



### **Firstly . .**

It's been a pretty miserable 15 months for many people and we're sure quite a few of us would like nothing better than to snuggle down under the duvet!

But - whatever the weather or the state of the economy, your RA 'soldiers on' with protecting your environment, helping you with your problems and ensuring your interests are properly represented in local affairs.

The RA will always report the truth to you and, sadly, it's a cruel truth that we will all face difficult decisions over the next few years. Everyone is being 'squeezed' and the Council is no different from either you personally, or other councils.

Despite the Council having made £1M savings over the past 5 years, difficult decisions will have to be made. The revenues from planning, building control, property searches, car parking, lettings etc., all have fallen, and these are an important part of the Council's income. However, I am assured that Epsom & Ewell Council will do its utmost to avoid either cuts in services or increases in taxes. So we have to be realistic and not expect more services. Having said that, Epsom & Ewell is better placed to 'weather the storm' than the majority of Councils, and most importantly, the will to do the best by its residents.

*Mark Walter*

**Early Diary Date - CWRA AGM - 28th April 2010**



**CHRISTMAS FLYER**





College Ward Area Rep, **Ruth Sharma**, arranged a meeting between John Robinson, the planning officer dealing with the Tesco application, and concerned residents. Whilst most residents would accept a medium sized Tesco (built without using the car park) they generally feel the current application is too large, and they have deep concerns over the volume of traffic which will be generated, especially in Alexandra and surrounding Roads. We're also very concerned that the '5 ways junction' has not been considered in the highways brief. CWRA's response will reflect the mixed views of College Ward residents. The Planning Committee meets on December 10th.

### Recycling:

You may have wondered why you've been asked to prove your identity when you've visited 'the tip' lately. There's a good reason - it's not a 'job's worth' initiative!

Because residents from outside Surrey (Sutton, Kingston, Merton etc) were coming to Epsom and other Surrey sites to dump their waste, a decision was made that proof of residency should be demanded, thereby saving Surrey residents half a million pounds!

SCC is charged £42 per ton (increasing by £8 per ton each year until it reaches £72 per ton) for landfill waste.



### More Friends!



As you may know, CWRA started off 'The Friends' of local Parks in 1994 and the idea has blossomed throughout the Borough. Well now you could be a 'friend' to Epsom & Walton Downs (FOEWD).

We're very lucky in having the Downs on our doorstep and if you're interested in preserving our heritage and learning about chalk grassland conservation, woodland management and creating woodland habitats why not become involved. All you need to do is contact:

**Downskeper Pete Murray on 01372 732000**

**Email: [contactus@epsom-ewell.gov.uk](mailto:contactus@epsom-ewell.gov.uk).**

### POLICE?

The next meeting will be held at **The Holiday Inn** on the Downs at **7.30pm on Tuesday 1st December**. This is open to anyone and we really would like to see more interest from residents. Attendances have been very poor lately, yet we're sure you have something to say!!!

### Downs Road:

CWRA has been monitoring the 'calming' scheme because you are concerned at the removal of the mini roundabout.

We've been in contact with the Police about excessive speeds at the Treadwell/ Downs Rd junction (Ashley Road too!) and Sgt Fruen has said they will conduct speed enforcement.

We've liaised with individual residents for feedback and recently, in the 'teeth of a gale', six of our intrepid 'trawler team', together with County Cllr Chris Frost, knocked on every door of Downs and surrounding roads, to assess residents' views, 'face to face'.

We showed you where SCC had taken speed readings in 7 different locations, all of which

had recorded a reduction. It may be the perception amongst some residents, that speeds have increased, but this is not borne out by the evidence.

Speaking of trawls, in addition to leafletting and arranging a meeting with the Council's planning officer, we also trawled Alexandra Road to gain a further insight into your views on the Tesco application.

**Those darned potholes!** - We're just as fed up with them as you are so maybe a reminder to Surrey County Council (whose responsibility roads and footpaths are) will galvanise them into action. We can but hope!

Take a 'look see' at [www.epsomtowntownpage.co.uk/potholes](http://www.epsomtowntownpage.co.uk/potholes) and add your favourite pothole pic!



### Local Committee (comprises SCC & E & E Cllrs) Meeting Dates

<b>Thursday 17th Dec. 2009</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Christ Church Hall</b>
<b>Monday 8th March 2010</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Ewell Court House</b>

This is the place to be if you have any concerns, mainly highway issues etc.  
Contact: County Cllr Chris Frost (details on back page)

