

The Meriden View

Meriden Residents Association, Meriden Community Hub,

149 York Way, Watford, WD25 9UF

Tel: 07541 167309

Website: www.meridenra.org

Facebook Group: www.facebook.com/groups/meridenra

Chairman: Steve Moss - stephen.moss@meridenra.org

Secretary: Marion Strawhorne - marion.strawhorne@meridenra.org

Treasurer: Kon Hanson - kon.hanson@meridenra.org



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on:

Tuesday 7th May 2019

7:30pm—9:00pm

At the **Meriden Community Centre**

Doors open at **7pm**, free refreshments will be provided.

Agenda:

- Chair's and Treasurer's Reports
- Watford Community Housing Update—Kelly Privitera (WCH)
- Meriden Development Update—Ruche Peng (WCH) and Danny O'Reilly (Mulalley)
- Official voting in of committee members for the next year
- Any Other Business
- Raffle

Please consider if you would like to become a committee member as we really need more people to join us. We are sure many of you have skills that you could use to help serve your local community. If you would like to find out more, please contact us.

If you would like to nominate yourself or another person to be a committee member please email marion.strawhorne@meridenra.org or call **01923 468992** by Friday 3rd May. New and returning committee members will be voted in at the AGM. The positions being voted for are Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary and Committee Members.

If you have any questions or other items you would like discussed or raised under any other business, please send them in advance to the email above.

A raffle will take place for Meriden Residents who attend the meeting with the prize being a £50 Intu voucher.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY MAY 7

MRA Annual General Meeting

7:30pm to 9pm
Meriden Community Centre
Refreshments served from 7pm

SATURDAY AUGUST 3

Coach Trip to Southend

See overleaf for details
Contact Vanessa to book:
07541 167309
vanessa.kerswill@meridenra.org

TUESDAY OCTOBER 8

MRA Open Meeting

7:30pm to 9pm
Meriden Community Centre
Refreshments served from 7pm

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7

Children's Christmas Party & Tea and Mince Pies

2pm to 4:30pm
Meriden Community Centre

EVERY FRIDAY

Coffee Morning

9:30am to 12 noon
Meriden Community Hub

FUTURE EVENTS

Keep an eye on the community noticeboards, local shop windows, doctor's surgery and Meriden Community Centre or call 01923 468992 to be kept in touch with future events.

Day Trip to Southend-on-Sea Saturday 3rd August 2019

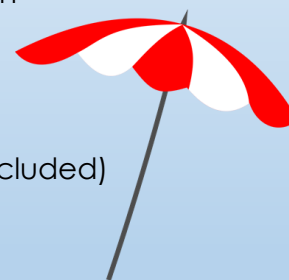


£10 per adult
£8 per senior citizen, student or carer
£5 per child (0 - 14 years)
includes entry to Sealife Adventure

All bookings must be made by Friday 19th July 2019



To book or for more information, please contact Vanessa on
07541 167309 or email vanessa.kerswill@meridenra.org
Your booking is not secure until payment is received



Optional extra: entrance to Adventure Island (coach ticket not included)

£17.60 per person – Blue band for anyone over 1.2mⓈ
£13.75 per person – Green band for anyone 1m-1.2mⓈ*
£11.00 per person – Red band for anyone under 1mⓈ*

Ⓢ This is the group booking price, saving up to 50% on the day price. Please note at least 20 people going on the trip will need to choose this option to enable the MRA to make the group booking.

*Adults can accompany children under 1.2m on rides without purchasing a wristband

CO-OP FUNDING

The Co-op has selected the Meriden Residents Association (MRA) to be one of their local causes. All money raised will subsidise our coach trips. This is where we need your help to raise as much as possible.

What you need to do:

1. Purchase a Co-op membership card for £1 from the Co-op.
2. Phone the number on the back of the card **0800 023 4708** or complete the online form at www.coop.co.uk/membership
3. Advise them that you would like to select the Meriden Residents Association as your chosen cause.
Job done! It's that easy!

Every time you use your Co-op membership card and purchase a **Co-op branded product**, **1%** will be put into the fund for the MRA and **5%** will be credited to your Co-op membership account for you to spend on anything in the store. You can spend it at any time or save it up and put it towards a treat for yourself! Funds can be raised by shopping at the following Co-op locations:

- Meriden Co-op
- Abbotswood Park Co-op
- Kingswood Co-op Funeralcare



**Choose us as your
Co-op local cause**
Go online coop.co.uk/membership



MRA EASTER COMMUNITY EVENT / GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN

Thank you for all those of you that came to join our litter pick at Meriden park on Saturday 13th April. This was part of the Keep Britain Tidy campaign "Great British Spring Clean". There were about 27 of us which was more than double the number we had last year. We had both adults and children and great fun was had by all, one youngster asked if we could do it again next week! We collected lots of bags for recycling as well as general waste. It was great to do our bit to keep the Meriden looking nice and we hope more people will join us for the next one.



At the end of the litter pick, we joined the Random Café at the Meriden Community Centre (MCC). Random Café meets on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of every month from 1pm to 3pm at the MCC. Do put these dates in your diary and come along for Saturday lunch, which we can highly recommend.

Random Café is a pop up café and part of The Real Junk Food Project. They use food donated by food establishments that would otherwise be thrown away for a variety of reasons. The food is turned into tasty snacks and meals and anything that can't be used on the day goes on the food boutique table for you to shop. All items are available on a pay as you feel basis.

On the day of the event, Random Café had made a delicious vegetable chilli and the bread pudding made with chocolate croissants was to die for.

After lunch, the MRA held an Easter Bonnet and Hat competition and the four winners won a cuddly bunny or a lamb along with an Easter egg.

Everyone was invited to take home an Easter egg at the end of the day as a gift from the MRA.

There was a great community atmosphere and we would love to join with Random Cafe again.



THE LIVING ROOM

The Living Room, an established charity helping those with addiction, have opened a new Watford centre operating out of the Meriden Community Hub each week from Monday to Thursday. Their vision is a future where people are able to live their lives free from addiction.

They host daytime group therapy for all addictions, including dependence on drugs such as opiates, nicotine, alcohol etc, but also a range of obsessive and compulsive behaviours. They also run a support group for families and carers.

To book an appointment please call **0300 365 0304**.

For more information, please visit their website: www.livingroomherts.org



MERIDEN DEVELOPMENT

Ruche Peng is Watford Community Housing's new Senior Project Manager for the Meriden development; he replaces Mary Robinson. Come along to the MRA AGM on Tuesday 7th May to meet Ruche and to hear the latest update on the development.

WATFORD COMMUNITY HOUSING AGM, DROP IN SESSIONS & MRA FUNDING

Watford Community Housing are holding their AGM on Monday 9th September; times and venue to be confirmed. There may be issues that need to be voted on and in order to have voting rights, you need to be a full member. We have forms at the Meriden Community Hub or you can apply online at www.wcht.org.uk/page/membership

Some of the funding that the MRA receive from Watford Community Housing depends on how many Meriden residents have taken up membership. You can become a full member if you are a WCH tenant/lease holder or an associate member if you are a home owner. The MRA receives funding for each person that signs up. Any funding we receive is used for the benefit of our residents so please consider becoming a member today.

WCH will be holding monthly drop in sessions at the Meriden Community Centre, where you can meet your neighbourhood officers. Any anti-social behaviour issues, repairs or other concerns can be reported. The next session will be on Wednesday 8th May 10am to 12 noon. Future dates will be advertised by WCH.

SAD FAREWELL TO JOHN AND KATH

In the past few months, two faithful and longstanding MRA committee members have sadly passed away.

John Dooley passed away on Friday 8th March. John had served on the MRA as Deputy Chair for about ten years. After he resigned, he kindly continued to volunteer at the Meriden Community Hub at our Friday coffee mornings where he helped residents with issues that they had by liaising with WCH. He was very kind and would always find time to talk to people and many benefited from him visiting them in hospital. John will be missed very much by all his friends from The Badger and around the Meriden.



Kath Harvey passed away on Wednesday 20th March. Kath had been on the MRA committee for many years. In December 2018 Kath was nominated for the WCH Community Hero Award for being a longstanding member of the MRA and for working on many different events doing crafts with children; working with children is what she loved best. Kath was a lovely person and had a very kind and caring heart and always found time for people. Kath did not hesitate to help anyone and was well known on the Meriden. Kath will be greatly missed by all her friends and family.