharma; CL: Clive Lees; AH: Alastair Holmes; Cllrs: as present on the night | |

Bromley News

Proposed Waitrose Site Development



Negotiations with Bromley Council over the Section 106 agreement, which sets out developer contributions to local infrastructure and community facilities, have caused delays. John Lewis indicated that discussions about S106 funds are underway with Network Rail concerning potential improvements to Bromley South station. No construction is expected before Spring 2027.

Bishops Palace Update

The decision on this application is overdue and there have been many objections. The percentage of affordable homes proposed is only 10% vs a nationally recommended 50%.



Masons Hill Extension



Permission has been granted for the addition of an **extra storey** to the building at 169 Masons Hill raising concerns that it might set a precedent for other buildings nearby.

Waldo Road Waste and Recycling Centre Closure

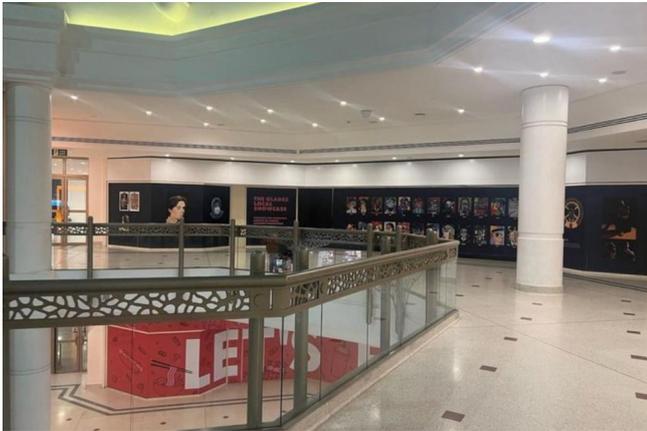
From 31st January, Waldo Road reuse and recycling centre was partially reopened at weekends with residents having to enter the site via the Baths Road entrance. The site will offer a partial service and full service is not expected to resume until **Autumn 2026**.

Opening times and details of what can be disposed, as well as a time slot booking link, can be found at the following link:

[Waldoroaddetails](#)



Former Debenhams at The Glades set for revamp



Plans to redevelop the long-vacant former Debenhams store at The Glades Shopping Centre in Bromley have now been approved, clearing the way for a major new mix of retail and leisure uses.

Plans approved by Bromley Council have revealed that the former Debenhams store will be split into several new retail and leisure units spread across different levels of the building. The units are designed to attract new operators, extend activity beyond regular shopping hours and support Bromley's evening and night-time economy.

Further details can be viewed on the News Shopper website at this link: [News Shopper Article](#)

Beckenham News

Kelsey Park Bridge Replacement Projects

Initial site mobilisation for the Kelsey Park Bridge Project began on 15th January. As a result, pedestrian and vehicular access via the Wickham Road entrance will be closed from 2 February until March, and access through the Stone Avenue entrance will be restricted during this period.

The scope of the work and a map showing access details can be found at the following website:

<https://www.bromley.gov.uk/kelseyarkbridges>



Parking



Bromley Council has agreed to move the parking bays on Albemarle Road by Beckenham Green to reduce congestion. A date for the work is yet to be confirmed.

The signage at the taxi bay by the bookshop does not prevent taxis parking during the day, contributing to congestion at busy times. New signage will shortly be installed to prevent daytime parking while continuing to allow parking at the rank in the evening.

Shortlands News

Road Improvements

Following a technical survey confirming significant deterioration of the road surface, Downs Hill and Crab Hill are due to be resurfaced later this year. In the meantime, the 'SLOW' road markings on Downs Hill have been repainted.

Funding has also been secured for two pedestrian islands outside Ravensbourne Station, with plans to show the exact location pending.

Other roads have recently been resurfaced to a high standard including Oakwood Avenue, Oakhill Road and Court Downs Road. There are some concerns that this has led to additional speeding, as reported by residents of Court Downs Road, although the Highways Team say that traffic can sometimes **sound** faster on newly laid roads.

Shortlands Library Closure

The recent appearance of cracks in a rear wall at Shortlands Library has prompted the closure of the library for safety reasons and to allow further investigation work.

There has been evidence of some small movement in the building for some time, but the building has up to now been deemed safe to use. However recent new cracks have given cause for concern and need to be investigated as a matter of urgency. Survey work will help inform the next steps.

The council will update library users and residents when further information is available.

Queensmead Recreation Ground: River Ravensbourne Restoration Proposal

Following a large turnout at the public consultation regarding this proposal, Thames 21 has published an update on its website regarding its progress to transfer the river to a more natural state. The three options being considered along with further details of the projected time line can be found at the following link: [Thames21update](#)



Bromley Environment Network (BEN)

The BEN February 2026 newsletter is available at the link below. It contains many links to forthcoming interesting events in and around Bromley.

Also included in the newsletter are:

- links to the “Library of Things” from which you can borrow top quality household and gardening tools at modest cost.
- links to local “Repair Cafes” to which you can bring your broken electronics, wobbly furniture, or moth-eaten clothing and skilled volunteers will help you fix them for FREE (or a small donation).

[READ THE NEWSLETTER](#)

Community Links

Report road related problems to Bromley Council [here](#)

Report a wide range of other problems to Bromley Council [here](#)

Report a range of problems to Lewisham Council [here](#)

Join the RVR Street Friends team - details [here](#) To volunteer, contact Nigel Foster : nigelfoster16@gmail.com

Join the Snow Friends team - details [here](#)

Further useful links are on our webpage [here](#)

See also the article on Beckenham Place Park for volunteering links.

Freedom Pass Restriction Rumours

You may have seen reports recently that London Councils were considering restricting or even scrapping the Freedom Pass.

Our Labour MP, Liam Conlon, has reported on the strong stance taken by Labour Councils in London, supported by the Mayor, to block these changes and protect the Freedom Pass. He has promised to keep championing the Pass to ensure **older Bromley residents stay independent and connected.**

Roads and Traffic - Road Safety Incident Reporting Form

Members are reminded that if they witness or become aware of a traffic accident or similar issue within the RVR area, there is a form available on the website to enable its recording.

In this way RVR, together with Shortlands Residents Association which operates an identical system, can collate data for submission to the London Borough of Bromley to assist in requesting additional safety steps, for example, speed reduction measures and pedestrian refuges on busy roads.

Photographs of damaged vehicles, street furniture or private property resulting from such incidents can have a great value, and their submission together with the form will be greatly welcomed.

The form is available via this link:- [Road Safety Incident Recording Form](#)

Completed forms can then be sent to our Roads & Transport Officer, Andrew Lancaster, using this email address:- roadsandtransport.rvr@outlook.com

Planning

Recent Updates

Since the last newsletter, updates have been made concerning the following sites:

[41 Valley Road](#)

[79 Coniston Road](#)

Clicking on those links will take you to the RVR website where our Planning Officer, Clive Lees, has posted some details and onward links to the council website planning applications pages.

Also on the planning page are a number of links to Self Help Planning Resources including the most common problems owners/developers run into. Click on the following link to access them:

[linktoplanning resources](#)

Crime and Safety

Shortlands and Park Langley Safer Neighbourhood Ward Meeting

There will a Shortlands and Park Langley Ward Open Panel meeting on **Tuesday 24 February at 7.30pm** in the Friends Room at St Mary's Church, 39 Kingswood Road. BR2 0HG.

The speaker is Graeme Preston from Bromley Trading Standards, who will be talking about doorstep scams and giving advice on how to deal with this type of crime.

Residents are invited to come and join in with the discussion on local issues on crime, help set our ward priorities, meet our local SN Police Team and attending local Councillors. Afterwards enjoy refreshments and nibbles for informal chat with everyone attending.

[Agenda Link](#)

MET ENGAGE - Report Fraud

This week, the City of London Police, the national lead force for fraud, announced the full public launch of Report Fraud, which has now officially replaced Action Fraud.

[Press Release Link](#)

[Reporting Fraud Link](#)

Spray Foam Insulation Scams



Bromley Trading Standards have issued an alert about scams relating to the installation and removal of spray foam insulation . Residents are advised to stay vigilant and say no to cold callers.

For more information, click on the image to the left.

RVR Social Events

Cheese and Wine Party

The annual party took place at the home of our Chair, Margaret Brearley, to thank committee members, street friends, road reps and others who play an active part in the running of the association. Attendees were encouraged to bring a savoury or sweet dish and the resulting buffet was plentiful and varied. Some wine was provided from RVR funds and many attendees brought a contribution. Many thanks to Margaret for hosting a very successful event.

Beckenham Place Park

Facilities available in the park and notification of forthcoming events can be viewed on the park's website at this link: [BPP Link](#)

Information about facilities available in the Mansion House and notification of forthcoming events can be viewed on the Mansion House website at this link: [Mansion House Link](#)

Volunteering opportunities exist to undertake a wide variety of activities ranging from gardening to woodland management and from upcycling old pallets to helping out at events in the park.

Details at this link: [Volunteering Link](#)

The programme is quite full so there is a wait to join, however there are occasional one off volunteer events. If you would like to be added to the call out list for these events or be added to the waiting list for regular volunteering sessions then please email bppcommunitygardeners@gmail.com

[BPP parkrun](#) or [BPP junior parkrun](#), also have volunteering opportunities available.

Lewisham Town Centre Redevelopment

Lewisham town centre is set to get a major multi-million pound revamp over the coming years.

Over the next decade, Lewisham is set to undergo a number of major revamp projects, both council- and privately funded, to revive the area. Funded by national government, Lewisham Council, and private investors, the scheme is set to transform Lewisham town centre over the next decade.

Works include a council-led upgrade to refurbish the library, rejuvenate the market, and improve High Street, as well as a privately funded £650 million development by Amro Partners, bringing new homes and green space to the area. One of the projects scheduled to be completed most imminently is the council-led £24 million project to revive the town centre, improving its safety and making the area more "greener."

Additional details of the plans can be viewed on the News Shopper website at the following link:

[Lewisham Development Link](#)

Meeting Dates

Members' meetings in 2026 will be held on the first Thursday, every other month, at 7:30pm at Shortlands Golf Club. All members and prospective members are welcome. The meetings normally last between 60 and 90 minutes and focus on local community and planning issues, the latter normally illustrated by a slide show. There is usually at least one of our local councillors in attendance to answer questions and log concerns. The bar is open during and after the meetings.

If you are registered for email delivery, you will receive minutes of completed meetings, agendas for forthcoming meetings and quarterly newsletters.

Forthcoming meetings, all at Shortlands Golf Club, are as follows:-

The Annual General Meeting: **Thursday 5th March 2026 at 7:30 pm**

Members' Meetings: **7th May, 2nd July, 3rd September, 5th November at 7:30 pm**

X (formerly Twitter) Notifications

Don't forget that we post on X (formerly Twitter) items that we believe to be relevant, interesting – and sometimes urgent, such as burst water mains and traffic problems. Links are on the right to view our posts and feel free to post items yourself if you have some news or information of interest to our members.

X Link: <https://x.com/RVResidents>



Current Officers (as at February 2026)

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Chair | Margaret Brearley | chair.rvr@outlook.com |
| Vice Chair | Jay Sharma | vicechairman.rvr@outlook.com |
| Secretary | Jacqueline St Quinton | secretary.rvr@outlook.com |
| Treasurer | Sharon Richardson | treasurer.rvr@outlook.com |
| Membership Secretary | Alastair Holmes | membership.secretary.rvr@outlook.com |
| Planning Officer | Clive Lees | planning.rvr@outlook.com |
| Newsletter Editor | Euan McMaster | editor.rvr@outlook.com |
| Webmaster | Rosamond Eele | webmaster.rvr@outlook.com |
| Roads and Traffic | Andrew Lancaster | roadsandtransport.rvr@outlook.com |
| Street Friends Coordinator | Nigel Foster | trees.rvr@outlook.com |
| LBBR Delegate | Beatrice Osborn | lbbfrep.rvr@outlook.com |
| BPP Rep | Liz Logan (acting) | bpp.rvr@outlook.com |
| Hon. Legal Advisor | Richard Thomas | |
| Auditor | Jayne Nickalls | |

Road Representatives

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|--|------------------|
| Bracken Hill Lane and Close / Highland Road | Vanessa Redhouse |
| Bromley Ave / Grasmere Rd | Philip Wolfson |
| Calmont & Ashgrove Roads / Belgravia Gardens | Rita Smith |
| Coniston Road / Ullswater Close | Jane Doherty |
| Crab Hill / Foxgrove Road / The Avenue | Gonul Hussein |
| Elstree Hill / Erin Close / Hillbrow Road | Nicki Martin |
| Farnaby Road (1–81) | Jaki Moody |
| Farnaby Road (82–194) | Rosamond Eele |
| Madeira Avenue (Evens) | Judy Adcock |
| Madeira Avenue (Odds) | Anne Lancaster |
| Oaklands, Spencer, Hawkshead, Lullington | Stephen Edwards |
| Ravensbourne Ave. (Evens) | Monica Wiltshire |
| Ravensbourne Ave. (Odds) | David MacKenzie |
| Ravensmead Road | Steve Hadley |
| Warren Avenue | Clive Lees |
| Downs Hill / Downs Bridge Road | Hadyn Davies |

If you wish to contact your road rep. please email or write to the RVR Secretary : secretary.rvr@outlook.com

Or

RVR Secretary
35 Downs Hill
Beckenham
BR3 5ET