



IRVINE ROAD AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

# newsletter

Your voice in the local community

APRIL 2021

<http://www.irara.org.uk>

IF YOU ARE NOT  
ALREADY A MEMBER,  
JOIN IRARA NOW!

## 27th June: The Street Sale returns

The ever popular street sale is set to return on 27th June starting at 11 am. Just put out a table in front of your house, place all those things that you have found during your Covid clear-out and start selling.

This has always been a very popular event for both child and adults and, assuming the restrictions continue to lift, provides a good safe opportunity to meet and catch-up with your neighbours and the rest of the community. Weather permitting, we also plan to open the Community Orchard for those of you who want to stroll round and hear more about what is planned. Keep an eye out for updates about the Street Sale via the email circulars, facebook page and noticeboard.

### New lease of life for community orchard

With all the houses now complete and occupied, a significant milestone is approaching as we prepare to take on the 50 year lease for the Community Orchard.

As well as gearing up to make the most of this fantastic local resource, we will also now begin fund raising to secure the Orchard's long-term future through a 999 year lease. It has always been our goal to look after this place in perpetuity (or as close as we can get) and we need to raise £45k to do so.

If you have any experience of fund raising or have some ideas and energy to help us or have potential contacts that may be willing to support us, please do get in contact at [info@irara.org.uk](mailto:info@irara.org.uk).

The developer, Lexden Restorations, has recently agreed to fund an interpretative sign that we aim to "open" on the day of the Street Sale.

### Lamp post renovations.

You may remember that we launched our initiative to restore the Area's heritage lamp posts in the October 2020 newsletter. Since that time we have secured all that is needed to begin – permissions from the Council, advice and equipment from the Civic Society and the residents of Roman & Castle Roads who have already led the way. We plan to get this underway fairly soon with a trial restoration of a couple of lamp posts. All we need is for the weather to warm up. If you have already volunteered to help, then "thank you" – Helen will be in touch. If you would like to add your name please email [info@irara.org.uk](mailto:info@irara.org.uk)

It goes without saying that this has been a difficult year for many and the IRARA Committee wanted to thank all of you who have helped out, providing support to our neighbours in this most trying of years.

Without wishing to take anything for granted, we hope that we have a more familiar year ahead and we look forward to progressing many of the activities described below and more. As ever, if you want to get involved please do drop us a line at [info@irara.org.uk](mailto:info@irara.org.uk)



*The new development is now almost complete. Time to start on the orchard.*



*Our local lamp posts are now in urgent need of a facelift.*



This newsletter is delivered to all residents within the Irvine Road Area. If you do not wish to receive it, please contact IRARA at [info@irara.org.uk](mailto:info@irara.org.uk).

Irvine Road Area Residents' Association is a non-political organisation. It acts independently of any political party and is not affiliated to any other body which has as its objectives the advancement of any political interest

## We need your help with communications

Some of you will have seen that the Old Sweet Shop is for sale which means that Bernadette and Simon Grinham are moving. We will miss them both and IRARA will miss Simon's work on the Committee – not least organising our email circulars and Facebook page. We need someone with those sorts of skills to help us with our communications. If you might be interested please drop us a line.

## Roads re-surfacing

We have continued to liaise with Sue Lissimore, our County Councillor, providing her with evidence of the poor state of the roads in the Area. Sue has recently confirmed that the re-surfacing of roads in the Area has been included in the programme for 2022. We will keep you updated if this changes or when dates are known.



Resurfacing will cause parking disruption, but it will be worth it!

### Membership:

Annual Membership of Irvine Road Area Residents' Association (IRARA) is just £3.00 per household and is open to anyone living in Athelstan Road, Audley Road, Capel Road, Irvine Road and adjacent parts of Maldon Road and Shrub End Road. You can join by:

- by sending your subscription electronically to:

**The Royal Bank of Scotland,  
Irvine Road Area Residents Association,  
Account no 10052878,  
Sort Code 16-16-31**

and let us know you have paid by emailing [info@irara.org.uk](mailto:info@irara.org.uk) or:

- Fill in the form below and put it (*or a handwritten note*) with the money through the door of **30 Irvine Road c/o IRARA Treasurer**

[www.facebook.com/IrvineRoadAreaResidentsAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/IrvineRoadAreaResidentsAssociation)

## News in brief

**Following our survey** of the remaining street trees, we have pursued our interest in replacing some of the lost trees with the Council and, having met with the new Woodland Officer. We will be seeking their support in getting this initiative underway in the coming year.

**We reported previously** on the proposed sports hall located on the Grammar School playing fields. We have recently heard from the School that their bid for funding was unsuccessful. They have committed to let us know of any future bids.

**Some of you will have noticed** the old photographs on the notice board. If you have any old photos of the "IRARA" area and roads that you are willing to share please could you email them to [info@irara.org.uk](mailto:info@irara.org.uk). If you don't have a digital copy, contact us and we can make copies for you.

**Thanks to all who joined in** the Weeds & Leaves and recent Spring Clean Weekends. We are aware that the council uses a highly toxic weed killer on our streets if weeds are present. By clearing the weeds ourselves, this prevents the council from spraying the weedkiller as well as making our roads much tidier.

**Keep Britain Tidy** is running another Great British Spring Clean from 28 May to 13 June 2021 so feel free to have another go at those weeds (<https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/home>). If you want help with this please email us or drop a note through the door at 17 Irvine Road.

## Current plans for events for the rest of 2021

- **September** – we are considering a possible Street Party (*email [info@irara.org.uk](mailto:info@irara.org.uk) if you are willing to help organise*)
- **October:** litter pick
- **November:** Weeds and Leaves weekend
- **December:** Christmas drinks and social. Thanks to many of you who came out onto the streets to celebrate Christmas with Drinks and Window Displays, and especially to Dave and Vicky at 31 Athelstan Rd who won the Window competition. It was so popular we may decide to run the same event this year. Let us know what you think

## Committee Membership

We are looking for new committee members. It is not an arduous task and involves coming to meetings once a month and getting involved with local projects. If you are interested let one of us know or email us on [info@irara.org.uk](mailto:info@irara.org.uk).

For further information about IRARA, its aims and social activities, visit the website or the Facebook page.

email: [info@irara.org.uk](mailto:info@irara.org.uk) | website: [www.irara.org.uk](http://www.irara.org.uk)



Member of Federation  
of Colchester Residents'  
Associations

## Irvine Road Area Residents' Association Membership application/renewal form 2021/22

Annual membership of IRARA is £3.00 per household and is open to anyone living in Athelstan Road, Audley Road, Capel Road, Irvine Road and adjacent parts of Maldon Road and Shrub End Road. Associate membership is available to individuals resident outside the area who wish to join us.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to receive newsletters via: email  hard copy

I/We wish to apply for membership

I/We wish to renew our membership

Would you be interested in helping with some of the association's activities (for example, leaflet drops, litter clearing etc.) Yes  No

Please fill in this form and post it with your subscription through the door at: 30 Irvine Road c/o IRARA Treasurer