

## **BVRG UPDATE JUNE/JULY 2004**

### **DATES FOR THE DIARIES**

**TUESDAY 13TH JULY @ 7PM MEETING AT O'NEILL'S.** This is an opportunity to meet with the Area Manager and Landlord of O'Neill's to discuss our continued concerns as residents. Please do attend this if you have been directly affected by their opening hours or anti-social behaviour / noise from their patrons.

**TUESDAY 20TH JULY @ 7.30PM MEETING AT THE CROWN.** This is a meeting with the Landlord there. Again, please do attend if you have been directly affected by this pub and it's patrons.

### **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

Many thanks to everybody who came to the first BVRG meeting at the Blackheath Halls in May. Nearly 200 residents attended and it was a really good start for our local group and excellent to put so many faces to names. We gave members an introduction to the group and why it was formed. The structure was then explained by our Treasurer and also that BVRG is currently existing on charitable donations. Thank you as well for the kind donations at this meeting which raised just over £170 which will definitely help cover our printing costs now and in the future.

The Blackheath Society gave us their support and co-operation and we updated neighbours on the next campaign to prevent Cave Austin extending their licensed hours on Sunday nights. We now have just over **300 members** in BVRG so the recruitment drive in March and April through the posters and flyers in the Village has definitely worked well. We've also had publicity in The Guide for four months running so there is now a good awareness of the group in the local area.

### **STEERING GROUP**

Thank you very much to those people at last month's meeting who have offered to help out with the Steering Group. We will be having our next full Steering Group meeting on Monday 2nd August and will email you details over the next few days.

We definitely need some more help though, so do please let us know if you have the time and enthusiasm to get more involved. Being a steering group member will involve one regular meeting on the first Monday of each month and then some specific responsibility for either leafleting, liaising with breweries or the councils or helping out with events.

### **POLICE LIAISON**

BVRG has written to Lewisham police asking for some increased policing around the Village to cover the additional visitors we are getting as a result of the Euro 2004 games being shown in many of the pubs over the next few weeks. We've drawn attention to the increased noise, urination, vomiting and rubbish and are hoping to see more on-the-spot penalty fines for anti-social behaviour being issued as a result.

There's been an increase in yellow police boards around the area, the most recent being outside the Cactus Pit about an incident on 29th May involving over twenty individuals with many getting injured, one seriously.

## **CAVE AUSTIN**

We estimate that we generated over 80 letters (representing over 120 residents) to oppose Cave Austin's extension for a late licence on Sunday evenings. Those of you who should be contacted directly by Lewisham Council. We will also keep you updated on developments.

## **O'NEILL'S**

We mentioned last month that O'Neill's have actually **reduced** their opening hours on a Saturday evening which can only be good news for local residents. They are hosting a meeting on 13th July with residents (as mentioned above) and it's important we keep a dialogue open with them so they continue to understand the impact of their opening hours and patrons on the local area. Please do attend this if you are directly affected by O'Neill's.

## **LOCO RESTAURANT**

The residents living near to Loco restaurant are having a difficult time at the moment with an alleged breach of agreed hours in respect of the outdoor area. Residents in this vicinity have been affected with noise and disruption as a result. Please contact Ian Smith on [i.smith@lclark.com](mailto:i.smith@lclark.com) if you would like to be kept updated on the situation with this issue.

## **THE CROWN**

Patrons of The Crown seem to be specialising at the moment in leaving their mark on all the surrounding roads. They clearly do not have enough facilities there for the crowds they are attracting and public urination has recently hit record levels in Southvale Road, Tranquil Vale, Collins Square and Collins Street!! Urination apart, there have also been recent incidents in this pub which have included the police and ambulance services being called out and patrons being injured with bottles and glasses. BVRG are concerned at this worsening situation and are meeting with the Landlord there on Tuesday 20th July to discuss these issues. Again, please do attend this if you are a neighbour who is directly affected.

## **MEETING WITH COUNCILLORS**

BVRG is attempting to organise a meeting with Lewisham Councillors to discuss their planned policy in respect of The Licensing Act 2003 (proposed 24hour licensing). We will keep you updated on this.

## **CUBAN FIRE - WEDS 30TH JUNE 7.30PM BLACKHEATH HALLS**

This is a concert / social event being jointly promoted by the Blackheath Society, the Greenwich Society and Trinity College of Music. The music is said to demand musicians with the stamina of Olympic athletes and was described by one music critic as "earth-shattering and fantastic". It forms part of Trinity's Latin American Season. After the performance in the Great Hall, there will be a free reception (sponsored by Kumala Wines) upstairs in the Recital Room. By special arrangement, tickets for the reception have been made available to BVRG members and some were distributed at the meeting on 18 May. A number remain and anyone interested should contact Frank Smith on 8852 6390 or [frankarthursmith@aol.com](mailto:frankarthursmith@aol.com) Please note reception tickets are only valid with a purchased ticket for the concert at £8 per person (concessions £6).

Please do continue to email us with any info you think may be useful including ideas for future events or issues concerning the village. Your input's always valued and we can circulate new ideas in our monthly updates.

Best wishes to you all and have a lovely summer!

**BVRG**

***Blackheath Village Residents' Group***

**020 8355 6701**

**[bvrgroup@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:bvrgroup@tiscali.co.uk)**