

Kingswood Residents Association, October 2020

KRA Poppy Appeal

The KRA has remained very busy over the past three months despite some ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, and many of our members have continued to support positive initiatives that have either benefitted Kingswood directly or other worthwhile causes.

One such cause is the Royal British Legion (RBL), which has always relied on Remembrance Day collections nationally as a major source of income for its outstanding work with those serving in our armed forces, both past and present. This year, the Kingswood Residents Association (KRA) put out an appeal to help raise money for this most deserving charity by displaying over **150 giant poppies in our local area**, on the A217, trees on the Tadworth Roundabout and the Village parade. Many generous-spirited, local residents and businesses contributed to the campaign by purchasing the poppies and hand-made poppy masks, which has made a significant contribution to RBL fund-raising in this most difficult year. Over **£1600** was raised by KRA.

We extend a very big THANK YOU to those who contributed to the success of the campaign:-

- KRA team of volunteers; who helped install all the poppies on lampposts and trees.
- Janine Connick for her high quality, hand-made poppy masks, which were a complete sell-out!
- Cllr Caroline Neame for liaising with RBL and neighbouring RAs to ensure co-ordination of this stunning display of poppies on the A 217 from the M25 to Banstead. *She commented "The Kingswood section is a worthy and stunning tribute to the men and women of our forces from the amazing generosity of the Kingswood residents and businesses. The Surrey RBL want to use the success of the A217, for regional and possibly national coverage"*
- Tadworth and Walton RA for the poppies on the Tadworth roundabout lampposts
- Last but not least – we are grateful to all Donors for their generosity, and they have recognition in the Kingswood Village website.





Tree Planting Project

KRA has applied to Reigate and Banstead Borough Council for local funding for a Tree Planting Project 2020. Over recent years we have been working to improve the Village Parade grass bank area, including a general tidy-up and the planting of hundreds of daffodils. This year we have embarked on a further project to regenerate the entrance to Kingswood Village on Waterhouse Lane. This area, bordering the fields and footpath, once formed an attractive walkway into the village. However, it has become neglected, with very old hawthorn trees (*Crataegus*), which have become invaded by ivy and brambles. During the past few years, trees have fallen onto the road and have had to be felled by SCC for safety reasons. The stumps of the felled trees were left 1m high for health and safety reasons, but they are unsightly.

Our plan is to regenerate and enhance the entrance to the village by re-establishing a tree-lined approach, planting 12 new trees (mixture of acers, hawthorn and cherry) to replace diseased hawthorn trees, whilst trying to save as many of the healthy hawthorn trees as possible, by removing the ivy. We will have more news on this in the next edition.

IVG Retirement Village update

There was great interest shown by residents in the IVG Presentation on the Retirement Village hosted by the KRA in July, with almost 100 members signing-up for the live “virtual” event and more than 580 watching the recording subsequently on the KRA YouTube channel.

The KRA working group has now agreed with L&G the Legal Covenant to ensure the open space land on the L&G site is protected from future development “in perpetuity”. This Covenant is included in the Deed of Transfer of the land from L&G to IVG, and all the residents between Waterhouse Lane and the Site will be beneficiaries of this Covenant.

Full Planning Permission has now been granted for the Retirement Village and the Section 106 Agreement has been signed between IVG and RBBC. IVG will carry out enabling works between now and spring next year when the construction is due to commence, starting with L&G House as Phase 1. On behalf of Kingswood residents, the KRA will continue to liaise with IVG throughout the construction period so, if you wish to raise any matter, please contact us at:-

kingswoodviewsonlmg@gmail.com

Valerie Evans
KRA, Chair

