



# Newsletter

Spring 2025

[www.nevillresidentsassociation.org](http://www.nevillresidentsassociation.org)

Chair: Suzy Nelson

Treasurer: Kia Makepeace

Secretary: Lesley Healey

Editor: Carole Kirby

*This is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nevill Residents Association. Over the years it has been able to make improvements to the estate which residents now take for granted. Obtaining a children's play area was one of its first projects. Since the last newsletter was produced the consultants have almost completed their traffic survey of Nevill Road. The committee is looking into ways of clearing snow. With money donated from the Festive Fair they are going to hold a party for all the residents on Sunday 18 May, 7 pm St Mary's Hall Highdown Road. The AGM will be held an hour before the party, at 6pm, for residents to bring any issues they wish to raise about the estate.*

## Report from the NRA Open meeting held on 10 February 2025

### Financial report from Kia Makepeace

The association has a balance of £3000. £2000 is a grant toward the traffic survey of Nevill Road. £375 was a contribution from the Festive Fair in November 2024, some of which will go towards a social event in May. Some of the reserve will have to be spent on refilling the two grit bins owned by NRA, which is very expensive.

### The current NRA committee needs support.

Suzy Nelson - Chair  
Lesley Healey - Secretary  
Kia Makepeace - Treasurer  
Robert Massey  
Mike Fisk  
Carole Kirby  
Vicki Trenhaile

The Chair and the Treasurer will be stepping down at the AGM in May. So, if the committee is to continue it will need some new members. Please think about volunteering. It does not take a lot of time, but helps to make improvements to the estate.

Some residents have already volunteered to support specific projects. The committee is grateful to Malcolm Young for taking on the NRA website. A couple of people have volunteered to become defibrillator 'guardians'.

But, more people are needed to join the 'Speedwatch' team on Nevill Road who are trying to slow the traffic. It is only for one hour a month.

*Please let the committee know in advance of the AGM if you would like to become a committee member, or help in other ways.  
(e-mail: [lesleyhealey267@gmail.com](mailto:lesleyhealey267@gmail.com))*

### Snow and Ice

The sudden snow in the beginning of January highlighted the problems suffered by residents in such difficult weather conditions. The 128 crashed into a wall in Firlie Crescent during the

snowstorm. This was exacerbated by the lack of gritting by the council especially not prioritizing the bus route. Despite continued pleas over the years to the council, they will not make any changes. To try and help matters a WhatsApp group called 'Nevill Snow Angels' has been set up. So far, fifteen people have joined; offering to help vulnerable neighbours by clearing snow using NRA snow shovels. The cost of refilling the two grit bins that the association owns is being looked into; whether to buy our own bags of salt or rely on the council's expensive suppliers.



### Nevill Bus Service

There are concerns about careless parking on the bus route around the estate as, when the buses cannot get past, passengers wait in vain with no information about what is happening. To resolve this, please could residents check that visitors or tradesmen leave enough space for the bus to get through. Pulling in mirrors would help.

To try and solve this problem councillors are looking into increasing double yellow lines. It was agreed that there should be better communication with Compass buses about the problems that arise with the service as it is subsidised by the council.

Cllr Wendy Marples said that money was available for a limited number of bus shelters in Lewes. It was agreed the only suitable place for a bus shelter on Nevill would be by the shops. Any plan to install a shelter should only go ahead after people living nearby are consulted. Parking restrictions on the road by the bus stop were suggested to stop cars blocking the bus stop so it does not have to park in the middle of the road.

### **Nevill Garden Trail 2025**

Planning has started for the Nevill Garden Trail, a biennial event much enjoyed by residents. Ten gardens have volunteered so far to be part of the trail, half of them newcomers to the event. It will take place on Sunday 13th July, between 2 – 5pm. There will be tea and cakes served in a couple of gardens as well as plant sales. The proceeds will go to a charity as yet to be decided. For further information contact:  
[vickitrenhaile@fastmail.fm](mailto:vickitrenhaile@fastmail.fm)  
[lynn.donaghue@gmail.com](mailto:lynn.donaghue@gmail.com)

### **Pedestrian and traffic Safety**

NRA has secured a grant from the Town Council for consultants to look at pedestrian and cycling safety on Nevill Road. A small group of residents has been liaising with the consultants. The report is near finalisation, and they have been asked to prioritise the most important areas to be improved. Top of the list will be the junction at the southern end of Nevill Crescent. Concern was raised at the meeting about speeding cars entering the 30 mph limit north of Nevill Road by the entrance to the motor road. This was also being considered by the consultants.

### **Weeding our estate avoids glyphosate!**

Last year, our estate was first in Lewes to stop the County Council spraying the poison glyphosate along our streets by weeding our own pavements. This becomes easier over the season as fewer plants get a 'foothold'. We start again on 16<sup>th</sup> March and there will be three or four sessions through the growing season, each session usually lasting only an hour or so. Please watch out for dates and join in if you're able. Weeding just the pavement outside your house is a great contribution. Even better if you can join the weeding party in your street! Watch out for dates on the Nevill Community WhatsApp, your local WhatsApp group, or flyers. There is usually cake! For further information contact Nick Tigg 07990877007.

### **Announcements**

Cllr Imogen Makepeace reminded everyone that there was a consultation on the Southdowns National Park local plan. Deadline for comments on 17 March 2025. [www.southdowns.gov.uk/local-plan-review](http://www.southdowns.gov.uk/local-plan-review).

There will be a Flood Conference 31 October and 1 November, sponsored by the Town Council and organised with Love Our Ouse. This is to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the last Lewes Flood.

### **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party and NRA AGM 18 May 2025**

*All residents are invited to a party at St Mary's Church Hall on Sunday 18 May 2025 at 7.00pm, to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NRA. There will be drinks and food. At 6pm, before the party begins NRA will hold its AGM. This is very important as we need to vote new members to the committee to replace the treasurer and chair.*

### **Retrofit Forum**

Following on from the publication of the Nevill Home Retrofit Guide, there is now a Lewes Retrofit Forum meeting every six weeks at the Climate Hub or nearby. The next one is on 24th April at 7.30pm at the Lewes Arms. Anyone is welcome, householders and tradespeople. The Forum aims to promote retrofit and provide networking to share experience and build the local supply chain. Nevill 2030 still exists as a WhatsApp group, and could become active again in future. For climate and nature activities, visit the Climate Hub on School Hill, Wednesday to Saturday 11am to 3pm.  
Email: [info@lewesclimatehub.org](mailto:info@lewesclimatehub.org)

### **Nevill Good Neighbours**

For those not familiar with the Nevill Good Neighbours Scheme (NGN), they are a free DBS checked volunteer service providing assistance to residents of the Nevill estate requiring one-off or regular support with a variety of jobs and 'helps', including

- Providing company by phone or in person.
- Lifts to the shops or medical appointments.
- Small household jobs.
- Collecting shopping or prescriptions.
- Help with computers or paperwork.
- Putting out bins.
- Letter writing or form filling.

All services are free, they do however ask for neighbours to pay volunteers their petrol costs (50p per mile or parking charges). Although many of their 'regulars' are elderly or vulnerable neighbours who live on their own they support residents of any age or ability, whatever their circumstances. **Contact details** 07548 069 063 - if they don't reply immediately, please leave a message and they will return your call later that day. Their phone is regularly checked by their team of experienced phone-holders.  
[nevillgoodneighbours@gmail.com](mailto:nevillgoodneighbours@gmail.com)  
[nevillgoodneighbours.org](http://nevillgoodneighbours.org)

**The Next NRA Meeting and Party for all residents  
Sunday 18 May 6pm** St Mary's Church Hall, Highdown Road  
Followed by 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party 7pm

### **Contact details:**

Suzy Nelson 07941 159463  
[chairnevill.residents@gmail.com](mailto:chairnevill.residents@gmail.com).