



TDRA NEWSLETTER

TDRA Annual General Meeting

By Zoom on Wednesday 19th May 2021 at 7.30 pm. Please visit our website to find link to invite.

This meeting will cover the two financial years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021. Members of the Association for whom we hold a current e-mail address will receive an e-mail invitation in early May 2021. The Agenda; Previous Minutes; Accounts, and Committee Reports will be available on the website tdra.org.uk by 10th May. At the AGM, our guest speaker, Dr. Neil Pillai of Ivy Court Surgery will give a short presentation of the developments at Ivy Court.

A message from the TDRA Chairman

2020 was a year that few of us will choose to remember. It was a year of great upheaval to normal routines and for many people much sadness at the loss of friends and loved ones. I think most of us have probably spent the year having very few people to visit us in our homes and missing our usual holidays. It was a great solace to be able to walk in the countryside in the fine weather in the Spring – and we in Tenterden are blessed with a wide range of footpaths and beautiful countryside.

For TDRA our normal publication and distribution of Newsletters and “The Resident” was unable to go ahead as it would have been unsafe (and against Government guidelines) to have our distributors going from house to house making deliveries. As a consequence we were unable to collect annual donations “on the doorstep”. We were also unable to hold our Annual General Meeting in May and subsequently could not host our usual Coffee Morning in October/November.

But the Committee has not been completely idle! We have continued to participate in the Neighbourhood Planning initiative, comment on planning applications and follow up on requests from members for our support for example seeking improved parking provision for a disabled care home resident. Members of the committee have also continued to be active in the promotion of a cinema for Tenterden.

One of the biggest changes during the Covid-19 lockdown period has been the use of Zoom software for meetings between community groups, friends, families and in business. For those with internet access, Zoom has transformed social lives and reduced feelings of isolation.

As we move forward in 2021, even with vaccinations against Covid-19 being administered to those over the age of 70 by mid-February, once again we do not expect to be able to hold our AGM at a physical venue. Accordingly, the 2021 AGM will be held virtually using Zoom. Details of the date and time are given separately in this Newsletter and will be posted on our TDRA

website (www.tdra.org.uk). Invitations will be sent out by email to all members for whom we hold an email address, otherwise please check the website for further details.

As we further embrace the electronic age, this Newsletter is being despatched electronically by email to all members for whom we hold an email address. For those members without access to email a paper copy will be sent by 2nd class post. Please note that in future, house to house distribution of Newsletters will no longer take place and communication will be by means of email and our website only. We want to have as many e-mail contacts as possible. To advise a new e-mail address or check our records, please contact our Treasurer at howard.burnside@btinternet.com, who maintains the lists.

I would like to say a big “Thank You” to our team of dedicated distributors some of whom have delivered to members on their “rounds” over many years. We cannot give you all a hug but our thanks are no less heartfelt!

Finally, let us all hope that 2021 is a happier year for everyone. Wear a mask, wash your hands, keep a safe distance, have a vaccine or two in place of, or as well as, a glass of wine and keep healthy.

Alan Bates, Chairman

Donations

If you are not already making donations by Standing Order, the ways to contribute (the suggested donation remains £5.00 per annum) are to set up a new Standing Order, (the form can be downloaded from the website or is available from the Treasurer) donate by cash or cheque to TDRA c/o Nigel Webb at Webb’s Hardware Shop, or make an online payment to TDRA at NatWest Tenterden (Sort Code 60-21-20, account number 59087145). Please ensure your name is clearly shown with any payment. With many thanks for your co-operation.

Howard Burnside, Treasurer

Update on the Tenterden Neighbourhood Plan



Photography by Jeremy D'Arts

The Neighbourhood Area designation (for the whole parish) The Tenterden Neighbourhood Plan (TNP) Steering Committee and volunteer working groups have continued to work on the Tenterden Neighbourhood Plan throughout the present challenges. We have gathered a huge amount of evidence on Local Green Spaces; Biodiversity; Landscape; Routeways; Local Economy and Heritage, including Sport and Recreation Spaces in support of the Plan.

We have also presented our preliminary work to the Tenterden Town Council Planning Committee and the full Town Council. A copy of the presentation can be found on the TNP website under 'Past Events':

Tenterdenneighbourhoodplan.org

Our aim is to present the draft Plan to the Community for comment in Spring 2021, through a six-week consultation period. This is a statutory requirement called Regulation 14. It requires us to make our best efforts to consult the community and to receive, log and consider the comments received.

In order to reach as many residents as possible, we are intending to utilise a wide range of media from traditional leaflet drops to alerts on the website and social media forums. There will be a questionnaire for individuals to complete and submit to the Committee. Each comment will be logged and considered.

After the consultation period further work will be involved as we move towards a final draft of the Plan and a Public Referendum on whether to adopt the Plan.

I do hope that you will remain as involved and committed to this project as we are, we appreciate all your support so far! This will be a fantastic legacy and will aim to protect our precious green spaces and the unique characteristics that make the Town so special.

Siggi Nepp, Chairman
Tenterden Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee

Exciting plans for Nature Recovery in Tenterden

The bad news as we're all aware is that we face a worldwide ecological crisis. Recent surveys suggest that wildlife populations globally have declined by more than 50% in the past half-century. As many as a million plant and animal species are now threatened by extinction; with our own supposedly green and pleasant land identified as one of the most nature-depleted on the planet.

The good news is that, if we're quick there is still time to reverse the decline.



Cranesbill by Jon Burnell



Buzzard by Don Clarke

In Tenterden, as part of our evolving Neighbourhood Plan a number of green spaces in the town and its vicinity are to be offered statutory protection; with members of its biodiversity group now working with the Kent Wildlife Trust on a separate local Action Plan to implement the nature recovery initiatives included in the Government's new Environment Bill.

Priority habitats and protected species in the parish have already been identified in line with the Kent Nature Partnership's 25-year strategy for ecological restoration. In a funded scheme to offer opportunities for landowners, town gardeners and resident groups to become involved, trees and hedgerows, wildflower meadows, ponds and watercourses will be protected and restored; a network of green 'wildlife corridors' established through the parish and across the county.

In favourable conditions the natural world's capacity to regenerate can be phenomenal. This local Nature Recovery Action Plan will offer all of us the chance to help it do so.

Richard Masefield

Join Us

Contact Mike Lyons at www.tdra.org.uk