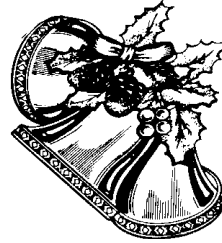




## with Village Conservatives

Village Ward Conservative In Touch team:  
 Robin Crookshank Hilton, Cllr Toby Eckersley and Nick Vineall

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# Best wishes for a merry Christmas a happy New Year from the team

As 2005 draws to a close, we're glad that this year your local Conservatives have been able to take up lots of issues on your behalf. In particular, we're pleased that the Dulwich Community Council, which Toby chairs, has been able to continue its support of the local environment through the Cleaner, Greener, Safer programme.

As a team, we're also looking forward to 2006. We will be continuing to meet as many as possible of you, and look forward to hearing your views on the Dulwich area and the sorts of things you feel the council should be doing to improve the area.

A big thank-you to all our supporters in Village Ward, and an even bigger thank-you to everyone who helps with delivery of our *In Touch* newsletters. If you would like to join the team, please do get in touch with us.

But in the mean time, we wish you an enjoyable and restful festive season, with all good wishes for 2006



*Toby, Robin and Nick – wishing you all the very best for Christmas and New*



*Robin Crookshank Hilton*  
 Robin Crookshank Hilton

*Toby Eckersley*  
 Cllr TOBY ECKERSLEY

*Nick Vineall*  
 Nick Vineall

## Good news for Dulwich Park

**There was good news for Dulwich Park in early November – the council has regained possession of the lodge by the College Road gate.**

“The lodge had been occupied by a former employee for many years”, explains Toby. “Because this had somehow become a secure tenancy, the council had difficulty in getting the lodge back. I was very concerned about this situation, and put a lot of pressure over a long period on council officers and members of the administration to do something about it. I’m very glad that all the work has paid off. This means that the Lodge can become once again a valuable public facility for the restored Dulwich Park that is emerging.”



*Toby, Robin and Nick at the Lodge.*

**Are there any problems in your road that you want to bring to the team’s attention? Call us on 020 8670 0677 or email [dulwichnorwood@tory.org](mailto:dulwichnorwood@tory.org)**



## Our area – your views

The Conservative In Touch team has recently been carrying out surveys in Herne Hill and East Dulwich. We thought you would be interested in the feedback we generated.

### Planning

There was overwhelming support for the Conservatives' desire to have East Dulwich and Herne Hill zoned as "suburban" rather than "urban" as Labour Mayor Ken Livingstone wants – 92% of responses from East Dulwich and a massive 96% from Herne Hill didn't want his plan, which would allow denser housing development in the area. "We're encouraged to see that the Conservative stance opposing urban designation is so widely supported", says Nick. "Let's hope these efforts succeed when the Inspector reports back on the enquiry into the new local plan."



Robin puts recycling into action.

### Refuse collection and recycling

Both refuse collection and recycling were generally well thought of, with 78% of responses from East Dulwich and 81% from Herne Hill thinking ordinary refuse collection was good. Respectively 73% and 64% said the same about recycling. We strongly support the improvements in recycling facilities and we are pleased that so many people are both making use of the blue boxes and newspaper bags and finding the collection service to be better organised.

### Crime

Crime was regarded as a very important matter – we asked people to compare it in terms of importance with local transport and repairs and highways maintenance, and people overwhelmingly said crime was the biggest issue, especially in East Dulwich. "That mirrors what I'm finding talking to people where I live in East Dulwich", says Robin. "There's real concern over crime there, and I'm encouraging the Community Wardens to step up their efforts especially around East Dulwich Grove and the estates, where residents have reported problems."



Nick at the Hospital.

### Dulwich Community Hospital

In East Dulwich, we also asked about the future of the Dulwich Hospital. People generally regarded it as important that some health uses are retained on the site – 81% of people said this was very important. However, many of you were uncertain of the current plans – 56% did not know what they are. Support for these plans was mixed – with people split evenly between supporting them, opposing them and being uncertain.

"People want some health care still on the site", says Nick, "but it's clear the primary care trust needs to do more to inform people of their plans." There is a display in the Hospital that explains the plans – it is open from 8 to 5, but only on weekdays.

## A New Year's

Our last newsletter explained how the new Licensing Act prevents local councillors making objections to licensing applications unless they personally live in "the vicinity" of the premises concerned. Nick has written to Labour MP Tessa Jowell to ask her if she will consider amending the Act to return councillor's powers – but as we go to press there has been no reply. We will keep you updated. Perhaps we could suggest a New Year's resolution for her – to reply promptly to letters!

### Belair Park closing time

**Stop Press:** Following an enquiry from Toby into early closing of the Belair car park, council officers have promised that this winter it will be locked at 4pm rather than earlier as they had been doing.

### Need to talk to the Village Ward Conservative In Touch team?

You can write to Robin, Toby and Nick through the Conservative Association at 495 Norwood Road, SE27 9DJ (tel. 020 8670 0677, fax 020 8766 6064).

You can also write to Toby and your other Conservative councillor David Bradbury through the Town Hall, Peckham Road, London

SE5 8UB. You can e-mail them at: [toby.eckersley@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:toby.eckersley@southwark.gov.uk) and [david.bradbury@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:david.bradbury@southwark.gov.uk)  
If you wish to meet them, please call for an appointment.

Call 020 8670 0677 or e-mail: [dulwichnorwood@tory.org](mailto:dulwichnorwood@tory.org) if you are interested in joining or helping your local