

# IN & AROUND THE TERRACES

Information and news for Residents

Autumn 2021

**Welcome to the RRCTMA Autumn Newsletter** The weather is cooler and the leaves are starting to turn; autumn is approaching. Meanwhile, the new school term is well underway, offices are reopening post-Covid and there is even the prospect of an RRCTMA event - read on to find out more! As always, please feel free to contact the RRCTMA Committee about any local matters at [rrcta@live.co.uk](mailto:rrcta@live.co.uk) We hope you enjoy this newsletter.

## Upcoming Community Cleanup Event

All residents are warmly invited to join us on Saturday 9 October for a long-awaited Community Cleanup. Please meet us at 10am inside the Regent Gardens Main Gate (with kind permission from the Gardens Committee) where we will have gloves, bags and litter-picking devices!

Our last Community Cleanup, scheduled for 28 March 2020, was promptly cancelled when the first lockdown started on 23 March. These events are always good fun, and offer a lovely chance to meet neighbours, so please do join us.

See you at 10am on Saturday 9 October!



## New Fire Regulations - Reminder

**There are now less than six months to go until the new regulations on fire alarms come into effect. Remember that your alarms will need to be linked to each other (by wire or wifi) from February. Some units can be self-installed. Details can be found online: [www.gov.scot/publications/fire-and-smoke-alarms-in-scottish-homes/](http://www.gov.scot/publications/fire-and-smoke-alarms-in-scottish-homes/)**

## Campaigning for Better Bins

The New Town and Broughton Community Council continues to coordinate action for the residents of the 43 local streets set to be impacted by the City Council's unexpected – and completely un-consulted – decision to replace the current regime of gull-proof sacks and kerbside recycling with giant rubbish hubs. The Council wants a cluster of seven bins (requiring 8 metres) to be placed every 100 metres, with frequency of collection as yet

undetermined. Our current system may not be perfect, but we should have the opportunity to discuss and propose alternatives. The earliest the Council will consider a pause to their current plan is late October, meanwhile lobbying of the Council and bodies such as Edinburgh World Heritage and Historic Environment Scotland continues. If you've not done so already, please make your views known: to your councillors, your MSPs, your MPs – and us. Details are available online at [www.ntbcc.org.uk/stop-bins/](http://www.ntbcc.org.uk/stop-bins/)



## Traffic Management for Tram Works

Work on the section of the tram route between London Road and York Place will commence in October and continue until late 2022. Starting over the weekend of 9/10 October the new construction site will be established which will result in the removal of the roundabout at the junction of London Road and Leith Walk. All traffic will initially be required to turn left from London Road and go around the Picardy Place gyratory system including that wanting to travel north on Leith Walk. There will be one running lane maintained for north and southbound traffic on Picardy Place but additional congestion should be expected. We will be monitoring the impact on access to and egress from Blenheim Place once the temporary changes are in place.

## Heritage Guidance: Double Glazing

Terrace residents have had mixed success in recent years with planning applications to replace or upgrade windows. Generally the Council have approved applications with evidence that existing windows are in poor condition and that the new windows will maintain the original design. Drawings by Henry Playfair for the Terraces can be found at the University of Edinburgh Library (viewing conditions apply).

Until recently, applications to install double glazing were refused on heritage grounds, but pressure to improve energy efficiency has resulted in approvals for slim-line units. These units do not achieve the same standards as traditional double glazing though. At present Council guidelines do not allow for the wider gaps but we understand that this has been challenged successfully by home-owners in other parts of the New Town.



Further information on Sash and Case windows is available on Historic Environment Scotland's website. Planning applications, including a recently-approved application from 35 Royal Terrace, can be found on the Council's website.

[www.edinburgh.gov.uk/planningcomments](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/planningcomments)

## Speed Watch Team - call for volunteers

RRCTMA has recently bought a hand-held digital speed monitor. This compact, simple device is ideal for community speed watch groups. We intend to use the device to compile reliable data to support conversations with Police Scotland and City of Edinburgh Council regarding the persistent speeding problem along Royal Terrace.

We are looking for volunteers to help record speeds using the device. Please email [rrcta@live.co.uk](mailto:rrcta@live.co.uk) if you would like to join the Speed Watch Team.

## Have Your Say!

There are two open public consultations that we think residents might be interested in. We encourage all residents to put forward their views on city matters wherever possible so please do have a look at these surveys:

- **Holyrood Park & the Road Network - Closes 30 September**

<https://consultations.historicenvironment.scot/commercial-tourism/holyrood-park/>

- **Short-term Let Control Area - Closes 5 November**

<https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/short-term-let-consultation/>

If you're interested in contributing to further consultations (there were 8 live consultations at the time of writing), you can find out more via the Council's website: <https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk>

## Become a member of the RRCTMA!

The RRCTMA is your local residents' association. We've been working since 1967 to:

- Understand and promote the interests of our residents
- Liaise with heritage bodies about our historic neighbourhood
  - Share information across our community
  - Organise local events to bring us all together



All for just £10 a year!

We want to represent the full spectrum of opinion from the Terraces and Mews - so please join the RRCTMA today. Lend your voice to the discussions.

Download a membership form online at [www.rrctma.com/what-is-the-rrctma](http://www.rrctma.com/what-is-the-rrctma) or email [rrcta@live.com](mailto:rrcta@live.com)