

PRIORY COURT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (PCRA)

It's been another busy year for the Priory Court Residents' Association and since the time of my last report, the good work established by the committee has continued. The Association now has 152 members representing 92 homes. Significant events since my report last year are as follows:

- The arrival of Covid-19 in early 2020 has dominated the early part of the year. The committee was very aware of the potential vulnerability of many at Priory Court so moved quickly to establish several volunteers willing to help others for essential shopping, collection of medicines etc. This has worked well. To date although a few on the Court have self-isolated, no one has required hospitalisation and all who self-isolated have made full recoveries. The clubhouse stayed open for as long as it could but closed when the government issued instructions for closing of all such buildings. The Court residents are extremely fortunate to live within Priory Park and many enjoy a walk round the Park as recommended by the government.
- The saga of keeping the lane in reasonable condition continues with IBC due to carry out a further inspection in mid-May.
- The PCRA is grateful to NPC for agreeing to purchase a new notice board.
- Communications between NPC/CC and residents at Priory Court need to be regularised to ensure all at Priory Court are kept up to date on Parish matters.
- Each year, residents are asked to suggest what improvements to the Court they would like to see and following receipt of several suggestions, the committee elected to proceed with the purchase of a "Village Sign." Funding for this was provided by East Suffolk Council's Enabling Communities Budget Scheme and it is hoped the sign will be in place by the end of May. Thanks go to Councillors Melissa Allen and Richard Kerry for their help in this matter.
- Sue Ryder, a resident on the Court, has volunteered to join the Community Council thereby providing an important link with Nacton Village and its community.
- Peter Hallows, a resident on the Court, put himself forward as a councillor in the recent elections but was pipped at the post in a close vote.
- Ros Eaton was once more returned as a councillor with the largest single vote.
- In September 2019, the PCRA organised the annual McMillan Coffee morning and raised £1,384 for the St Elizabeth's Hospice- a year on year increase once again. In addition, one of the Court residents "Braved the Shave" and raised £740.00. This year's date for your diaries is Friday 25 September, so please do come along and support such a good cause.
- "Carols at the Club" was held once more on Christmas Eve lunchtime, the nominated charity for 2019 was Suffolk Mind and £179.50 was raised for this local charity.

The PCRA's social activities have grown and the coffee mornings with guest speakers continue to prove popular. The arrival of Covid-19 impacted adversely on the social programme with all events cancelled in March, April and May. It remains to be seen when the social programme can recommence, but the following dates remain in the diary.

- **Thursday 30 July**-Glyn Jones is the local representative of MAF, the world's largest humanitarian airline. MAF flies into jungles, mountains, swamps and deserts to bring medical relief and life-transforming help to the world's most isolated people.
- **Thursday 27 August**-We welcome Pip Wright, a well-known local speaker who will deliver one of his many talks-final details to be provided closer to the time.
- **Thursday 29 October**-Gareth Brenland is co-founder of Tiffers-The Ipswich Bus Shelter project that provides shelter and support for the homeless in Ipswich, Bury and surrounding towns. Gareth has a fascinating story to tell as to how he had the original idea for helping the homeless and how it has now developed to a successful project.
- **Thursday 26 November**- Andy Malcolm from the Fisherman's Mission will join us to tell us the work the Mission carries out on behalf of fishermen and families in this most dangerous occupation. Feedback from talks Andy has given to other local groups has been excellent.

All coffee mornings start with teas and coffees at 1000 and are usually over by 1130/1200

The PCRA is happy for parishioners of Nacton to come along and join us-the entry fee is £3 pp to include teas, coffees and biscuits.

Many other social activities continue.

In summary, the PCRA is extremely active on many fronts as the committee responds to requests from its members.

Allan Sugg-Chairman 16/4/20