

2020 – a bad year – glad it's gone! We hope for better for 2021 and are planning a few things.

Easter Egg Hunt - Easter Sunday - or if wet, Easter Monday (4th and 5th April)

This will take place outside and in family groups. A trail will be laid around our residents assn area – from Budleigh Close in the north to St Thomas's Sq and Chalmers Rd in the south. And, of course, there will be prizes – mostly Easter eggs but there will be alternative prizes for those for whom chocolate is not appropriate. Please fill in the participation form below and return it by 28th March – it gives us some idea how many prizes to buy! It doesn't commit you but it gives us the address to deliver your instructions.

Competitions - Sunflower

One of our winners last year told us she has saved seed for this year's competition – so we thought we had better run it again. This is an early warning, as seeds can be sown indoors now. There will be prizes for tallest, largest head and most heads on a plant – and separate competitions for children and adults. It will cheer up the neighbourhood if these are grown in front gardens – but that is not obligatory.

Saving the Planet - there will be prizes!

A further chance to send in your climate and money saving tips. We'll publish all the responses to spread the word. Just send your ideas to birdwoodara@gmail.com or post through 52 Birdwood Rd with an address and phone number – for your prize to be delivered! For further ideas, ask for a copy of Glyn's 'Little Things' booklet at 52 Birdwood Rd

Also We've put in an application for a grant to help pay for a coach trip in the autumn and hope to host another wine tasting when restrictions allow.

Past events

To make the best of a bad time we were keen to support St Thomas's Sq with its window advent calendar. They were joyful – so here are a few for you to savour as we move into Spring:



You can view the images on our website

Easter Egg Hunt
Please detach and return to 52
Birdwood Rd or email us at
birdwoodara@gmail.com or use the
form on www.baracambridge.org by
28th March

Family Name

Address

Chocolate Yes/No

Number of children taking part

Voting and how to vote safely

There are elections on 6th May for Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, Police and Crime Commissioner and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Mayor. If you do not want to vote in person, you can get a postal vote or appoint a proxy to vote for you. The City Council officers would like you to do this as soon as possible. Here are the details:

Website: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/vote-by-post-or-proxy>

Email: elections@cambridge.gov.uk

Phone: 01223 457048

Write: Electoral Registration Officer, Cambridge City Council, PO Box 700, Cambridge CB1 0JH

Pavements

For the past 5 years, we have been complaining to the County Council about the state of the pavements in Birdwood Rd. Two years ago we were promised that they would be repaired. Nothing has happened. Our new Labour candidate for the County Council is taking this up on our behalf. We have completed a survey of the pavements in Birdwood, Ward, Gray and Chalmers Roads. The County Council will only fill holes if they are more than 2cms deep. In Birdwood Rd alone we have counted 130 holes which qualify.

Birdwood Road and Speeding

Without asking for an opinion from the residents assn, another County Councillor (not ours) has applied to the County Council for funding for speed bumps to be installed in Birdwood Rd. We have said vociferously that we believe a more rounded solution is needed - not just speed bumps - as Birdwood Rd is dangerous. We have suggested chicanes to slow the traffic as bumps cause motorists to brake and revv up again - thus increasing pollution. Chicanes, apparently, are too expensive! If the funding for bumps is forthcoming, we have been informed that residents will be consulted.

Come and join us

We have a committee of nine. In normal times, we meet three or four times a year and are informal and friendly. **We need more people!** We can co-opt more members so if you want to join us, do contact us! birdwoodara@gmail.com or put a note or knock on 52 Birdwood Rd.

Newsletter by email

If you can receive this by email, please do. It is so much easier for us! Just send an email to birdwoodara@gmail.com with your postal address in the subject line.

If you need to contact our local Councillors, here are their details:

County Council, Sandra Crawford Phone: 01223 503061 Email: sandra.crawford@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	City Council, Grace Hadley Phone: 07940 074022 Email: grace4labour@gmail.com
City council, Lewis Herbert Phone: 07748 536153 Email: lewis.herbert@cambridge.gov.uk	City Council, Rosy Moore Mobile: 07709 222026 Email: rosy.moore@cambridge.gov.uk

If you think there is a general problem for the area, do contact us. And if you have ideas for future events or anything to increase neighbourliness, we'd love to hear from you.

Our aims:

to promote neighbourliness and a sense of community and to form a conduit to the City and County councils about issues relating to this area. We cover Birdwood Rd and all roads leading off it. **Email address birdwoodara@gmail.com** This is our preferred contact point but if you would rather you can put a note through the door at 52 Birdwood Rd.