



# Westcombe NEWS

DIAMOND  
JUBILEE EDITION

Est. 1973 Free to 3800 homes, and in libraries & some shops July/August 2012 Issue 6

A community newspaper commended by the London Forum of Amenity and Civic Societies

Monthly newspaper of The Westcombe Society: fostering a sense of community

## Celebrating 60 years of service

### Lighting the Jubilee Beacon



A small number of people gathered on the heath to witness the lighting of the Jubilee Beacon – one of 4000 plus Beacons around the UK and the Commonwealth. It was lit by Allen Gilham MRICS at 10.00 pm on Monday 4th June to celebrate the Jubilee and to commemorate the Home Guard Blackheath Anti-aircraft rocket Gunners of WW II. The Beacon chain was used to warn of approaching invaders from the 15th to the 18th Century eg the Spanish Armada in 1588.



The official emblem for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee is the winning design following a national competition for children aged 6 to 14. It was drawn by 10-year-old Katherine Dewar, from Chester.

Monday 4th June saw 260 or so local residents join together to celebrate the diamond jubilee on Westcombe Park Road.

Thanks to Jess McGann a street party, fun for all, was organised with a DJ, Sumo wrestling suits and a Bouncy Castle. Partygoers described the event as 'a truly memorable event' and 'a wonderful chance to meet new neighbours'.

After a great success it has been suggested that we should have a street party every summer! It was lovely to see everybody out in such high spirits and the street decorated in red, white and blue.

Many thanks to all those who made it all such fun.



ABOVE: Two surprise visitors making their traditional appearance on a balcony.

BELOW: Good health, your Maj!



ABOVE, & LEFT: The Westcombe Society threw a Jubilee party for Senior Citizens inside Mycenae House. BELOW: Meanwhile, a family garden party to celebrate the Jubilee took place in the grounds.



The Queen once said "I have to be seen to be believed." In that case, the million people who turned out to cheer her at the Royal Pageant on the Thames must have made her even more believable.

"Unbelievable" more readily comes to the mind of most of her loyal subjects, as they consider their luck in having such a monarch. Though not so, according to the small group of anti-monarchists who staged a protest at City Hall. "Don't Jubilee've it!" said one placard. Graham Smith, of the protest group *Republic*, declared "We shall win this campaign!"

"No, you bloody won't!" was the retort of one woman, clad in red, white and blue, as she passed by. And such was the overwhelming sentiment of the vast crowds that turned out. Not forgetting those stalwarts who demonstrated their loyalty by paddling or rowing the course, for hours, over five miles, much of it in the rain.



Greenwich celebrated the Jubilee Pageant with the biggest street party in the country at the Old Royal Naval College. Here, the Salsa-Reggae group Batala drummed and danced as though they were in Rio.



ABOVE: Jan Barnett cuts the Jubilee Cake. But many [RIGHT] just relaxed (while the Dads took over?)

In the garden there were stalls, cream teas, a BBQ, Punch & Judy, the Second Chance Choir, and the South London Jazz Orchestra. Oh, and Face Painting & Cake Cutting, too!



### << NEWS BRIEFS >>

#### Got a ticket for the Olympics?

The Olympic and Paralympic Games run from 27th July to 9th September. LOCOG reminds us: "If you are coming to a sports event or ceremony, please bring as little as possible with you. You'll need to go through security checks when you arrive at a venue, and the more you bring, the longer it will take to go through security. There are strict rules on what can be brought into venues. In most cases you can bring one soft-sided bag into venues – it should fit under your seat or in your lap."

**Locals take to the sky**  
The good news is that you will

soon be able to fly across the Thames on the UK's first Cable Car. The trip, lasting 5 minutes, costs £3.20 for adults, and £1.60 for children. The bad news? You can also walk across the dome, for a mere £22.00. A bit steep, you might think ....

#### Olympics Live Sites

Lewisham will have a 7.6m x 4.8m screen showing live BBC coverage of the London 2012 Games. It will be located on Blackheath from 27th July to 12th August. There will also be a beautifully decorative, mirrored Spiegeltent, which will offer food, a bar and entertainment.

Big screens are also on show at the ORNC, and General Gordon Square in Woolwich.

#### THE OLYMPIC TORCH

The street-by-street route the London 2012 Olympic torch relay will take has been set out - and it comes right through Westcombe Park.

On July 21st, at about 8.15 am, on its way from Greenwich to Woolwich, it goes from Trafalgar Road to Woolwich Road, and then turns right into Combedale Road. It then goes up Westcombe Hill, into Charlton Road and then back to Stratheden Road and Shooters Hill Road.

### Westcombe Society

Members' Party Sat 22nd September  
Invitations will be sent out in August



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## WESTCOMBE NEWS

### ALL EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

**Neville Grant**, The Editor  
westcombenews@yahoo.co.uk  
Tel. 0208 858 8489

### ALL MATERIAL TO BE SENT TO: WestcombeNews@yahoo.co.uk

**Deadline for the September issue:** 15th August

**News Editor:** Geoff Garvey

**Environment Editor:** Sarah Winterbottom

**Reporters:** Denise Scott-McDonald,  
Paul Carter

### ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

**Dick Allard** All queries and comments to: 020 8858 7305  
The Planning and environment sub-committee: westpes@gmail.com  
<http://westcombe.gold.ac.uk>

### DISTRIBUTION

**Myles Dove & Barbara Henley**  
**Jean-Jacques and Maureen Aune**  
Volunteer distributors please phone 8853 3740, we need your help!

### ADVERTISING MANAGER

**Marilyn Little**, 163 Westcombe Hill, SE3 7DP 020 8853 1312  
(email: [marilyn.little@btinternet.com](mailto:marilyn.little@btinternet.com))

All advertisements payable in advance by cheque to **The Westcombe Society**. **Costs:**  
**DISPLAY:** Single column 6cm x 6cm:  
One - four issues £35, five-plus issues £30 each. Other sizes: please inquire.  
**Classified Ads** (Market Place) charged at 30p per word (A telephone number = one word. Any email/web address = 3 words.)  
Deadline for all adverts is 10th day of the preceding month

**Printed by: Trojan Press**

**Contact the Westcombe Society:**  
[WestcombeNews@egroups.com](mailto:WestcombeNews@egroups.com)  
**Publisher:** The Westcombe Society  
**Chairman:** Marilyn Little Tel. 8853 1312

*The views expressed in the Westcombe News are not necessarily those of the Westcombe Society or of the Editor.*

Back-numbers (in colour) can be accessed on:

<http://westcombe.gold.ac.uk/westnews.html>

Westcombe Society's Blog:

<http://westcombe.blogspot.com>

### WESTCOMBE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Please send this membership form to:  
**Mrs Margaret Ellis, 4 Ingleside Grove**  
**London SE3 7PH**

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Tel.....

Email: .....

Please enclose payment as appropriate:

Family Membership	£12	[ ]
Individual Membership	£8	[ ]
Senior Citizens/unwaged	£4	[ ]



The Blackheath Society celebrated its 75th anniversary this year with a grand Family Picnic on the Heath on Midsummer Day, Sunday June 24th.

The picnic included

Punch and Judy shows, donkey rides, jugglers and a roving accordion player.

During the afternoon, Lewisham's mayor Sir Steve Bullock and Heidi Alexander MP opened the Hub on the Heath in the presence of Howard Shields, chair of the Blackheath Society. The new circular granite hub, which is the meeting point of four paths in the centre of the Heath commemorates the 75th anniversary of the Blackheath Society.



PHOTO:  
Roger Marshall

## Well done, Westcombe!

In a message to all those who helped out at June's Jubilee Garden and Tea parties, Marilyn Little, Chair of the Westcombe Society, writes:

*"I wanted you to know how much I (on behalf of the society) valued the time and effort put into making our Jubilee events in June so successful and, more importantly, enjoyable.*

*You contributed to a most amazing day and all thanks to you for making it possible.*

*Without volunteers like yourselves, where would we be! Such a lot of hard work was put in and the result was a never-to-be forgotten experience that was definitely Red, White and Blue.*

*It was very much appreciated by all who attended the event, and ... at least it didn't rain!*

*The wind was challenging to say the least, but that did not stop the festivities one jot.*

*You helped to give the community a day to remember. Thank you!"*

*Letters of appreciation for the Senior Citizens' party came from Vera Dawkins, and Jean and Alan Apps.*

## Thank you, John Roan!

A big BIG thank you to John Roan School from Riding for the Disabled!

John Roan's Librarian Tracey Brown and the year 7 & 8 pupils chose the "Walk For Tom" to use as their subject focus in their Literacy lessons with Tracey.

Not only did this raise awareness with the pupils about the Riding for The Disabled Association, this also sparked the pupils' enthusiasm to go on to raise £174.84 in memory of Tom for Charlton

Park Riding for the Disabled.

They made posters and gave up their breaks and lunchtimes to collect donations, and Tracey and some of the pupils also signed up to take part in the walk this year. Charlton Park RDA really appreciated these amazing efforts!

Those who didn't get to take part in the walk may still like to support RDA with a donation. Go to this just giving page:

<http://www.justgiving.com/walkfortom>

## Protecting the Heath Maggie Gravelle & Barbara Morris

Much loved and used by local people, Blackheath is a historic heathland about 100 hectares in size and one of London's most famous open spaces. The A2 to Dover runs across Blackheath and responsibility for the Heath is split, with the London Borough of Lewisham looking after the Heath to the south of the A2 and the Royal Borough of Greenwich the north.

The Blackheath Joint Working Party (the BJWP) was set up to bring together all those with an interest and a point of view on how Blackheath is used and run. The group includes representatives from both Lewisham and Greenwich Councils, Glendale (which is the company appointed to manage Lewisham's side of the Heath), and members of local amenity societies and residents' groups.

The BJWP aims to ensure a balance is kept between the Heath's everyday role as an informal open space integrated in a residential area, much valued for its quietness and its ecology; and as a site for a few large, high profile events each year, which have so far been community events or

inclusive sporting events which fund-raise for charity.

A major concern for the BJWP is the physical impact of large events which bring with them thousands of people. Apart from problems of noise and litter, the sheer footfall at this type of event inevitably causes damage to both plants and grass and even erosion of the Heath's fragile soil surface.

The Westcombe Society, through the BJWP, contributed to the Blackheath Events Policy which outlines a standard approach to events management on both sides of the Heath and which was adopted by both Councils at the end of 2011.

The Westcombe Society has also asked the Councils to rationalise their approach to handling complaints, ideally with a single, well-publicised number to call.

One number will help with a proper evaluation of complaints which then feeds into decisions made about the shape and frequency of future events.

For example, if no complaints are received about noise, the future level of

## The Halls' Community Opera

The Community Opera mounted by Blackheath Halls has become a regular feature of music lovers' diaries in South east London. For the sixth summer in a row, Blackheath Halls is presenting its popular community opera - this year, it's Massenet's charming opera *Cinderella*.

Members of the community perform alongside professionals, local school children, dancers and musicians from Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in this exciting and vibrant production.

The event has an amazing reputation among opera-lovers. In her round-up of 2011's opera productions in the UK, Anna Picard wrote 'In Blackheath Halls, a hyperlocal Eugene Onegin has more spirit and soul than Deborah Warner's New York-bound ENO co-production.'

This year's show opens on 17th July. Don't miss it! See What's On page 5.

## Japanese Peace Boat

People were startled when a group of Japanese drummers and dancers began to perform beside the *Cutty Sark* one Thursday evening in June. The performers came from the Japanese Peace Boat which is sailing round the world promoting peace, human rights, equal and sustainable development and respect for the environment. The boat was invited to visit by Greenwich and Lewisham CND.

The drummers and dancers were accompanied by two Nagasaki survivors, now in their seventies. Their message was simple: "Never Again!"

permitted noise may be raised.

Lewisham Council, however, proposes a different phone number for each major event so that callers can speak directly to the on-site organiser.

It's a busy schedule for the Heath in 2012 and if you have a view on what type of events should or should not take place on Blackheath, or if you have experienced nuisance from events, please email the Westcombe Society's Planning & Environment Subcommittee ([westpes@gmail.com](mailto:westpes@gmail.com)) and make your views known.

**Complaints about smaller events (e.g. fairs and circuses) can be made directly to Glendale on 020 8318 3986 (south of the A2) or (north of the A2) Greenwich Council's Parks and Open Spaces Team on 020 8921 6885.**

## Is this you?

Are you a graphic, web or digital designer, a film maker or illustrator who is working from home.

Who would like to free up some space at home, missing like minded souls, would like to work in a fun and creative environment and wants to share ideas and maybe help on future projects.

We are a growing creative hub in Greenwich with desk space for fellow creatives.

Call 020 8269 2990 for more info and a chat.

## Sue Whimster

Curtains & soft furnishings  
made to order  
Wide range of fabrics  
available  
Free estimates

Phone: 0208 293 0737

Mob. 07714 215 713

Unit 10, Gateway Business Centre,

Tom Cribb Road, SE28 0EZ

[www.suewhimster.com](http://www.suewhimster.com)

[Info@suewhimster.com](mailto:Info@suewhimster.com)

## Letters

Letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the *WN* or the Westcombe Society, and may be edited for reasons of space.

**From: Cllr Alex Grant (Lab) Blackheath & Westcombe Ward**

I was sorry to read in your June issue that the *WN* thinks that "current proposals on parking (during the Olympics) are not looking good".

It certainly has taken longer than hoped for the council to reach agreement with the Olympic organisers over the details of parking and transport plans during the games.

However, there is now a parking plan that means that all residents within one-and-a half miles of the park will have parking controls during the Games at no extra cost to them, to prevent spectators from clogging up local roads.

Areas that already have controlled parking will see hours extended, and in areas with free parking, temporary controls are being put in.

You can order Olympic parking permits, and visitor permits, by going to [www.2012games-parkingpermits.com](http://www.2012games-parkingpermits.com) or calling 0300 111 1212. If you encounter any problems the council has set up an Olympic Helpline, 020 8921 1212.

On another matter, your story in the same issue about the opening of "the new wing" at Thomas Tallis suggested that the school has only been extended. It has in fact been completely rebuilt. The old buildings on Kidbrooke Park Road have already all been pulled down.

**From: A local resident**

I should like to thank the very kind person who found a bag of mine that fell from my car on Westcombe Hill, and handed it in to the police, thus restoring one's faith in human nature.

**JAMES REMOVALS**  
.com

- Fully trained uniformed staff
- Full insurance included in ALL quotes
- Prompt free estimates
- On-site containerised storage
- Discounts for long-term storage
- Well-established family business
- Pianos - our forte

Call  
**0800 0157775**  
for a free survey or visit  
[jamesremovals.com](http://jamesremovals.com)  
to request a quotation online



## BHSG Maths Challenge Success

Pupils at Blackheath High School achieved 3 Gold, 11 Silver and 13 Bronze certificates in this year's UK Mathematics Trust Junior Maths Challenge. Over 240,000 pupils from across the UK sat the Junior Maths Challenge with roughly the top 6% receiving a Gold certificate, 13% a Silver and 21% a Bronze.

Blackheath High Junior School had won a place in the Jaguar Cars Maths in Motion™ Challenge (JCMIM) National Final, beating off stiff competition from 1,000 schools across the country!

To get to the final, the children School children aged 9-16 had to set up a virtual racing car to compete on a circuit against



Gold Certificate winners: Rei-Lin Tran, Maya Gunn de Marcos and Mirali Patel.

other schools, using all their mathematical expertise to accurately measure the length of the track, the angles of the bends and consider other factors such as fuel load, tyres and speeds. The data was entered into computer simulation software, and all the challengers eventually raced against each other.

Less than 1% were invited to take part in the final stage. Sue O'Hanlon, Head of Maths, said "The girls have done well in the Junior Maths Challenge this year with 22% being awarded a certificate."



The Westcombe Society had great music at the Jubilee Summer Party, including the South London Jazz Orchestra, and, (above) the Second Chance Choir. You can hear the choir again at their end-of-term concert on 12th July, 2012, at 8.00 pm, at St John's Church Stratheden Road (near the Standard). Do you fancy joining it? No experience or training necessary! Contact: Jean Vaisler at [brookjean@btinternet.com](mailto:brookjean@btinternet.com) Tel. 8852 7548

## Upcoming events

East Greenwich Community Festivals' have unleashed their 'Get involved!' campaign for this summer's celebrations. See the ad on page 5 column 4.

Contact: Lorraine Turton [www.lt-marketing.co.uk](http://www.lt-marketing.co.uk) Email: [lorraine@lt-marketing.co.uk](mailto:lorraine@lt-marketing.co.uk) Mob: 07919050540

### Mycenae Gardens goes to the dogs

The Friends of Mycenae Gardens (FOMG) are planning an afternoon of canine capers – activities and fun for dog owners and their pets – on Sunday 2nd September in the Gardens. The Friends will be inviting entries for most handsome dog, pretti-

est bitch, best veteran, best tricks, dogs that look most like their owners, waggiest tail, best groomed and the dog with the best outfit. For humans there will be a best homemade dog biscuit competition.

See [www.mycenae gardens.org/capers](http://www.mycenae gardens.org/capers) for more information.

FOMG are also launching a competition to celebrate this glorious year in photos.

There are three age categories for entrants: up to 11, 11-16, and 17 or above; the closing date is Wednesday 19th. Sept.

The entry details are at <http://www.mycenae gardens.org.uk/PhotoComp/>

## Chickens coming home to roost

In June, a twenty-year-old woman was sentenced to two years imprisonment for offences relating to the disorder in Greenwich in August 2011, after a lengthy investigation by detectives in Greenwich.

In the early hours of the 9 August 2011, Laura Johnson, 20 a student, from Sheep Coat Lane, Orpington, was stopped in a car by police officers in the Greenwich Peninsula Retail Park, SE10. The car was loaded with electrical goods which had been stolen from local retail parks.

Laura Johnson was found guilty of burglary at Comet on Greenwich Peninsula and handling stolen goods from Currys on Stone Lake Retail Park, Charlton. She was sentenced to two years imprisonment for each count, to run concurrently.

Co-accused Christopher Edwards was found guilty of the same charges. He also pleaded guilty to the burglary at a garage on Woolwich Road, Charlton. He received a 12 month detention and training order.

Detective Sergeant Mark Gilchrist, said: "We are pleased with the result of this investigation. We continue to investigate those involved in the August disorder and are still trawling through a large volume of CCTV footage. Suspects are being identified on a daily basis. We would like to thank the public for their assistance."

By mid-June, 2,752 people had been charged in connection with the disturbances in London last August, 715 of them juveniles. To view images of suspects, go to [crimestoppers-uk.org](http://crimestoppers-uk.org)

## Westcombe Park Dental Practice



13 Station Crescent,  
Westcombe Park, London SE3 7EQ

### Treatments Available

Zoom Tooth Whitening  
Dental Implants & Invisalign  
Smile Makeovers  
Tooth Colouring Fillings  
Anti-Wrinkle Treatments & Dermal Fillings

Tel. 0208 853 3304 Fax: 0208 858 1784

## Woodlands Farm wins grant

The Woodlands Farm Trust is delighted to have received £38,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for an exciting new Farm Conservation project in Shooters Hill.

The Woodlands Farm Trust is the Westcombe Society's Charity of the Year. It works with local communities and volunteers to increase awareness of the farm's biodiversity and local conservation priorities, and to inspire local people to become actively involved in biodiversity conservation.

This will include a survey of the farm's biodiversity, and a long-term conservation management plan. The Trust will also be inviting local community groups to take part in wildlife and conservation activities at the farm, and will hold a series of public walks and talks on the wildlife found at the farm.

Commenting on the award, Barry Gray, Woodlands Farm Chair of Trustees, said:

"We are delighted to have received the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund.



"It will provide local people with opportunities to develop and share their wildlife knowledge and skills, and to conserve the wildlife at Woodlands Farm, a vital part of London's vanishing countryside."

Despite the suspected arson attack on June 8th, in which a chicken house worth £2,000 was destroyed, the farm will be hosting its summer show as usual on July 1st: the festivities are not in jeopardy. All welcome! *If you would like to contribute towards the chicken house fund, please ring 8319 8900.*

## Don't be caught out . . .

Bank customers are falling victim to a new and sophisticated type of credit card fraud which is increasingly common.

Victims are telephoned by fraudsters and duped into revealing their PIN and then handing over their bank card to a courier in this new form of crime, which has seen more than £750,000 taken from customers since the beginning of the year.

The fraudster claims to be from their bank. They are told that their debit or credit card needs collecting as it needs replacing following fraud on their account.

The caller often suggests that the person hangs up and calls the bank back if they want to ensure the call is genuine, but stays on the line, tricking the person into thinking they're calling their bank.

### Flat fraudsters

Meanwhile residents in buildings with shared flats are warned to be vigilant

following several local cases of identity fraud. Six cases have occurred in one block alone. Relying on lax security, the fraudsters gain access to a communal entry, and steal mail. They use the personal data they obtain to set up fraudulent bank accounts (with the unwitting connivance of witless banks who fail to carry out routine checks) and set up fraudulent bank accounts for money-laundering purposes.

### Dodgy callers

Callers claim to be looking for a couple called Steve and Helen, or some such .... This is a known ploy to see if anyone is at home. Residents should dial 101, or call the police on 020 8721 2635.

### Driving in France?

From 1st July, drivers need to carry with them a breathalyser with a blue circular NF logo, the French equivalent of the BSI kite mark in the UK. *Attention la Gendarmarie!*

## Morden College Care Home – Cullum Welch Court

Cullum Welch Court is an exceptional Care Home with a CSCI '3 Star Rating'. Situated in the peace & tranquillity of the award-winning grounds of Morden College, Blackheath, it provides spacious, attractive and affordable ensuite accommodation; delivering high quality nursing & personal care for elderly people. With a wide range of activities, excursions and facilities provided to the Residents in our Care Home, they are also able to enjoy our private Chapel, Library, Clubhouse bar & Restaurant.

Cullum Welch Court is able to accommodate a certain number of private respite residents and also a small number of permanent private residents.

For further information please contact:  
Mrs Sharon Herd (Matron/Registered Manager)  
on 0208 463 8399

# the glass shop

[www.the-glass-shop.biz](http://www.the-glass-shop.biz)

- 24hr glass repairs
- glass & glazing
- double glazed units
- timber & upvc windows
- traditional lead lights
- glass shelving
- table tops
- shower doors
- splashbacks
- mirrors cut to size
- picture framing

call Grant on  
07988 760269

277 woolwich road  
london se7 7rb

## MULVIHILL ACADEMY OF IRISH DANCE

Irish dance classes for adults and children from aged 4+ under the tuition of Riverdance member Rachel Mulvihill.

Fully Insured, CRB Checked and First Aid Qualified.

The all new adult dance class is the perfect way to socialise, keep fit and tone up. A fun exercise class for all abilities, come and join the fun every Monday from 7.15 – 8.15pm at The Blackheath Newbridge Function Hall.

No experience necessary.

Full details available at [www.mulvihillirishdance.com](http://www.mulvihillirishdance.com) or call Rachel on 07707100521



# FEATURES: THE ARTS

## Art for our sake

Local residents Ed and Irena Hill's new Made in Greenwich Gallery is a revelation. Called both a gallery and a meeting place, it is situated at 324 Creek Road – a stone's throw from the *Cutty Sark*.

Leave the busy tourist-ridden streets of Greenwich town, and you enter a haven of art and peace. The gallery features an incredibly varied display of art and crafts by local artists.

Of course there are pictures - by both established artists like Terry Scales and Basia Burrough, but also by many other perhaps less well-known artists: they vary from traditional oils and watercolours to lino-cuts, etchings, and even wire-art. Not forgetting Ed's famous photo-spheres, which are both on sale, and also part of the decor (make sure you look up at the ceiling!). What they have in common is they are of very high quality: looking at them, one wishes one had more wall-space!

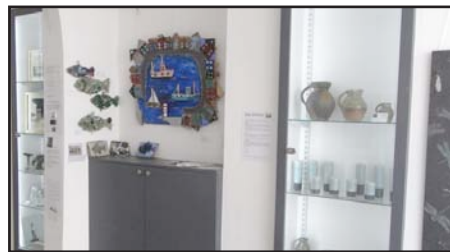
Not just pictures, though. Also on display are ceramics, jewellery, and even recycled art – I was particularly drawn to wall-fishes made of coloured glass fragments rescued from the Thames foreshore, their jagged edges smoothed by countless Thames-tides; as well as work made from driftwood like this Driftwoodpecker!) There are even works on embroidered silk.

Ed and Irena plan a whole series of exhibitions, both of work by particular artists, and other events – theme-based exhibitions, book launches, as well as



meetings, film-shows, poetry-readings ...

Throughout the summer, there will be a constantly changing exhibition of local work, and one particular date for your diary should be noted: on 7th July (11.30 - 7.00 pm) they are mounting a book launch of Paul Tempest's lovely book *Greenwich and the London River*.



During the day they plan a forum for people to exchange their views on issues relating to the river, including the New London Sewer – soakaway alternatives; the riverside in Charlton – the threats to local business and commerce; and the future of the Thames Barrier.

Yes, not just an art gallery!  
*Made in Greenwich is open Thursday, Sunday and Bank Holidays 11 - 5.30, Friday and Saturday 11.00 am - 7.00 pm*  
[www.madeingreenwich.co.uk](http://www.madeingreenwich.co.uk)

Book  
Review

## Conspiracy of secrets

Michael  
Goldman

*Conspiracy of Secrets*, by Bobbie Neate, published by John Blake at £17.99

The many friends of Bobbie Neate, who lived in Maze Hill back in the eighties, will be amazed when they read (as they certainly should) her new book. We all knew Bobbie as an energetic, sport-loving teacher and expert on children's reading but never would have suspected the complications of her family background and the revelations about her stepfather and his antecedents.

Bobbie always suspected that Louis Stanley, her abusive but charismatic stepfather, had many secrets and she began to investigate these after the death of her beloved mother in 2003. *Conspiracy of Secrets* tells in page-turning detail of her nine years of painstaking and sometimes disturbing researches. She uncovered even

more secrets than she had ever envisaged, including one of historical importance.

It has always been known that Herbert Asquith, who was Prime Minister during the first part of the First World War, had a romantic attachment to the aristocrat Venetia Stanley, who was thirty years his junior. It was generally accepted that the relationship was platonic. Far from it – and the result of their liaison was Bobbie's stepfather, born in 1912. The exact date, like so much else in this story of intrigue and deceit, is still shrouded in mystery.

Bobbie has published extensively in the educational field for some years and she has now written a book of very general interest. *Conspiracy of Secrets* is an absorbing, sometimes very moving, often shocking personal narrative which deserves to be a best-seller.

Play  
review

## Crown Matrimonial

Denise Scott-  
McDonald

As the nation celebrated the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Alexandra Players, our local repertoire theatre company, decided to honour the occasion with *Crown Matrimonial*, a play retelling the story of the abdication of King Edward VIII. The play explores the tensions between King Edward and his mother, Queen Mary, and the immediate Royal family, as he struggles with his choice between the throne or the woman he loves.

"We wanted to find a play with a royal theme but one that was also a good piece of drama," said Roy Moore, the director. "What play could create greater drama than the greatest constitutional crisis to face the Royal Family in modern history?"

The play is set entirely in Queen Mary's sitting-room at Marlborough House, and felt like a wonderful history lesson not just of the Royal family, but of political and world affairs of that era. Janet Sweet, who

played Queen Mary, showed amazing strength and discipline in her acting. Keith Hartley, who played Edward VIII, captured the agony of a man desperate to find a compromise between his family, the nation and the woman he wanted to marry. Also many of the women looked amazing in their sequin-studded dresses and furs. This production was a wonderful evocation of an era that still has echoes even today.

*Crown Matrimonial* was performed both on Broadway and in the West End. Royce Ryton's play was ground-breaking for its time, and is considered by many to be his most successful.

*The Alexandra Players, an amateur theatre company, perform plays and the occasional panto. They meet in Alexandra Hall on Bramshot Avenue in Charlton. If you want to know more, or you would like to join them you can call 8858 9829 or email alexandraplayers@gmail.com*

## Summer reading

Neville  
Grant

Summer? What summer, you may well ask ... Summer will start, properly, in July, so "they" say; so why not spend those traditional rainy days reading one of these books by local authors?

*The Paragon and South Row* by Neil Rhind

When people mention Greenwich, sooner or later they invariably start talking about the Old Royal Naval College, and "the Versailles of London."

Too easily forgotten is that other star in Royal Greenwich's crown – the Paragon in Blackheath. Local historian Neil Rhind's new book *The Paragon and South Row*, reminds us that the Paragon ranks, with the Royal Crescent in Bath, Park Crescent at Regent's Park and the Crescent at Buxton, in the top rank of outstanding Georgian buildings.

Just published, this "companion volume to the author's *Blackheath Village and Environs*" is a work of great scholarship – and enormous local interest. The Paragon – a Grade I listed crescent – was designed by the local architect and surveyor Michael Searle (1751-1813) and was built in 1793-4.

It was very badly damaged during the blitz. Threatened with demolition after the war, it was saved by Charles Bernard Brown (1910-1990), who was determined that the badly damaged crescent should be reconstructed to its original appearance.

With what success! No one would guess which parts of it were nearly destroyed, and the crescent today is a joy to behold. Want to know which four numbers were virtually destroyed? Who lived there, and when? Read the book to find out!

*Greenwich and the London River*, by Paul Tempest; with drawings by Peter Kent, and photographs by Stephen Tempest.

This gem of a book is full of wonderful illustrations, information, and quotations – from Samuel Pepys to Boris Johnson, with many others, including Sir Christopher Wren, Charles Dickens, John Masefield, Wilfred Owen and T. S. Eliot.

This pantheon of names reminds us how central Greenwich and the river has been to our island story. Subtitled *Royal and Olympic, Past Present and Future*, it contains numerous colour photographs by Stephen Tempest (the author's son), and coloured drawings of great skill and beauty by Peter Kent.

Dickens was rather rude about Greenwich – "If the parks be the lungs of London, we wonder what Greenwich Fair is – a periodical breaking out, we suppose, a sort of spring rash."

Oh dear! That's not what this book is about: with the red banners proclaiming the new Royal Borough of Greenwich, for "rash" we should perhaps read "scarlet fever" but of course even that isn't right.

Greenwich today is a place packed full not just of history, but incident: any day of the week one can see its streets full of visitors from all over the world, flocking to see the Cutty Sark, the Park (currently marred by preparations for the Olympics), the National Maritime Museum, and the other historic buildings of Maritime Greenwich – where dozens of films have been made, from Pirates of the Caribbean to murder mysteries.



More controversial are the buildings along the road in South Row – the Span apartments overlooking the Prince of Wales pond. The original buildings were bombed beyond repair, and, after the war, another battle was joined between the traditionalists and Span Developments Ltd who wanted to create an outstanding example of contemporary architecture.

Judgement remains in the eye of the beholder, but it is worth noting that the flats were the youngest of listed buildings when scheduled in June 1996, and are much admired by connoisseurs of contemporary architecture.

Neil Rhind's book *The Paragon and South Row, Blackheath – a triumph of late 19th century unintentional town planning, is published for the Blackheath Society by the Bookshop on the Heath, 74 Tranquil Vale SE3 (8852 4786). 240 pages, fully illustrated with over 400 black and white and coloured images. ISBN 978-0-9565327-2-5 Price £35.00*

And all the time, the Thames flows by, a joy to behold, a pleasure to travel on, hidden within its waters the memories of Viking (and more recently Dutch) raiders, Tudor shipyards, pubs frequented by characters from Shakespeare and Dickens, great factories warehouses and docks, grim memories of the blitz, visiting men-of-war ancient and modern, and, most recently, the Diamond Jubilee's Royal Pageant.

This is a book to be dipped into, and enjoyed, a great celebration of Greenwich and the river that flows past it. *A bargain at £9.95. Greenwich and the London River, by Paul Tempest; with drawings by Peter Kent, and photographs by Stephen Tempest, contains 190 pages and numerous illustrations; published by Medina Publishing Ltd 83 Ewell Road, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 6AH. ISBN 978-0-9567081-9-9 available from Made in Greenwich Gallery, 324 Creek Road, and all good bookshops.*

## GO EASY SELF

### DRIVE HIRE

#### BUDGET BUSTING DEALS !

\* FREE LOCAL COLLECTION & DELIVERY

\* MILEAGE ALLOWANCE ON ALL VEHICLES 100 MILES PER DAY

Mileage over 100 charged at £1.00 per mile.

For full price list, please contact us.

All prices quoted exclusive of VAT

Unit 3 Building 6, Westmoor Street,  
Ashleigh Commercial Estate, Charlton  
London SE7 8NQ Tel. 0208 858 7211

A few examples of what's on offer:

Small cars just  
£19.95 per day or  
£99 per week.



Vans just £19.95  
per day

Ford Transit  
ONLY £24.95  
per day  
HIGH ROOF &  
LUTON ALSO  
AVAILABLE





# WHAT'S ON

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!** Macmillan Coffee Morning 10.00am - 2.00pm. Friday 28th September at Mycenae House. Offers of help or to provide cakes please ring Caroline on 8853-0948. Children's Nearly New Sale – 29th Sept. 2 - 4pm Mycenae House – clothes, toys and equipment at bargain prices. If you are interested in having a table or rail please contact Joanne on 07709 571777.

## ARTS

**BLACKHEATH DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY** St Mary's Church Hall, Cresswell Park, Blackheath Village 4th Thursday of every month, 2.00 for 2.30 Next meeting: 26th July: **Portraits in Stone: The Great Cathedrals of Medieval England**, by Mark Cottle Non-members £5 on the door. See [www.artsinblackheath.org.uk](http://www.artsinblackheath.org.uk) or ring 8318 7550

**GREENWICH DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY** King William Court, the University of Greenwich Next lecture: Monday 9th July **Music and Manners: Life in the 18th century** Jeanne Dolmetsch LRAM, who talks on an age of elegance and taste, wit and satire, extravagant fashions and a complex code of manners: from Daniel Defoe to Jane Austen, Lord Chesterfield, Horace Walpole, James Macky and Thomas Gainsborough. See [www.gdftas.org](http://www.gdftas.org) or ring 8852 6248 Non-members welcome (£8.00)

**THE STEPHEN LAWRENCE GALLERY**, University of Greenwich, Queen Anne Court Until July 11: The Present is a Point Just Passed

## CHILDREN

**WOODLANDS FARM**  
331 Shooters Hill. Tel. 0208 319 8900  
Every Thursday Toddler Club 10am-12pm  
£2 per adult, children free  
Meet the animals, enjoy some crafts or just play.

**SUMMER SHOW** July 1st Details TBA

**GREENWICH HERITAGE CENTRE**  
Artillery Square, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich SE18 4DX 020 8854 2452  
FREE Saturday mornings: 10.30am to 12 noon. Free art and craft activities for 5 to 12 year olds. A fun way to spend a Saturday morning, with a chance to take part in loads of interesting activities. Children under the age of five must be accompanied by an adult. Please wear suitable clothes.

**MEFA MONTESSORI AT MYCENAE HOUSE**  
Wednesdays during term-time  
9.30-11.30 Montessori Preschool (2-4 years)  
10.30 -11.00 Developmental Dance (3-6 years)  
13.30-14.30 Baby Montessori (0-12 months)  
14.45-15.45 Toddler Montessori (12-24months)  
16.30-18.30 Inclusive Montessori After-school Nurture Group (4-11years)  
To register your child or for more information please call Wendy Fidler on 07710 433 994 or visit [www.montessorieducationforautism.com](http://www.montessorieducationforautism.com)

**St George's Church, Glenlue Road**  
Every Sunday at 11am Parish Communion with Sunday Special for children aged 3 and up

**SPECIAL EVENTS**  
Saturday 7th July 11am Jumble Sale  
The church is open to receive donations on Wed. 4th 2-4pm, Thursday 5th & Friday 6th 7 - 9pm

**OLYMPIC TORCH: Sat.21st July from 7.00am**  
Come along to watch the Olympic Torch relay as it goes up Westcombe Hill. Breakfast available, bring a bag and books for sale.



## Learning is fun

St Olave's is a Prep School in New Eltham for boys and girls aged 3-11 years

- Broad, child-centred curriculum
- Excellent results in the 11+ selection
- Clubs, outings and residential trips
- Excellent pastoral care
- Small classes
- Specialist staff for PE, IT, Music, French and Drama
- Sibling fee reduction
- Before and after school care

Tel: 020 8294 8930  
[www.stolaves.org.uk](http://www.stolaves.org.uk)



## COMMUNITY

**PARKfest 2012 - SHOWCASE OF MUSIC & DANCE** on Hervey Rd Sports Field Sat 7th July  
A Summer Festival with an open air stage for local talent: Blackheath School of Dance, Greenwich Morris, Deansfield School Choir, The Angelos Saxophone Quartet. Also a Circus Skills Workshop, refreshments & much more. Fun for all the family. 2pm - 5pm. Free. Hervey Rd Sports Field, entrance gate in Hervey Rd, SE3 8BU. [www.parksfest.org](http://www.parksfest.org)

**BLACKHEATH BRIDGE CLUB** welcomes all players to duplicate sessions in Mycenae House Mon. & Thurs. 7.15 pm & on Wed. at 1.15 Tel. 8851 2609

**WESTCOMBE WRITERS' CIRCLE** 1st. Thursday each month, 2.30-4.30 at Mycenae House. Ring Joan Paice on 8305 1652 or Rosemary Gill on 8858 5088

**BLACKHEATH FLOWER CLUB** Meets third Friday of every month at 1.45 pm at Mycenae House

**BLACKHEATH & GREENWICH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE:** First Wednesday of every month at 7.30 pm at Sunfields Methodist Church, Old Dover Road, SE3 8SJ eileenflanagan194@btinternet.com

**IRISH DANCING CLASSES COMMENCING AT MYCENAE HOUSE** taught under the tuition of Tanya Durrane-Hobbs ADCRG a very well established teacher and adjudicator. Please contact Tanya for further details on 07775 943723

**GREENWICH WORLD CULTURAL FESTIVAL (ELTHAM)** 12.30 - 4.30 pm One-day-only free entry to the grounds of the Palace. Spend the day in the company of drummers, dancers, circus performers, story tellers, puppeteers and more. Take part in a ballroom workshop, listen to a live folk band or picnic in the sunken moat.

**BLACKHEATH HALLS**  
28th July FULL ON CHEESE DISCO PARTY:  
Mon 30th July THE ICARUS CLUB AT THE SPIEGEL TENT  
ENGLISH FOLK MUSIC 9.00 pm every Tuesday at the Lord Hood pub, Creek Road; mainstream jazz every Thursday.

**EVENTS AT DAVY'S WINE VAULTS** - Greenwich, 161 Greenwich High Road SE10 8JA  
Book online at [www.davy.co.uk/events](http://www.davy.co.uk/events) or call 020 8858 9147.

**An introduction to wine workshop, 10.30am - 3.30pm Saturday 14th July** 10.30 - 3.30pm Ticket price includes all wine samples & lunch with a glass of wine. £89.95 per person

**Cheese and Wine Monthly Tasting 18th July** at 19:00  
Our tasting in July focuses on Aromatic whites £25 each.

**Cheese and Wine Monthly Tasting 15th August** 19:00  
Our August tasting will focus on fun wines for a barbecue and includes Robbyn Linden from The Cheeseboard who will be choosing a selection of cheese to go with these wines. Tickets £25 each,

## PLUMBING GAS



ALL PLUMBING, BOILER AND GAS WORK. LOCAL REFERENCES.

CALL CWD HEATING

0208 856 2234  
07799003545

### English Matters!

#### The QUEEN'S ENGLISH SOCIETY

*Good people needed, with love of English, who see accuracy in it (correct grammar and precise meaning of words) as the hinge of all communications in jobs and studies in English-speaking countries. To join as ordinary members, or as active helpers -*

**For information: PO Box 56482 London SE3 3BU. Telephone: 020 8305 1604**

### WARNING:

#### Inefficient Boilers Are Not Just Bad For Your Wallet...

They are bad for the environment too. By replacing your Band G rated boiler with a Band A rated Condensing boiler you will, according to the energy saving trust\*, save an average of £235 per year and our atmosphere around 1.26 tons of CO2. For a free quotation call Stephen Wristworth on: 07725008280

Or email me at: [wristworth@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wristworth@hotmail.co.uk)



**Boilers – Central Heating – Servicing – Landlords – Certification – Plumbing**  
\*Source: [www.energysavingtrust.org.uk](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk)



Greenroom Landscaping offer a complete design and build service using the finest materials and workmanship.

Projects range from urban courtyard gardens to large contemporary spaces. Our aim is to turn your vision into a reality.

Work undertaken: Fencing and Gates, Paving, Decking, Brickwork, Planting, Maintenance, Turfing, Irrigation, Work Fully Insured



please call 07939 608 823  
[info@greenroomlandscaping.co.uk](mailto:info@greenroomlandscaping.co.uk)  
[www.greenroomlandscaping.co.uk](http://www.greenroomlandscaping.co.uk)

## THEATRE & OPERA

### BLACKHEATH HALLS

Wed 4th - Sat Sat 7th July 7.30 pm Trinity Laban Opera: Stephen McNeff's THE SECRET GARDEN. UK Premiere. This production goes on to the Banff Festival from Blackheath. £18.00 (£12.00)

**THE GREENWICH THEATRE** Crooms Hill, Greenwich, London SE10 8ES 020 8858 7755

Tues 17th July SAPPHO, IN 9 FRAGMENTS  
Mon 23rd & Tues 24th July KNIVES IN HENS  
Wed 25th July THE TRENCH

**THE SPACE** 269 Westferry Road London E14 3RS 0207 515 7799 / [www.space.org.uk](http://www.space.org.uk)  
Nearest tube: Mudchute (DLR) Buses: D3, D7, 135

July 3rd, 5th and 7th July 7.30pm Mozart's opera LA CLEMENZA DI TITO £14 - £10  
Debut production by Giornata Opera.

July 10th – 14th 7.30 pm SUFFICIENT by Mike Sells. 7.30pm Save the environment! £14 - £10  
17th - 28th July 8.00pm A LIFE IN MONOCHROME  
Classic tangled murder mystery

31st July - 11th August 7.00pm HEADS BODIES LEGS  
Experiment in extreme existential slapstick £10 (£8)

## MUSIC

### BLACKHEATH HALLS

**COMMUNITY OPERA** Massenet's CIN-DERELLA Tues. 17th - Fri. 20th 20 JULY, 7pm  
Sun. 22nd JULY, 2pm £17.00 (£14.00 concs.)  
Mon 23rd July Meantime Jazz  
A five-day course rehearsing jazz standards and looking at improvisation.

## LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Labour: Cllr. Alex Grant Tel. 8855 7292E-mail [Alex.grant@greenwich.gov.uk](mailto:Alex.grant@greenwich.gov.uk)  
**Surgeries:** 1st. Friday of each month, 7.00 - 8.00 pm, Mycenae House; 3rd. Saturday of each month, 3.30-4.30 pm, St James Church Hall, Kidbrooke Park Rd.

**Conservative:** Cllr. Geoff Brighty  
Tel. 8921 5663 (Town Hall) or 8858 9731 (Home) [geoffrey.brighty@greenwich.gov.uk](mailto:geoffrey.brighty@greenwich.gov.uk)  
**Cllr. Alex Wilson** Tel. 07783 611607 Email: [alex.wilson@greenwich.gov.uk](mailto:alex.wilson@greenwich.gov.uk) **Surgery:** 1st Monday of the month 6 - 7.00 pm Blackheath Library, Old Dover Rd.

**East Greenwich Community festivals**  
*Get involved!*

**Summer 2012**  
Get involved in this summer's community events

We need sports clubs, artists, therapists, cooks, performers, craft makers, local schools to make built for local business stalls and help on the day.

To register online [www.greenwich.gov.uk](http://www.greenwich.gov.uk)

Look out for the poster in the public house opposite the police station

**Saturday 2nd June**  
Jazz in the Park (East Greenwich Pleasureland)

**Saturday 21st July**  
Olympic Torch Relay (Greenwich Pleasureland)

**Monday 30th July - Friday 3rd August**  
City Noises Exhibition (Greenwich Pleasureland)

**Saturday 4th August**  
City Noises Exhibition (Greenwich Pleasureland)

**Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th August**  
Olympic Torch Relay (Greenwich Pleasureland)

A FREE summer festival creating a lasting legacy for all in East Greenwich

Email: [egcfest@gmail.com](mailto:egcfest@gmail.com) Sign Up: [bit.ly/egcfest](http://bit.ly/egcfest)  
0203 2966 4000 Donator: [www.streamline.org.uk/projects/egcf](http://www.streamline.org.uk/projects/egcf)

East Greenwich Community Festivals Streamline

## J & M RANDALL

(Established 1966)

General Builders. Roofing & Plumbing Specialists

Telephone: 0208 302 3676 Mobile: 07956 681488

Email: [jmrandall@btopenworld.com](mailto:jmrandall@btopenworld.com)

33 Lamorbey Close, Sidcup,  
Kent, DA15 8BA

Plastering – Glazing – Interior & Exterior  
Decorating – Carpentry – Central Heating –  
Conversions – Bricklaying – Pebble Dashing –  
Electrical Installations – Paving – New roofs –  
Plumbing – Extensions

FREE Estimates – Fully Insured –  
Members of Federation of Master Builders

## CHARLTON HOUSE

Upstairs Downstairs Summer Ball  
Fri 17th & Sat 18th August

Miles Campbell

*Maker of spring & weight driven clocks*

## Clockmaker • Woolwich, London

Repairs and house calls undertaken

0208 331 0201

[www.milescampbell.co.uk](http://www.milescampbell.co.uk)

## GARTEL DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

Whether you're looking for traditional construction, renovation, refurbishment, specialist works, or even maintenance, we have the skills and resources to tackle any project... no matter what size.

Gartel Design & Construction Ltd  
193 Westcombe Hill  
Blackheath  
London SE3 9EZ

T +44 (0)20 8858 5123  
E [info@gartel.co.uk](mailto:info@gartel.co.uk)



## TOM ELLIS

KITCHENS  
BOOKCASES  
DRESSERS  
WARDROBES  
TABLES  
DESKS  
CABINETS

020 8519 8947  
07540 579027

[tomellis@talktalk.net](mailto:tomellis@talktalk.net)





Planning applications can be viewed in the library, or at the Woolwich Library on the lower ground floor of the Woolwich Centre, 35 Wellington St. They may also be viewed on [www.greenwich.gov.uk/planning](http://www.greenwich.gov.uk/planning)

## A shallow decision Sarah Winterbottom

A shiny new state-of-the art purpose built sports centre in the heart of Greenwich - the civic poster child of regeneration plans for the old Hospital site. Great news maybe for those of you that go to the much loved (but sadly neglected) facilities at the Arches leisure centre at the bottom of Maze Hill. Not so if you are serious about swimming.

Following six years of consultation with 'stakeholders' including Greenwich Swimming Club, the Council is now having to defend its plans to build a fitness pool with two shallow ends, as a result rendering it unsuitable for both galas and training.

With a moveable pool floor seemingly ruled out, for reasons that are unclear, the planned, double shallow ended

facility has been dubbed an "advanced paddling pool" by Tory opposition leader, Cllr Spencer Drury. The Royal Borough of Greenwich says that young swimmers should travel to Eltham or Charlton lido (once it is refurbished) where there are suitable facilities. It is worth noting that in Lewisham, the new flagship sports and leisure centre, the Glass Mill, houses a 'competition pool' with eight lanes and a moveable floor at the deep end.

Greenwich Swimming Club are furious. The Club has been training youngsters for 80 years and club secretary, Chris Evans, has doubts about finding a suitable slot at Eltham which has its own swimming club: "It's going to be madness. A new swimming facility should tick all the boxes of what is needed -

otherwise it's a backward step."

Dickie Davis, Chairman of the club says: "We have been terribly short-changed. There is no spectator area in the main pool, so our parents can't watch their children swim. We have no club office either, but we're told we might get to share a storage cupboard. And this in a borough claiming to take pride in its Olympic status!"

According to a spokesman for the Royal Borough of Greenwich, the "new Greenwich Centre... is being delivered at zero-cost to the tax payer as it's being funded entirely by the disposal of Royal Borough of Greenwich assets."

Does this mean that we have no choice over what we are given?

**An online petition has been set up if you would like to protest. Go to <http://www.petition.co.uk/make-the-new-greenwich-swimming-pool-1-8m-at-the-deep-end/comment-page-1/#comment-169786>**



PHOTO: Gavin McGregor

**Gavin McGregor writes:**

Back in October a bunch of us planted wildflower seeds between the lime trees along the north wall of the East Greenwich Pleasaunce. It was a bit of an experiment, and we were not sure whether it would work, but if you head there now you'll see a very pretty sight.

## Parking during the Olympics

Residents in the Westcombe Park area have been informed by the Royal Borough of Greenwich (RBG) that they need to ensure that they have a valid parking permit in time for the Olympics to ensure that they don't get a stiff fine or worse, their vehicle towed away.

Temporary parking controls are set to be introduced across all areas within 30 minutes walking distance of Greenwich Park and will come into force on 27th July and remain in place until 9th September.

The following changes are to take effect:

- \* Existing Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) will have restriction hours and days extended to 0830h to 1900h, 7 days a week
- \* All 'free parking' bays in the CPZ will become parking bays allowing up to two hours parking with or without a permit.
- \* Current all-day and 4-hour visitor vouchers will **not** be valid

According to correspondence sent to residents by the RBG in June, if you already have a CPZ permit, this will remain valid and will cover you for the extended hours and days.

If you don't have a permit you can

apply for a temporary one so that you can park on the street and continue to use the 'free' bays, which will be converted during the Games period. These permits are free.

Residents can apply for permits to cover as many vehicles as belong to those living at a given address. Businesses can apply for up to ten business parking permits. Existing 'visitor permits' will be superseded by special 'Games time' vouchers which are also free, and all local residents, whether or not they are permit holders, will be entitled to a maximum of two reusable visitor vouchers.

For those who receive regular visits - for example, from carers, nannies or tradesmen, 'temporary visitor' permits are available. If you have special requirements, the RBG urges you to contact them on 020 8921 2012 for more information. Two-hour free parking is being introduced in the areas where there is currently no CPZ.

**More information, and details on how to apply for permits and vouchers, is available by calling 0300 111 2012; or go to: [www.2012gamesparkingpermits.com](http://www.2012gamesparkingpermits.com)**

## VAT threat

In a move widely considered to favour developers, the Chancellor's most recent Finance Bill lays out plans to remove the current zero VAT on alterations to listed and historic buildings with effect from October 2012. New builds will continue to benefit from this significant tax incentive.

For an area like Blackheath and Greenwich, where there are many historic and listed buildings - including our very own Mycenae House - this is a cause for concern.

Alterations and improvements that previously benefitted from zero per cent VAT will now incur the full 20% tax. According to Stephen Thornton, head of external affairs at the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, "this increase will create further barriers to the improvement of this stock and stifle job creation."

Prior to 1984, work on all buildings was zero rated. The Government of the time then introduced VAT at the standard rate for all but exempted listed building and scheduled ancient monuments.

However, following a case brought against the UK in the European Court this was curtailed and in 1989 zero rating was applied to work on all historic buildings used for residential or charitable purposes.

Since the initial announcement the Government has agreed to exempt places of worship from the tax. With improvement to existing housing stock making up more than 50 per cent of building work, there is strong lobbying going on.

The lobbying is being carried out by the 'Cut the VAT' campaign. This is being led by a powerful alliance of interests, including the Federation of Master Builders, and supported by the Heritage Alliance, the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and the Institute of Historic Building Conservation among others.

No one is betting on the outcome: some Whitehall Watchers observe that the government is very unlikely to carry out yet another U-turn. But as Mrs Thatcher once said: "You turn if you want to!"



Estate agents & surveyors, established in 1975. Branches in Westcombe Park, Blackheath, Greenwich & Lee, alongside dedicated branches for Lettings & Commercial. Contact the Westcombe Park branch on 020 8858 6101

**John Payne**

[johnpayne.com](http://johnpayne.com)

## Christopher's column



### Austerity measures bite

Foraging for 'wild food' is basically basically picking stuff from fields, hedgerows and riverbanks (if you have any nearby). Whole books workshops & courses are devoted to raiding your local green space for edibles (even Boots have online advice). It's a curiously erratic business, though - and much foraging apparently involves trespassing.

As a teenager, I occasionally went 'scrumping' for apples, but where is the difference between foraging and taking plants from the wild (an offence under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981). If you leave the root behind is it foraging rather than theft?

One urban forager cites Richmond Park and Highbury Roundabout as good sources of produce, though visiting two such disparate locations must involve a lot of time and fuel.

Then there are health issues. Rats may have contaminated plants, so washing them in running water is recommended, and dipping into diluted vinegar or sterilizing fluid. Elsewhere, I read that 'foraging can be fun but... fatal', followed by advice from the Food Standards Agency, Health Protection Agency and the National Poisons Information Service.

The most commonly 'foraged' food, blackberries, are safe if picked from high up and washed thoroughly. You can eat any number of wild plants provided you know what they are, but

that's not so easy and most of them are bland. A 'wild food' recipe recommends 'delicious' hogweed - however, you should wear gloves to pick (and presumably prepare) it and it is toxic until cooked! Mushrooms are probably the riskiest of all, but the general FSA advice is to keep a sample of what you have eaten just in case you poison yourself.

It's safer to grow a patch of 'wild food' in your own patch... garlic, dandelions, chickweed are easy to find. If you are very enterprising you might even sack the gardener and charge inexperienced foragers to come and remove weeds from your own patch (just prepare an A4 page on how vitamin rich weeds are and you're away).

**Christopher Raven**

### A & A LANDSCAPES Landscape Specialists



**Free advice & estimates**



**Qualified horticulturalist**

**All aspects of soft & hard landscaping work carried out including**

- \* Maintenance
- \* Turfing
- \* Fencing
- \* Tree surgery
- \* Patios
- \* Brickwork

**Tel. 020 8318 2530**



# MARKET PLACE

Please send ads for the Market Place with payment by the 10th day of the preceding month to:  
Marilyn Little, 163 Westcombe Hill, SE3 7DP  
020 8853 1312 email:marilyn. little  
@btinternet.com ALL classified adverts 30p per word.  
Please make cheques payable to The Westcombe Society

## ACCOMMODATION

**GOOD RELIABLE HOST FAMILIES** wanted for foreign students. For more info. please contact Lynne on 01732 822649 or email sesgreenwich@aol.com  
**HOLIDAYS/WEEKENDS IN 2-BEDROOMED MEWS APARTMENT** with terrace close to Greenwich Park. £500.00 per week, weekends £300.00. Telephone 0208 293 9035/07538 080815 or email angelmedi-aprods@yahoo.co.uk  
**FUNCTION ROOM FOR HIRE** Blackheath area, up to 150 people, Bar, disabled access. Tel 07940 296290

## GARDENING

**BORDERS, BEDS AND CONTAINERS** planned, prepared and planted by local experienced qualified gardener. Call Leslie on 0208 858 6541  
**GOOD GARDENING** . . . For hands-on gardening, practical advice, or low-maintenance planting designed for you & your garden, call Christopher Raven 020 8691 2240  
**GARDEN MAINTENANCE:** mowing, weeding, pruning, communal garden contracts, fruit and vegetables, gardening tuition, RHS qualified, also domestic cleaning. Call John and Rachel 0208 316 0990 / 07746 121510

## HOLIDAYS

**WHITSTABLE WEEKENDS / WEEKS** Sea wall house between Oyster Warehouse and Harbour. Sleeps 5. Fantastic views. 8858 6578 or 013 0436 7443  
**ST IVES CORNWALL, IN OLD QUARTER.** Character cottage, sleeps 4/5, close to beaches, harbour, Tate and School of Painting. Very reasonable rates 020 8852 0434  
**NORFOLK HIDEAWAY** Traditional cottage in rural hamlet - sleeps 5/6. Easy access to coast, Burnham Market, Holt. Great location for walking, cycling, bird watching visiting castles and stately homes. Tel 020 8858 1515 / 07768 340477 www.baileycottage.co.uk

## PERSONAL CARE & THERAPY

**BLACKHEATH LOW COST PAIN CLINIC** provides discounted acupuncture and Tui na massage focused on pain management. Fully qualified practitioners. Wednesday mornings.  
**Blackheath Complementary Health Centre**  
**184-186 Westcombe Hill SE3 Appointments 020 8293 5380** www.healingpath.co.uk <http://www.healingpath.co.uk>  
**LONDON HOLISTIC COACH: Cognitive Behavioural Therapist & Life Coach;** Need guidance on Relationships, Emotional Eating, Career, Confidence Building & Parenting? Call Today M: 07886088062  
E: info@LondonHolisticCoach.com  
W: http://www.LondonHolisticCoach.com  
**BLACKHEATH HOLISTIC HEALTH SERVICE. COUNSELLING, COACHING, POSTURAL YOGA, ALEXANDER TECHNIQUE,** tel: **020 8858 5969 / 1991,** www.bhhs.selondon.co.uk  
**NEED TO MAKE A DECISION?**  
Tarot cards will help you. Marie Claire Trespeuch Tarot and Palmistry reader. Workshops, Home parties. marieclaire@tarotgift.com 0208 293 1737

## SERVICES & TRADE

**SIMMONDS HANDYMAN** Property and maintenance services. Electrical, decorating, telephones, general repairs. 079 4198 2895  
**BLACKHEATH AND GREENWICH WINDOW AND GUTTER CLEANING** Mike Smith 07791 465052 www.blackheath-window-cleaner.co.uk  
**FREELANCE CURTAIN TRACK FITTER.** Bay window specialist. Good quality, made to measure metal tracks used. For free advice, free quotes, phone Mike – 07930854905  
**C.S. CARPENTRY-JOINERY** Decorating and all building work undertaken. Joseph McNamara 02088575480, mobile 07947155366  
**WENDY ANN'S IRONING SERVICE.** Free collection and delivery. Call 8293 5786 for competitive prices.

**R.G. Austin**

(Established 1963)



Heating Engineers,  
Property Maintenance,  
Electrics, Painting,  
Decorating, Plumbing,  
Central Heating,

GAS  
SAFE

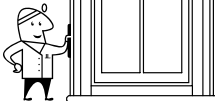
Shower and Bathroom Specialists

2A Hassendean Rd, Blackheath SE3 8TS  
Telephone: 0208 8858 7359  
rgaustin@fsmail.net

## SASH-WINDOW DOCTOR (member of [www.trustatradetrader.com](http://www.trustatradetrader.com))

Traditional box sash window business - years of family tradition and expertise guarantees a high quality service that will preserve the aesthetic appeal and add value to your property.

- Installation of double glazed sashes into existing frames following government guidelines.
- New for old – like for like - full box & sash replacement.
- Draught proofing and sound proofing.
- Sash re-hanging and balancing.
- Victorian shutters repair.
- Free diagnosis and estimate.



Contact Peter Denney on **0785 585 8184**. Email: [Peter@sash-doctor.co.uk](mailto:Peter@sash-doctor.co.uk)

## TUITION

**IRISH DANCING CLASSES** COMMENCING AT MYCENAE HOUSE taught under the tuition of Tanya Dirrane-Hobbs ADCRG a very well established teacher and adjudicator. Please contact Tanya for further details on 07775 943723  
**ITALIAN TUITION** Native Italian speaker offers lessons at all levels. Preparation for GCSE, A-LEVELS courses, Grammar, Conversation Tel 07788 743371  
**PIANO LESSONS** Enjoy playing your instrument from the very first lesson - favourite pieces and much more - a holistic approach to teaching and learning. A.B exams taken if desired. Tel. 8856 1200  
**MATHS & ENGLISH TUITION** (aged 8-16) and preparation for secondary school selection tests by qualified & experienced teacher. Mary Bauckham 07709 089838 mary.bauckham@virgin.net.  
**ENGLISH/PRIMARY/11-PLUS TUITION** All ages welcome. GCSE, A/S-Levels, Common Entrance, Primary, etc. Fully qualified, experienced teacher. Call Hellin Halliday BA(Hons), PGCE on 020 8858 7704 / 07928 017762 to discuss how I can help.  
**MATHEMATICS TUTOR** For secondary level, GCSE and A-Level by qualified teacher, Tom McNamara [MMath]. £30 per hour. 07595348976 or Email thomasmcnamara@gmail.co.uk  
**VIOLIN LESSONS ON VANBRUGH HILL.** Experienced professional violin teacher with 100% pass rate for ABRSM exams and over 10yrs teaching experience.  
<http://www.steinberg-music.com/> The Steinberg School offers individual lessons at all ages and levels.Call 020 123 7659 or email louisastone-hill@gmail.com  
**MINDFUL TUTORING CARING**  
Calm support for your child's learning 020 8355 3809 www.mindfultutoring.co.uk  
**ONE MAN ROCK SCHOOL**  
Guitar, Vocal & Songwriting Tuition, plus Digital Recording Service 30 Years Experience in Music Business phone: 07905 117819 email: onemanrockschool@rocketmail.com  
**YOGA/MEDITATION** in Blackheath £7.  
A unique and gentle form of Hatha Yoga integrating the Alexander Technique principles.  
Tel:0208 858 1991 www.bhhs.selondon.co.uk

### PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(See also <http://westcombe.blogspot.com>)

20 COLERAINE ROAD ref 12/1197/F

Install rear dormer window and two front roof lights

22 COLERAINE ROAD ref 12/1196/F

Install rear dormer window and two front roof lights

23A VANBRUGH PARK ref 12/1230/F

Instal timber sash window facing Beaconsfield Rd

45 & 47 ULUNDI ROAD ref 12/1229/F

Instal side and rear dormer windows

1A-3 STATION CRESCENT ref 12/0878/F

Construct single storey rear infill extension

### TREE WORKS

143 MAZE HILL ref 12/1445/TC Fell 3 conifers

78 VANBRUGH PARK ref 12/1384/TC

Fell bay tree in rear garden

4 WESTCOMBE PARK ROAD ref 12/1251/TC

Fell two pleached limes in front garden

## IT SUPPORT

For ALL your home & business needs

Call now for FREE advice



020 8858 2002

[www.theheadstart.com](http://www.theheadstart.com)

**mousesale.co.uk**  
your local online estate agent!

T:0208 858 0099

Mousesale.co.uk your local Estate Agents online. A full service from inquiry to completion at a very reasonable price.

"Let your mouse sell your house"

## BUY LOCAL!

Discounts available on production of your Westcombe Society membership card.

### BLACKHEATH VILLAGE:

**BLACKS OF BLACKHEATH - JEWELLERS**

10% OFF purchases over £100, excluding sale goods and repairs

**CACTUS PIT - TEX/MEX RESTAURANT**

20% OFF for two or more, Sun. to Thurs.

**CHAPTERS RESTAURANT**

10% OFF lunch/ dinner for two Mon. to Thurs.

**PARES FOOTWEAR**

10% OFF all shoes over £20, excluding sale stock

**RAFFLES DESIGNER WEAR.**

10% OFF all non-sale goods

**RIGHT ANGLE RETAIL - GIFTS**

10% OFF special goods plus free delivery

**CAVE AUSTIN WINE BAR & GARDEN**

5% discount at any time

**GREENWICH:**

**NORTH POLE RESTAURANT**

12.5% OFF Meals only for two

**3D DIVING**

10% discount on all scuba diving courses.

Offer excludes scuba diving equipment.

**GREENWICH COMMUNICATION**

**CENTRE** at 164 Trafalgar Road offer 10%

discount on all Computer Maintenance and

Repairs (including Laptops!) Your local

friendly independent computer shop!

**HUMBER ROAD:**

**BODYWORKZ - THE FITNESS CLINIC**

109 Humber Road.10% OFF all treatments costing

£30 or more except Chiropody; exc.Saturdays.

**ROYAL NEPALESE RESTAURANT**

(Station Crescent) 20% OFF meals for

two or more Sunday - Thursday.

**THE CURIOUS COMB**

10% discount on services over £30 Weekdays

8am-10am, 2pm-4pm (excludes retail purchases).

**CORIANDER RESTAURANT** (Station Crescent)

25% off Sunday to Thursday. Bookings only!

**THE STANDARD:**

**COTON & HAMBLIN - OPTICIANS**

5% OFF frames, sunglasses & accessories

**KARAN CHEMIST** 10% OFF Weds. only

**MARNELLS - DIY** 10% OFF Wednesdays

**WELL BEAN - HEALTH GOODS**

10% OFF all purchases over £20 (no credit cards)

**BLACKHEATH EYECARE CENTRE**

25% off 2nd pair of spectacles. (same prescription.

Not in conjunction with any other offer. (Complete

glasses start from £49.95 with single vision lenses).

5% off contact lens solution and accessories

**GAMBARDELLA's CAFE** 10% off meals from

Monday to Thursday for members of the WS

**TROJAN PRESS** 10% OFF all quotations

**WESTCOMBE HILL**

A \* Driving School £5 discount on the price of one

x 2 hour lesson for WS members.

**THE WONDER WOMEN NETWORK**

Offers a 10% discount

>>

Hot Desk Available In  
Blackheath Village

Serviced office in the centre of Blackheath Village with internet, 24 hour access and a lovely location.  
Fabulous views of the heath and Canary Wharf.  
**All for £250 per month.**  
Contact: Karan Browne on 020 8297 4863

**Jack Hubert**

**Personal Trainer**

- One to one exercise studio
- Fat loss and toning
- No obligation free consultation
- Block booking discounts available
- Perfect for beginners to exercise

Telephone: 0208 318 7373 or 07589 870 523

E-mail: [mail@adappt.info](mailto:mail@adappt.info)



39 Lee Church Street,  
Lee,  
London,  
SE13 5SG  
[www.adappt.info](http://www.adappt.info)

## ■ STARKEY FINANCIAL PLANNING LIMITED ■

**INDEPENDENT PERSONAL and CORPORATE FINANCIAL ADVISERS**

**Investments - Pensions - Estate Planning**

**2 Charlton Road, Blackheath Standard**

**London SE3 7EX (T) 020 8853 7160**

email: [admin@starkeyfinancialplanning.co.uk](mailto:admin@starkeyfinancialplanning.co.uk)

website: [www.starkeyfinancialplanning.co.uk](http://www.starkeyfinancialplanning.co.uk)

**HELPING YOU PLAN YOUR FUTURE**

*Starkey Financial Planning Ltd. is authorized and regulated by the Financial Services Authority*





# JUBIL-INSPIRATION



ABOVE, LEFT TO RIGHT: The shop in the award-winning Visitor Centre *Discover Greenwich* managed to combine the Jubilee with the Olympics in their display.  
CENTRE: Blackheath Cooks in Old Dover Road highlighted the best of British recipes.  
BELOW LEFT: The Cat Protection League in Old Dover Road here seems to be the Corgie Protection League.



## Jubilee window-shopping with the WN



ABOVE: Not to be left out, Pointers School flew the flags, too, and had a right royal celebration.  
RIGHT: Otte and the Bea's shop window in Old Dover Road



PHOTOS: Neville Grant



ABOVE: In Stratheden Road, the Bexley and Greenwich Hospice shop was also in celebratory mood (though football later displaced royalty!)  
BELOW: Hirst's bakers on Old Dover Road hit some royal themes - but didn't forget Fathers' Day!



THE CLARENDON HOTEL

## Jazz IN THE BAR

THURSDAYS IN JULY

5<sup>TH</sup> **STELLA BENAVIDES**  
Sultry jazz vocals into the night.

12<sup>TH</sup> **SANDRA GRANT**  
Multi talented muso on sax, flute and vocals.

19<sup>TH</sup> **JUDITH SIM**  
The vocalist's vocalist, simply stunning.

26<sup>TH</sup> **EARL OKIN**  
Sex symbol, singer and musical comedy genius!

THE CLARENDON HOTEL  
8pm. All events just £5 entry. Late bar, bar snacks available.  
Montpelier Row, Blackheath SE3 0RW. 020 8318 4321 [www.ClarendonHotel.com](http://www.ClarendonHotel.com)

THE POINTER SCHOOL  
"Doubles in size"

- First Class Examination Results
- Organic Food
- Breakfast Club & After School Care
- Christian Evangelical in outlook
- Numerous Extra-Curricular Clubs
- Large variety of outdoor and PE activities
- 3 languages taught

OFSTED: OUTSTANDING IN **ALL** AREAS

**020 8293 1331**  
The Pointer School | 19 Stratheden Road | Blackheath | London SE3 7TH  
and also at 37 Shooters Hill Road | Blackheath | London SE3 7HS (Nursery & Reception)  
email: [secretary@pointers-school.co.uk](mailto:secretary@pointers-school.co.uk) Website: [www.pointers-school.co.uk](http://www.pointers-school.co.uk)

Don't forget -  
you have childcare options!

**Childcare places for children from 3 months – 5 years**

Choosing the right kind of childcare is one of the biggest decisions that you will ever have to make.

At Zoom, we believe nursery childcare could be the best way of supporting your whole family. With the right nursery, you're able to enhance your child's development and add to your experience as a parent.

We have gone to great lengths to ensure that our well-equipped environment, exceptional team, healthy planned menus, additional classes and planned curriculum all meet and exceed you and your child's expectations.

Childcare at Zoom could be more affordable than you think. The term after your child turns 3 means you are eligible for The Nursery Education Grant. We also have access to the Childcare Affordability Programme (CAP) and Working Families Tax Credit.

Why not call us for an informal discussion, or to arrange a visit? We could be just what you are looking for! Call me, **Justine O'Hare, Manager**, on **0208 331 6703**. Alternatively, email me at [bella@zoom54321.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:bella@zoom54321.fsnet.co.uk)

**Zoom**

We're based near to the Yorkshire Grey Roundabout, bordering Kidbrooke, Blackheath, Lee & Eltham, just off the A2

**TROJAN PRESS**

Printing in Blackheath since 1978

FROM YOUR IDEAS OR ARTWORK WE CAN PRINT AT A REASONABLE COST:

- BUSINESS CARDS
- INVOICES • LETTERHEADS
- BOOKS • BROCHURES
- FORMS • INVITES
- CALENDARS • ORDER OF SERVICES

1a Lizban St  
Blackheath, London SE3 8SS  
Tel: 020 8853 2268  
Email: [dave@trojanpress.co.uk](mailto:dave@trojanpress.co.uk)  
[www.trojanpress.com](http://www.trojanpress.com)

THE EDUCATION CENTRE

the TUITION experts

**GRAMMAR SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMS IN SEPTEMBER?**  
11 Plus summer revision course and mock test 2012

Suitable for current year 5 pupils (for 11 plus entrance examinations year 7 entry September 2013)  
Suitable for Grammar schools in South East London, Bromley, Bexley, North Kent & Sutton.

- Daily 11-3pm
- Book individual days or full weeks
- Structured examination techniques, confidence building
- Accuracy & management skills
- Mock tests with feed back

We are now enrolling Year 4 pupils for Year 7 entry into Grammar and Independent schools

**24th JULY - 17th AUGUST 2012**

To book or to find out more contact

[www.theedcentre.co.uk](http://www.theedcentre.co.uk)  
[enquiries@theedcentre.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@theedcentre.co.uk)  
**0208 318 2106**

23 Lewisham High Street SE13 5AF  
1 min walk from Lewisham DLR and bus garage