

DADRA

December 2025

DRYSDALE & DISTRICT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Welcome to our winter newsletter which contains local news and events in the lead up to Christmas and beyond.

For more ongoing information please do also visit our social media pages on Facebook (fb.me/dadra.org.uk) and Instagram (dadra.org.uk), and our new **website dadra.org.uk** which is now updated regularly with details of local events, and articles relating to the Chingford area, such as the new **Brambly Hedge trail** around Connaught Water, and the unveiling of the new **Chingford sign** on the green at the top of Station Road.

Thank you to all who attended our **AGM in September**, where we shared updates on our activities over the year. We welcomed guests **PC Ricardo Gloria, Kelly Summers** on behalf of our local councillors, and three members of CRA the Chingford Residents Association. After the official business, there was an opportunity to chat with our guests, committee members and neighbours over a glass of wine and nibbles.

Of particular concern this year was the **proposed expansion of the school**. Not the planned rebuild itself, but the potential increase in traffic along the streets near the school and forest edge that would be generated by the reduction in staff parking and continued school expansion. Traffic and parking at drop-off and pick-up times is already an on-going problem for local residents and DADRA has made a submission to the consultation asking that this issue be taken into consideration and continue to support local residents with the current traffic issues.

Sadly there were **no new volunteers to join the committee** at this years **AGM** and a low turnout from our younger community members. We know how busy life can be, so we will aim to allow remote attendance to next years event. Our committee is run solely by volunteers, so **do let us know if you can help out**, whether you'd like to join us for a 90min online meeting every 2 months, or just help out with social media and website updates or delivering newsletters when you can - all help gratefully received.

There are lots of wonderful **local festive events this December** - we've listed many overleaf and will add new ones as we hear about them to our Facebook, Instagram and website.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year from your DADRA Committee.



The new Chingford sign and Christmas tree

Please keep in touch:

Email: DADRAcommittee@gmail.com
Telephone/SMS: Peter - 07753 181535
Facebook: fb.me/dadra.org.uk
Instagram: dadra.org.uk
Website: www.dadra.org.uk

DADRA dates for your diary:

DADRA Friday Club Christmas Party:
19th December. 2pm-4pm @Scout Hall

DADRA Friday Club: 5th & 19th December,
2nd, 16th & 30th January, 13th & 27th February,
13th & 27th March. 2pm-4pm @Scout Hall

DADRA Walks: 10th & 24th December, 7th & 22nd
January, 4th & 18th February, 4th & 18th March.
Meet 11am usually at the top of Epping Way

Friday Social Club

Come and join us **every other Friday 2-4pm** in the **Scout Hall** at the top of Hawkwood Crescent for a chat with your neighbours over tea, coffee and biscuits. We also offer quizzes, arts, crafts, board games, and book swaps in a friendly, sociable atmosphere where all are very welcome.

This year our **Christmas Party** is on **Friday 19th December** from **2-4pm**. Raise a toast to the season with mulled wine and mince pies, plus there will be Christmas music, crackers, a Christmas Quiz, Secret Santa, and a prize for the best Christmas jumper.

Regular **dates for 2026** can be found overleaf.



Wednesday Walks

Enjoy the changing seasons on our local walks **every other Wednesday** morning from **11am**, usually starting at the top of Epping Way. Upcoming **dates** can be found overleaf. **Register your interest at DADRAWalk@btinternet.com** and check your email as the starting point may change to accommodate weather or walking conditions, as well as special outings or events.



10th Chingford Scout Group Events

The Scouts have two community fundraising events planned for the coming months. On Saturday **6th December** there will be a **Christmas Fair - 2-5pm** with crafts, tea, coffee, warm fruit punch, mince pies, music, a tombola raffle and lots more.

On **January 31st** there will be a **Hoi Bingo** event - contact titch85931@hotmail.com for more info.



North Chingford Library - Regular Events

The library hosts many weekly events, these are just a few and are great regular events.

- Monday:** **11:30-2:30pm** Knitting Club
 5-7pm Yoga Course - contact katherineyoga@hotmail.com for info.
- Tuesday:** **3:30-4:30pm** Kids Crafts
- Wednesday:** **9:45-11:15am** Community Drop-in - for advice support and information
 1-2pm Adult Mindful Colouring
 4-5pm Kids Construction Club (book)
- Thursdays:** **3:30-4:30pm** Kids Crafts

All these events are free and the library is a lovely warm space to spend a couple of hours. Do pop in or look online on Eventbrite to find out more.

Keeping Safe and Secure this Christmas

Unfortunately, there have been **reports of burglary and car break-ins** in our area, and we know these can peak around the holidays. As we approach Christmas, ensure your **house and car are secure**, and be careful to keep new goods and presents out of sight, as thieves are always on the lookout.

Make sure you fold boxes from high-end goods into your green bins rather than leaving them by the side or on top. Please use **lights on timer** and **activate security lights, cameras and alarms** where possible.



Make it Happen 2026 - Grant

Grant applications are open for Make it Happen 2026 which focuses on **projects led by people aged 18-25**. **Have you got an idea for a local event** that we can help with the application for? Just get in touch - we'd love to support you.

Local festive events:

There are lots of events lined up this December. More details and events can be found on our Facebook, Instagram and website.

6th Dec: **10th Chingford Scouts Christmas Fair - 2-5pm** @ Scout Hall Hawkwood Cres. Crafts, drinks, mince pies, music & more.

CLIC Christmas Concert - 2:30pm
@ United Reformed Church - £15

Fauré Requiem & Vivaldi Gloria S.W. Essex Choir - 6:30pm
@ Chingford Parish Church - £16

7th Dec: **Highams Park Christmas Fayre - 11am-5pm** Food market @ HP Station Car Park. Craft market and music @ Signal Walk outside Tesco. Carols at 4pm

7th /14th / 21st Dec: **6:30pm** @ Chingford Parish Church.

13th Dec: **Play & Connect Festive Celebration - 11am-2pm** @ North Chingford Library Family crafts, games and more.

16th Dec: **Hanukkah Craft - 3:30-4:30pm**
@ North Chingford Library.

18th Dec: **Yardley School Winter Fair - 3:30-5pm** @ Yardley School Activities, food, drinks & visit from Santa.

20th Dec: **Love Chingford Christmas Market - 11am-5pm** @ Assembly Hall. Gifts, food, entertainment and Santa's Grotto. Raising funds for The Dream Factory.