

DADRA

April 2026

DRYSDALE & DISTRICT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Welcome to our spring newsletter as the days lengthen and blossom erupts against beautiful blue skies.

With Easter and the long bank holiday weekend just around the corner there's an **Egg-venture fun day** at Gillwell Park and **Kids Easter Party** at the Royal Oak to look forward to – or why not come and join our **Community Litter Pick** on 12th April. Further ahead we're planning our **Summer Get-Together** on 5th July, and **DADRA AGM** on 16th of September - so get the dates in your diary and let us know if you'd like to help out.

Recently our committee members have met with both the **local police** and **fire services** and you'll find more details overleaf. Our engagement as a community with these services is key, whether **checking our home fire safety** or **reporting any crime (or attempt)** with as much detail as possible (online/101).

For up-to-date information between newsletters please do visit our social media pages on Facebook (fb.me/dadra.org.uk) and Instagram (dadra.org.uk), and **website dadra.org.uk** which is updated regularly including the latest details about our events, photographs of our activities and the surrounding area as well as a **new 'Local news' page**.

Take care - we hope to meet you at one of our events very soon!



Beautiful blossom in the sunshine on Drysdale Avenue



Snake's head fritillaries in Hawkwood Nature Reserve

DADRA dates for your diary:

Community Litter Pick: Sunday 12th April
Meet 10am @ Drysdale Pk. & 2pm @ Scout Hall

Summer Get-Together: Sunday 5th July
2-5pm @ Scout Hall

DADRA AGM: 16th September
7:30pm @ Scout Hall and Online (Details TBC)

DADRA Friday Club: 27th March, 10th & 24th April,
8th & 22nd May, 5th & 19th June. 2pm @ Scout Hall

DADRA Walks: 1st, 15th & 29th April, 13th & 27th May,
10th & 24th June. 11am - Meeting point by email.

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

Other local events:

There are lots of local events lined up. Find more details on our Instagram, Facebook and website.

29th March: CRA Social Club - Acorn Films - 1:30pm
@ N.Chingford Library - Community Room

29th March: Highams Park Farmers Market
10am-2pm @ Station Approach, E4 9LA

4th April: Kids Easter Party - 3-5pm
@ The Royal Oak, E4 7PP - £15 per child

6th April: Egg-venture Fun Day - 10am-4pm
@ Gilwell Park, E4 7QW

25th April: Mexican Night - 7pm-late
@ The Connaught Club, E4 7QH
Food, entertainment and dance lessons

26th April: Organiclea Open Day - 12-4pm
Site tours, coffee, cake and more

7th May: Local Election Polling - 7am-10pm
@ Scout Hall, E4 7UH

Police - Engagement and Support

The police station **public access counter has now closed**, but the Safer Neighbourhoods Team are doing their best to provide points for community engagement with **street briefings**, **drop-in surgeries** and **door-to-door calls** - you can find the latest details by signing up at www.metengage.co.uk or using the 'Meetings and events' tab at www.met.police.uk/area/

Residents and members of the committee met with the SNT at recent **street briefings** and the **Chingford Ward Panel**. Concerns were raised regarding attempted car break-ins and theft and open drug dealing. Our officers committed to escalating and addressing these issues but expressed the **importance of reporting every crime (or attempt)** to help them establish details and patterns and secure police resourcing for patrols. You can **report online or call 101**.

While the closure of the front desk is upsetting and disappointing, there will be a **larger active force** at the station allowing **faster response**.



Home Fire Safety Checks

We recently met with the London Fire Brigade area commander who expressed the importance of fire safety at home - you can check your safety at www.london-fire.gov.uk/home-fire-safety-checker/ or book a free **Home Fire Safety Visit** online or by calling **0800 028 4428**.



Yardley School - Planning Permission Granted

Planning permission has been granted to demolish and replace the current canteen with a **part 2 storey, part 3 storey building** housing a new kitchen, dining hall and multiple classrooms. **Conditions have been included in the approval** - we will update you when these are published.



CRA Sunday Social Club

Chingford Residents Association are hosting a Sunday Social every **second Sunday at 1:30pm** in the **Community Room** at North Chingford Library. Activities so far have included games for the whole family, quizzes, local history talks and crafts. There will be a **tribute to Dave Piggott of Acorn Films** on **29th March** and Brian Oakaby will be hosting a **William Morris talk** soon (date TBC).

All sessions are free and light refreshments will be provided - why not come along.

Community Litter Pick - 12th April

We'll be hosting our first litter pick of the year. Our regular volunteers are aged 4-88yrs so all are welcome! We'll provide what equipment we can, but if you have litter pickers or gloves, please do bring them along. We'll have **2 sessions** meeting at **Drysdale Park at 10am** and then **2pm at the Scout Hall**. Please join us to lend a hand!



Hawkwood Nature Reserve - Summer Hours

Opening hours will soon extend for Summer, opening from **7:30am until 8pm**. If you already enjoy visiting our lovely nature reserve, perhaps you would like to **join the volunteers** for their regular tidy ups (clearing pathways, cutting back overhanging vegetation, mowing the grass, etc). Please register your interest by emailing FoHNR@mikeandlesley.co.uk for updates.



Wednesday Walks

Enjoy the changing seasons on our local walks **every other Wednesday** morning from **11am**. Upcoming **dates** can be found overleaf. **Register at our new email DADRAwalk@gmail.com** for updates **as starting points change** to accommodate conditions and special outings.



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.

Regular **dates for 2026** can be found overleaf - put these dates in your diary and we'll look forward to seeing you very soon.



DADRA WhatsApp Community

Would you find it helpful to have a **WhatsApp community** specific to DADRA allowing you to communicate with the committee and community to raise interests, concerns or ideas? If so join us at <https://chat.whatsapp.com/Gje1039ABfDlnWVZQv8EXJ> and let us know what you want to be included.

We hope it will be a useful forum to share DADRA events and key communications for the local area between our quarterly newsletters - let us know!