



blackheath  
village  
residents  
group

## FEBRUARY 2005 UPDATE

Dear Neighbours,

Hope you have had a good start so far to 2005. Please find our latest update attached - do note our BVRG 1st Birthday Party is now booked for Saturday March 12th. Tickets are selling fast!

### **BVRG 1ST BIRTHDAY PARTY!**

We've now been going for a full year and definitely feel it's something to celebrate so we are having a party on **Saturday 12th March 2005** at The Old Bakehouse, Bennett Park. It will be a buffet with wine on arrival (more wine can be bought at a reasonable price later on in the evening) and a great opportunity for people to come along and mingle with friends and neighbours. There will also be a raffle with some fantastic prizes on offer from local retailers, the proceeds of which will be split equally between BVRG and Breakthrough Breast Cancer. Tickets are £10 per person - we are limited on numbers at The Bakehouse so they are being sold on a first come, first served basis. Please order yours well in advance to avoid disappointment.

Cheques or cash need to be sent to Blackheath Village Residents' Group Limited, c/o 8 Southvale Road, Blackheath, London SE3 0TP and we will post or deliver your tickets to your address. Alternatively, you can email us at [bvrgroup@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:bvrgroup@tiscali.co.uk) or call on the BVRG tel. number 020 8355 6701 and we can organise delivery and payment for you.

It should be a lovely night out so please do come if you're free. We always felt strongly that BVRG should help strengthen our village community here as well as being an information network so we are all looking forward to our first event!

### **STEERING GROUP UPDATE AND ACTIVITY**

We have had some recent changes to the BVRG steering group. We'd like to thank Sarah Greer, our Chair, who is standing down from this role having worked tremendously hard for the last 12 months to launch BVRG. Sarah will still be on the Steering Group, working on licensing issues. We'd like to welcome our new Chair, Nick Sales, who will hold this post for the next 12 months. We have also created a new role of Deputy Chair - this position is filled by Richard Senior. Sarah, Nick and Richard will all be at the party next month if you would like to meet them. All other posts remain as before.

In the last month, steering group members have attended a variety of meetings including the drop in session for the proposed telecoms mast on Tranquil Vale and the Blackheath Joint Working Party meeting last week. We will keep you updated on developments.

### **NEW ACTION GROUP SET UP**

A new action group has been set up in Blackheath to campaign against the increase of telecoms masts in the area and the potential health risks. They are called BAAR - Blackheath Action Against Radiation and their web site is [www.baar.org.uk](http://www.baar.org.uk)

They are separate group from BVRG, but we are keen to work with them if possible on these really important issues. We will keep you informed of upcoming meetings re. masts. The next one is about another proposed telecoms mast on The Clarendon on Wednesday 16th February 4-7pm at St Michaels and All Angels Church Hall on Pond Road. All are invited to attend.

We think it is important for local groups to work together and are already working closely with The Blackheath Society and Blackheath Village Traders Association. If you are keen to join The Blackheath Society, their contact details are Chapman House, 10 Blackheath Village, London SE3 9LE Tel: 020 8297 1937 Email: [blackheath.soc@lineone.net](mailto:blackheath.soc@lineone.net)

## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

These are being taken down on Sunday 20th Febrary 2005. If you're keen to help, please meet between 8 and 8.30am outside The Crown. If you can get there later on in the morning, your help will still be gratefully received!

## HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

We thought it may be helpful to give our members information about how to report or make a complaint about anti-social behaviour. Having attended several meetings with councillors, council officials and the police, one key issue has come up - **we have to report the behaviour each time we are disturbed. They can only take action if they have evidence.**

The London Borough of Lewisham is actively monitoring reports of anti-social behaviour as part of its policy setting exercise for the introduction of the new licensing laws so it is vital that we represent ourselves and achieve the Blackheath Village that we want to continue to live in!

There are a several ways to log incidents:

1. Lewisham Borough Council's Community Safety Unit (CSU) have offered to be a "clearing house" for all anti-social behaviour evidence in the area, whether it occurs in the Lewisham or Greenwich parts of Blackheath Village.

Log your reports via the Lewisham website, using the address:

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/CommunitySafety/form.asp>

2. If you prefer to use paper rather than the Internet, Lewisham CSU can provide diary sheets to record times, dates, and descriptions of incidents which can then be sent back to the CSU. Diary sheets can be obtained from Anna Daley (who provides support to the CSU) on 8314 9489. Steve Harrison, the CSU Team Manager, advises: "...if people can link the incident to a particular premises (even if drinkers have by this point left) then I believe that information would be useful..."

The diary sheets are not mandatory: you can keep your own records of incidents and send them to the CSU, so long as you capture the following information:

- date/time/location
- who was involved (if known), descriptions if not known
- what happened
- any other witnesses (names and addresses)
- did other witnesses note and report the incident
- have you reported the incident to e.g. police, social services, ...
- how has it affected you
- a signed, dated note that says: "I believe that the information I have given above is a true description of what I saw and/or heard"

BVRG can collect diary sheets or notes from you, for collation and forwarding to the CSU.

Please contact us by email or telephone.

3. Alternatively, call the local police - this may mean leaving a message on an answering machine at busy times, but please don't be dissuaded - all calls are logged! The local station numbers are: 020 8690 1212 (Lewisham) 020 8855 1212 (Greenwich). **Please remember that if immediate police attendance is required, you should always dial 999.**

### **Blackheath Village Residents' Group Limited**

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