

Recent Successes

Over the past 18 months, residents in the Trefann Court catchment area have worked, as individuals and small groups, towards beautifying and benefiting their corners in the neighbourhood. Some of these recent successes have included:

- The repairs to the damaged sidewalk slabs on Shuter Street
- The annual SuWaDoSh Pot-luck Picnic in the Park
- The huge pothole repair on Sumach Street
- The successful negotiation with the City and Parks and Recreation to change the Bylaw for Stinky's Park
- Graffiti removal from the various businesses along Queen Street East
- A close and direct working relationship with 51 Division has been maintained and enhanced.

Combining these 'small' efforts as a united 'voice' for all of Trefann can only enhance relationships with the City, the Police and most importantly, our neighbours and friends for a better community all around.



Our aim is to increase information sharing and provide a forum for Trefann Court residents to meet each other and discuss issues that affect us. To enable community spirit, neighbourly co-operation and activism in Trefann Court,

our first public meeting will be held on February 28th, 7pm at the Dominion Hotel (500 Queen St. E. at Sumach) - see you there!



Who We Are

The Trefann Court Residents Association is a group consisting of your friends and neighbours. The organizing committee has gotten together to create an organization that will let us all share information, discuss issues

and get to know each other. The Trefann Court Residents Association is an organization that will help us become friends as well as neighbours.

Trefann Court is a special and unique area of downtown Toronto and we all share common issues that may not be reflected in larger residents' associations. The people that live in Trefann Court come from a wide range of backgrounds. Some of us have been here for a relatively short period of time and some of us have been here for generations, but we share the same neighbourhood. We see each other in Stinky's Park, waiting for the streetcar on Queen or at the neighbourhood pub, but we often don't get a chance to speak to discuss the issues we see impacting the neighbourhood.

But it is about more than this. It is about getting to know the people that live around you. By getting to know each other we will form a stronger (and safer) neighbourhood.



Since we moved to Wascana, we have met many of our neighbours. Coming from a small town, I have always found Toronto to be a bit of a challenge in terms of meeting and getting to know our neighbours. There is, however, a sense of community in Trefann Court that I hope will be fostered and grow through the Trefann Court Residents' Association.

Trefann plans to distribute this printed newsletter, and hold a meeting every 3 months. But you can always find the latest neighbourhood information on our website:

www.trefann.org/

Your comments, questions or suggestions are always welcome; contact us at: info@trefann.org

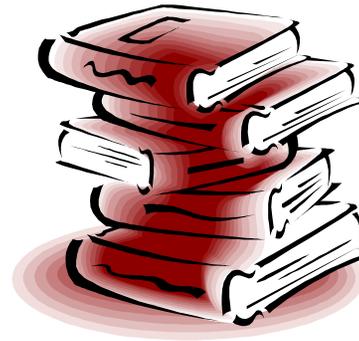


Trefann wants to welcome spring with a Party!

Come mingle with your neighbours socially on March 20. Details are still being finalized; watch your mailboxes for a flyer regarding this event, or check our website in early March for more information.

Trefann History

The Trefann Court Residents Association has a long and colourful history; its founding meeting was August 11, 1966. Earlier in their respective careers, four ex-Toronto mayors helped organize this neighbourhood: David Crombie, John Sewell, June Rowlands and Barbara Hall.



The Trefann Court area is bounded by Queen, Parliament, Shuter and River streets. In 1966, the city wanted to demolish almost all of the existing buildings, and to build public housing in the area from Parliament to Sackville (continuing the Regent Park “urban renewal” area immediately to the north).

On the east part of the site, from Sackville to River, the city would permit industrial buildings. (Industrial use for this area was suggested by a private developer, who in 1957 constructed the large warehouse at 90 Sumach for the CBC, who used it for 30 years as prop storage, construction and rehearsal space.)

But the Trefann Court residents urged the city that their homes not be expropriated, that they be allowed to have significant involvement in replanning their community, and that an alternative to public housing be found. This was the genesis of citizen participation in planning, which now happens in all Toronto neighbourhoods. During the past 30 years, additional 2-3 storey housing has been built to strengthen the stable low-rise residential character of Trefann Court: on Sydenham Street, Wascana, and most recently, the south-west corner of Shuter + River.

The history of Trefann Court makes for interesting reading. Gordon Fraser’s 1972 book: “Fighting Back; Urban Renewal in Trefann Court” (300 pages) is available from the library. John Sewell has also written extensively about Trefann Court, including an entry in a summary of downtown neighbourhoods published in 2000 - see <http://tinyurl.com/3dkdag>.