

EDITORIAL

Welcome to your October newsletter

In our last newsletter we were not confident about the future of CPRA. We felt it important for our Curzon Park community to continue to have a collective voice, to champion the environment we all treasure, and to arrange some social activities.

Community is something people value and if we had let CPRA fold then we would have lost that voice.



Most of us appreciate the bulbs coming up in Spring and the tree-lined roads. As the article on trees and open spaces explains we are championing the replacement of trees to help keep the environment we love. We hope you can support us in this work and join us on some of the social events or donate a small amount each year.

The new CPRA committee is as follows as several volunteers have taken up new roles. Our thanks go to the outgoing team. The new team comprises:

- Richard de-Beger: Chair (Earlsway)
- David Hunter: Secretary (Curzon Park South)
- Jeremy Bishop continues as Treasurer (Carrick Road)
- Richard Jones: Open Spaces (Carrick Road)
- Sarah Melia: Communications (Curzon Close)
- Allan Hogan continues in support of Open Spaces (Northway)
- Graham Whale: membership (Earlsway)

Best wishes from Richard, CPRA Chair

WALKING GROUPS

A wonderful social activity for all

Walking group dates as follows:

Saturdays: 11 November and 6 December.

Thursdays: 16 October and 20 November.

For further details call Dave on 01244 683814

THE HISTORY OF CURZON PARK

A recent event at the Golf Club

In September we held a local history talk about the history of Curzon Park and included some background on the land originally being owned by Lord Howe.



The talk included some fascinating maps including the toll road, the railway options that were proposed and the development of the estate as we know today.

A few takeaways that were of interest included:

- A train station was proposed in Curzon Park behind the Earlsway houses at the end of Selkirk
- Residents of Earlsway were to keep bucket of water at bottom of garden for putting fires out on the Railway from a steam train
- The tunnel under the railway by Mount Pleasant was believed to be for moving livestock through, sheep going to the marshes

The Hough Green Local History Group are working on their fourth book (on Curzon Park) in their award-winning series of local history books. Look out for it in due course!

CAROLS ON THE GREEN

Friday 19 December



We would like to invite residents to our annual Carols on the Green event with mulled wine and mince pies.

It will be held on The Green on Greensway on Friday 19th from 6pm to 7.30pm. We are starting early so children can attend. Stay as long as you wish.

HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES UPDATE

Hundreds of daffodils on their way

Many thanks to Allan Hogan for his excellent work and we are glad he is still helping and advising!

We live in a beautiful park and have planted 500 daffodil bulbs on the Green to make this even better. We still have 700 to plant and will have locations mapped out very shortly for planting.

On behalf of all the Residents within Curzon Park we would like to thank all those who have made donations to the purchase of Daffodil Bulbs this year and to our Councillors Razia Daniels and Matt Carter

We have started planting the bulbs already and would welcome more volunteers who could help, with a special 'Call-Out' to young Oscar who with his dad planted upwards of 100 bulbs on The Green.

If you wish to help in this task, contact the CPRA email cpaonline@gmail.com

TREES

You may have seen the recent very large (up to 1 tonne) fallen branches from the original Victorian trees on CPS and CPN and both trees have been felled. CPS have received funding for replacement from CWaC and are allegedly being planted in the next few weeks. We met the tree officer from CWaC for a survey of the more worrying old trees, and he took the immediate decision to remove them. He also viewed the 7 stumps in Carrick Rd and said the Council's policy is not to replace these due to funding priorities and potential issues with services. We asked for the Tree Officer to help us with a management plan for the ongoing maintenance of trees, which are such a feature of the park. There is no progress on this as it stands. But we will not give up!

Some fallen branches of the horse chestnuts had been diseased with honey fungus; others have broken at the trunk from the drought we experienced this Spring and Summer.

It is up to all of us to be vigilant, especially in windy weather, particularly with trees in leaf (sail effect) and to inform first, the Council, but also us, of any potential failures.

ROAD SIGNS

A number of the road signs are vintage castings and have cracked or are illegible due to dirt and faded lettering.

Again, can we ask for volunteers, road by road to help with these small renovations. Some are also partly covered by over-grown hedge onto the path (See Earlsway pic) and just require a hedge cutter or lopping shears.



BUILDING WORK & VERGES

There is always building work going on in CP and verges get very messy in the winter.

This also applies to inconsiderate visitor parking on verges. Please ensure any damaged verges are made good by you or your tradesmen.

AUTUMN FRUIT BOUNTY

Lovely to see some residents offering free surplus apples to the CP community on the roadside.

There has also been an abundance of conkers on CPS and CPN and a few hundred of these have been collected and donated for Early Years "numeracy with nature", to a Blacon Primary School

DOG POO!

In a 20-minute walk one resident picked up 38, predominantly black, very small dog poo bags. If you see this, please ask the dog owner to put it in the Dingle bin, or take it home to their black bin. We shall also talk to CWaC about installing additional bins!

