

新年快乐

Free to 3800 homes, & in libraries & some shops Feb. 2017 No. 1

Gong Xi Fa Cai! Happy Chinese New Year!



## London's toxic air – MP's accusations

The Westcombe Society would like to wish all our readers a Happy and Healthy New Year. In the words of the Sixteenth Century proverb, "If wishes were horses, beggars would ride..."

We say that because it doesn't look as if we are going to breathe any cleaner air in 2017 than we did in previous years. The *WN* has repeatedly reiterated the arguments, pointing out how the Silvertown Tunnel, and the Enderby Wharf Cruise liner terminal is going to exacerbate Greenwich's – London's – chronic air pollution problem, which causes some 9,600 premature deaths each year.

Not just deaths. According to a 2016 survey by London Councils, nearly half of Londoners say that filthy air has had an impact on their health. This figure was even higher among cyclists (59%) parents (58%) and people living in inner London (51%).

### MPs scathing

And now MPs have added their voice on the issue. The House of Commons Environment Committee – one of those HoC committees whose job it is to scrutinize the job of government – has delivered a scathing attack on Ministers over London's toxic air scandal.

Chairman of the committee Neil Parish (Con. Honiton & Tiverton) waved a map at journalists showing how pollution peaked in November 2016, and railed against the air quality minister Therese Coffey and transport minister John Hayes over why the people of London were still breathing toxic fumes – despite warnings of the dangers of air pollution years ago.

The committee accused Ms Coffey of "opting out of key decisions" and "abdication of her responsibilities" – which she strenuously denied.

Mr Parish said that the committee was aghast at her failure to intervene over the Enderby Wharf cruise liner terminal, which, as we reported in last September's *WN*, had been given the go-ahead without a requirement to install shore-to-ships electricity supply.



Seeing in the New Year in the East Greenwich Pleasaunce. Story p. 3.

Jim Fitzpatrick (Lab. Poplar and Limehouse) said that the decision should not have been left to Greenwich council to make: other parts of London would be affected by the fumes given off by ships moored at the terminal. He said Ms Coffey should have intervened to protect Londoners.

Defending the government's policy, transport Minister John Hayes said that millions of pounds had been given to local town halls to clean up air pollution, but the committee said that the funds given, and the powers derogated, were insufficient. Sadik Khan, mayor of London, has called for local mayors and council leaders to have greater powers to deal with the issues.

The government has claimed to be "firmly committed" to improving air quality, and said that its latest report to the European commission showed progress was being made.

But Mr Parish said "November's High Court judgement was the second time that courts have ruled against the government's air pollution plans.

"My committee's April report on Air

quality demanded urgent government action to tackle the public health emergency that's being driven by dirty diesel vehicles and heavy traffic . . .

"We repeat our call for the urgent publication of a comprehensive air quality strategy containing positive measures to protect the public from the invisible threat of air pollution.

"We also demand leadership from the government and funding to ensure that local authorities can deliver a network of Clean Air Zones for the dozens of cities exceeding EU pollution limits."

**There were two court cases in 2016 in which judges ruled that the government's air quality policies were very inadequate. ClientEarth tried to force Government to cut N02 levels in London, which are above legal limits, and the Court found in favour of the plaintiff.**

**Mr Hayes agreed that the rulings were 'a wake-up' call, and quoted the writer C S Lewis: "Failures are finger posts on the road to achievement."**

**Two-finger posts, we assume.**

## So-lar, so bad . . .

In the last days of 2016, the *WN* learnt that the government is about to attack solar power – yet again. It's hard to believe, but ministers are planning to hit schools and businesses that invest in solar power with huge tax hikes.

Recent government funding cuts have already triggered thousands of job losses in the UK solar industry. Now that we're a year on since the Paris climate deal was agreed by world leaders, the UK government should be doubling investment in renewable power – and certainly not by slapping huge, unmanageable tax hikes on the solar industry.

*If you agree, please sign the petition to tell the government to urgently rethink the tax hike on solar power in the UK*  
<https://secure.greenpeace.org.uk/no-new-solar-taxes>

## HGVs - What do you think?

Many will be aware of the use of roads within Westcombe Park by Heavy Goods Vehicles avoiding the congestion on the Blackwall Tunnel Southern Approach and/or Shooters Hill Road.

A representative of the Westcombe Society attended a Working Party meeting with the Council's Highways Committee on Dec 20th to consider the speed and noise of HGVs going over the Traffic calming on Westcombe Hill.

Some residents want the calming measures to be removed because HGVs cause noise and vibration to their homes.

The Council is sympathetic to the issues and proposes to contact developers on the Peninsula, and other regular users, to ask them to use alternative routes or at least to drive more considerately and within speed limits. They are also looking at so-called 'horizontal' measures such as chicanes, and width limits – although this might divert traffic to other local roads.

Also, there is currently a consultation about restricting HGVs using the Halstow Road/Humber Road junction due to the potential risk of heavy vehicles getting out of control and damaging housing.

Alongside these issues the Highways Department are being asked to look at better siting of bus-stops and short term parking near the health and leisure centre so that those less able to climb the steep hills and/or with prams can have more easy access .

Please contact [info@Westcombesociety.org](mailto:info@Westcombesociety.org) if you have any concerns.

### Westcombe Society

Events in Mycenae House for your diary:

Sat 18th Feb. 8 -10.00pm Helpers' and Newcomers' Party

Sat 18th March, 2 -4.00pm Daffodil Tea

Sat 1st April, 7.30pm for 8pm start, Spring Quiz

Sat 15th April 2 -4pm Easter Egg Hunt in Mycenae House gardens

Sat 10th June 7.30pm Members Evening

Sat in July Summer Picnic – TBC

Fri 29th Sep, 10am -2.00pm, Macmillan Coffee Morning

Sat 21st Oct 2 -4pm Chrysanthemum Tea

Fri 3rd Nov, 7.30pm for 8pm start, Autumn Quiz

The Westcombe Society really needs more volunteers to help out at these events. If you are interested, please ring Joanne on 07709 571777.

< <

## Newsbriefs

> >

### Emma's Marathon Run for Refugees

The National Theatre actress Emma Manton won last year's Silver Bond highest fundraiser award in the London Marathon when she raised over £32,000 for the UN High Commission for Refugees. This gave her automatic entry into the 2017 Virgin Money London Marathon – so now she has another marathon to fundraise around!

"It was the obvious event to enter," she said. "I only live a mile from the start. But to get on UNHCR's list last year I had to raise an initial £2,000, so I asked my stage contacts for help. The National Theatre donated use of the Lyttleton Theatre – but then, what to stage? I asked some playwrights, and they produced an amazing seven bespoke one-act plays."

Emma is now putting on a repeat performance of the plays at the Haymarket Theatre at 4.00 pm on February 28th.

We hope that *WN* readers will do their best to support this absolutely excellent effort, and raise lots of money for the Syrian refugees.

For full details, please see page 3.

### Congratulations to Myles Dove

our former distribution manager, on his ninetieth birthday later this month.

### Air pollution

Greenpeace is urging the Mayor to join the Mayors of Paris, Madrid, Mexico City and Athens in banning diesel vehicles in their cities.

Sadik Khan has called for a diesel scrappage scheme and for reform of vehicle excise duty, to make it less attractive to buy polluting cars.

He has reiterated his plea for a new Clean Air Act to replace legislation that is over fifty years old. For later this year, a £10-a-day "T charge" on the most polluting vehicles is planned.

### Tree tricksters

Recently, men have been knocking on doors offering to fell or prune garden trees straight-away. They charge hundreds of pounds even for a small job, and are also committing an offence as this is a Conservation Area: no major tree work can be done without the Council's consent

### Only the lonely . . .

A number of charities have worked to produce evidence that over nine million people, nearly a fifth of the population, say they are often or always lonely – but two-thirds of them feel uncomfortable admitting to it. 200,000 older people have not had a conversation with family or friends for a month, and 25% of parents have reported feeling often, or always, lonely. Even children – four million of them – say they sometimes feel desperately lonely. The issue much exercised Jo Cox, the MP murdered by a right-wing terrorist, and her anti-loneliness campaign is being carried forward by MPs Seema Kennedy and Rachel Reeves. We are all invited to do our bit. Chair of the Westcombe Society said "That's where community organisations like the Westcombe Society can play a part – but there's no substitute for individual action."

### Well done Pegga Stores,

which received some deservedly positive coverage in the BBC's London News on Boxing Day.



# COMMUNITY

## WESTCOMBE NEWS

### ALL EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

**Neville Grant**, The Editor  
wnews@westcombesociety.org  
Tel. 020 8858 8489

### ALL MATERIAL TO BE SENT TO: wnews@westcombesociety.org

**Deadline for the March issue:** 16th February  
**Environment Editor:** Maggie Gravelle  
**What's On:** Barbara Ward  
**Reporters:** The community – that means you!

**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
**Emily Norton** All queries and comments to: 020 8853 2756  
environment@westcombesociety.org

### DISTRIBUTION Emily Norton and volunteers.

Volunteer distributors please phone 020 8853 2756, we need your help!

### ADVERTISING MANAGER

**Marilyn Little**, 163 Westcombe Hill, SE3 7DP 020 8853 1312  
Advertising@westcombesociety.org

All adverts payable in advance by cheque to **The Westcombe Society**.  
**DISPLAY:** Single column 6cm x 6cm:  
One - four issues £35, five-plus issues £30 each. Other sizes: please inquire.  
**Classified Ads** (Market Place) 30p per word (A telephone number = one word. An 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**  
**Publisher:** The Westcombe Society  
**Chairman:** Marilyn Little  
Tel. 020 8853 1312

*The views expressed in the Westcombe News are not necessarily those of the Westcombe Society or of the Editor. We take all reasonable precautions to protect the interests of our readers by ensuring as far as possible the bona fides of our advertisers but cannot accept any responsibility for them. Any complaints should be addressed to the advertiser.*

To access back-numbers (in colour) go to:  
[www.westcombesociety.org/westcombe-news/](http://www.westcombesociety.org/westcombe-news/)

Westcombe Society's Blog:  
<http://westcombe.blogspot.com>

### Westcombe Society membership

please send this membership form to:  
**Christine Legg**, 69 Mycenae Road,  
London, SE3 7SE

Name.....

Address.....

tel.....

e mail: .....

Please enclose payment as appropriate:

Family membership	£12		
individual membership	£8		
senior Citizens/unwaged	£4		

## IT SUPPORT

For ALL your home & business needs

Call now for FREE advice



020 8858 2002

[www.headstart.it](http://www.headstart.it)

## Are you jumping with joy at the prospects for 2017?!



Or perhaps jumping for joy at the inauguration of Donald Trump? No, these are just Greenwich Morrismen ringing their bells . . . See feature on page 6.

## Homes for the homeless



**Blackheath Halls Friends Annual Architecture Richard Grierson Lecture** is on Wednesday 22 February 2016 at 8.00 pm, and will be given by Peter Barber (winner of the 2016 NLA Building of the Year Winner). He will be speaking on: "THE STREET... who owns the city?"

The New London Awards recognise the very best in architecture, planning and development in the capital, including both new and proposed projects across all sectors of the built environment, selected by an international expert jury.

Peter Barber set up his practice in 1989 and has made a strong impact in the field of housing, winning many awards. He has

recently completed the remarkable Holmes Road Studios for homeless people for which, in 2016 he won the NLA building of the year. His lecture could not be more apposite, as London records a shamefully high number of homeless people.

Peter Barber has also been named architect of the year in 2011 by Building Design, and he won the Grand Award for Architecture in 2015 from the Royal Academy. He also lectures and is design tutor at the University of Westminster.

**Richard Grierson Lecture: £12 (£10 seniors, £6 students) Blackheath Halls. Information on [www.blackheathhalls.com](http://www.blackheathhalls.com) or box office 020 8463 0100**



## Letters

Any views expressed are personal, and are not necessarily those of the Westcombe Society or the WN. Please give address & telephone number; these will not be printed.

**From: David Drummond**  
**Vanbrugh Hill**

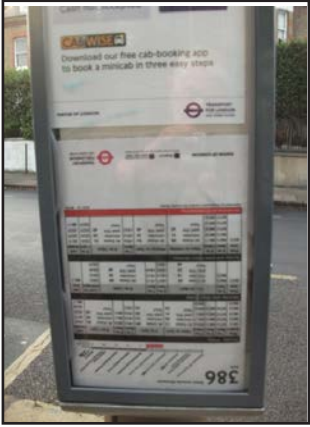
Understandable to visiting Australians perhaps – but would-be passengers at this Vanbrugh Hill bus stop at least expected some remedy when an additional notice was added alerting us to the absence of buses whilst speed bumps were installed. After at least six weeks, we had to rely on memory whilst we awaited the signage on the right to be corrected.

**From: Mark Johnson-Brown**  
**Mycenae House**

I write to pass on our sincere thanks to you and the *Westcombe News* for promoting the Mycenae Soup fund-raising dinner in your splendid publication. In total the event raised £1297 to support great causes within our community. We plan to hold our next Soup event on Friday 17th November 2017, so I hope readers will bear that in mind for future reference.

Thanks again: we in Mycenae House really valued your involvement, and look forward to working with you on future community events. Our community is greater for your involvement.

**From: Terry Scales** **Greenwich**  
I refer to Graham Dear's article in the December edition of the *WN* on "Supporting Greenwich Park". I



would like to sound a word of caution. Enticing as they are, huge grants of money from lottery funds and the like do not always benefit the recipients. Managers can sometimes be tempted to do more than is required, and this can result in a loss of the site's original charm.

Of course, maintenance of steps and paths is utterly necessary. But do we really need to be the village explainers of our park's history?

Where would such plaques be located? Not I hope in open spaces. Above all, we love our park for its mysterious romantic vistas, utterly natural, and uncluttered with signage.

The least we do the better. Let us continue to be inspired by the wildness, the inspiration for Turner and countless other artists.

Any money spent on the boat lake is most welcome, but for the rest, the less we do, the better.

Many will remember what a beautiful sight the Cutty Sark was before the fire. A fortune was spent on repairs – which managed to hide much of the silhouette in a plastic skirt.

Incidentally, it was terrible news to hear of the possible loss of the chestnut trees because of disease. Might it be possible to preserve

some of the trees even just as dead trunks, and grow variegated ivy to cover the upper branches?

**Ed: Terry's plea about signage echoes that of John Keats' concept of 'Negative Capability', when "Man is capable of being in uncertainties, mysteries, doubts, without any irritable reaching after fact and reason." [from Keats' letters] Was Keats in some way related to Donald Trump? What do readers think?**

## Community garden under threat

A derelict car park at the foot of Royal Hill that has been turned into a community garden is under threat of being torn down, to create space for housing.

Local resident Tony Othen said:

"We started a few years ago: the land was derelict, and full of rubbish. So five or six of us cleared up the space, and with the generosity of so many people in the community, we've turned it into a community space and garden. Hundreds of plants have been given, and many many local people have been helping to build up what we have today – a quiet space where people can relax."

The Royal Hill Community Garden in Greenwich has taken hundreds of hours to build and care for. But now it may be lost, as new plans for the plot have been revealed. Developers want to build up to four new family homes on the site.

A spokesperson from the council said: "London is desperately short of housing and Greenwich, like all local authorities, is committed to creating new homes where we can. However, we are liaising with current users of the space to explore a temporary licence to allow them use of the site before construction of new family homes (with gardens) begins."

Said Tony: "Heaven knows if that will ever happen: there's a railway tunnel beneath the site; my guess is that there might be too many technical difficulties in building houses here."

So watch – and enjoy! – this space!

## On Probation

In a new play, called *Probation*, Benoit D Caves explores the lives of three young people involved in knife crime and gang culture. The convicted young offenders are encouraged to try group therapy sessions to assist them towards early release on probation, but their entangled and damaged lives explode with devastating effect. **Probation is at 8.00 pm on Friday 17th Feb. in Mycenae House. Tickets: £8 online at [WeGotTickets](http://WeGotTickets) (£10 on the door)**

## Mycenae House & Gardens 2017

Great Nights Out!

**Wed 1 Feb Icarus Acoustic Club**

Acoustic live music performed by quality, original songwriters 7.30pm £7.50

**Fri 10 Feb JazzNights**

Candlelit Live music event hosted by Dave Silk featuring allstar guests. 8pm £10

**Sat 11 Feb Princess & The Frog ( Lets All Dance )**

Magical ballet for 2-9 year olds & their families. 1pm + 3pm £9/£7

**Fri 17 Feb Global Fusion Music & Arts**

Probation: A play about youth crime by Benoit Chaves. 7.30pm £8

**Wed 22 Feb Burton ( Theatre )**

Winner of 'Best International Show' at the Hollywood Fringe Festival with Rhodri Miles. 7.30pm £9

**Fri 24 Feb Icarus Acoustic Club**

Acoustic live music performed by high quality, original songwriters 7.30pm £7.50

More information on our website

020 8858 1749 [www.mycenaehouse.co.uk](http://www.mycenaehouse.co.uk)



# LOCAL NEWS



PHOTO: Neville Grant

How many men does it take to put up a Christmas Tree? Answer: five – one to do the work, and four management consultants. Many thanks to Brown and Brooke Estate Agents for sponsoring the Westcombe Society's festive Christmas Tree in 2016. ABOVE: the A Team – Peter, Brian, Robert, Alan and, er Simon? (Tho' Simon had apparently left, claiming to be in search of the Christmas fairy. Last seen in the Royal Standard ...)

## Homelessness: hopeless?

Government statistics show homelessness is rising between 5-9% on average across the country. The capital accounts for 32% of the England total and has also faced an 11% rise compared to the same period last year. If this pattern continues there will be more homeless people on the streets of London than ever before.

There are hopes that the Homelessness Reduction Bill, with MPs from all parties speaking in support, will have a significant impact on the problem of homelessness.

Matt Pennycook MP told the *WN*: "The Bill would make a huge change to homelessness law, both through the emphasis it places on prevention, and through the changes that it imposes on local authorities to assist non-priority groups, particularly single people, in finding accommodation."

"However, there are now two tests for Government: first, to fund the costs of the new legal duties in full; and secondly, to tackle the causes of the growing homelessness crisis in this country."

"While I welcome the Government's support for this cross-party Bill, I believe the rise in homelessness is due to its decisions since 2010: ending investment in new affordable rented homes, taking £5bn from housing benefit and payments, inaction on short-term lets and soaring rents in the private rented sector and overseeing deep cuts to funding for vital

homelessness services. Therefore, the measures in the Bill must be the first step in a wider Government strategy to reverse rising homelessness."

There are fears that the bill may be an excuse to devolve responsibility to councils without proper funding, or to shift the blame to councils for the Government's failure on homelessness. The Government must ensure that additional costs are fully met for the long-term.

## Not all bad . . .



Many locals celebrated the arrival of 2018 with a Wassail in the East Greenwich Pleasaunce off Halstow Road. This medieval tradition has been adopted by the Friends of the Pleasaunce, to encourage fertility and a good harvest from our park's fruit trees.

Twelfth Night was actually celebrated on "Fourteenth Night" – Sunday 8th January. Did that break the rules? If so, it didn't bother the good people who took part. Lots of families much enjoyed spiced Kent cider, Morris Dancing, Stick-Banging (stick-banging?) and general merriment, while children made celebratory crowns.

## New Year Resolutions

New research has found that almost 60% of Londoners had broken their New Year's Resolution by the 11th of January. Here are three to ponder on:

- 1 Resolve never to give way to depression. (This was Gabrielle Palmer's resolution)
- 2 Befriend someone who may be left on their own too much.
- 3 Never open an email from a person or persons unknown. It may contain a virus and/or be a "Trojan Horse". Delete unopened!

## Raising funds for Syrian Refugees

Mel Giedroyc (The Great British Bake-Off – when it moved from the Beeb she "wouldn't follow the dough...") will join the all-star cast of *Moving Stories* at the Theatre Royal Haymarket on 26th February to raise funds for the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR).

*Moving Stories* is curated by actress Emma Manton (RSC *Love's Labour's Lost* & *Much Ado About Nothing*) in response to the current global refugee crisis and was first performed at the National Theatre in 2016.

"I have been absolutely blown away by the response of the theatrical community to this event," Emma told the *WN*. "All the writers and performers have offered their services for free to show support for refugees around the world. It's very humbling."

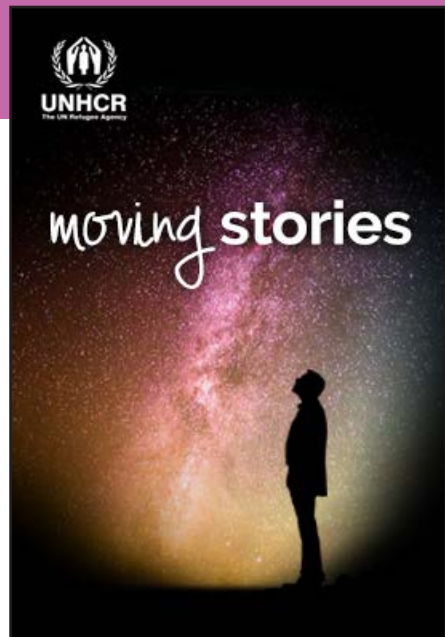
Some of the UK's finest writers have written and donated material for the event, including Richard Bean, David Edgar, Phil Porter, Michelle Terry and Jennifer Toksvig.

The cast includes Adjoa Andoh (*Doctor Who*), Edward Bennett (*Much Ado about Nothing*), James Bolam (*New Tricks*), Anna-Jane Casey (*Mack and Mabel*), Natalie Casey (*Two Pints of Lager and a Packet of Crisps*), Ray Fearon (*Coronation Street*), Rufus Hound (*Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*), Evelyn Hoskins (*Sound of Music Live*), Andy Nyman (Hangmen), Caroline Sheen (*Mary Poppins*), and Zubin Varla (*Dara*), subject to availability.

All profits from the performance will be donated to the UNHCR to provide much needed support and assistance to refugees caught up in the current global refugee crisis – the most overwhelming since the Second World War. Tickets, priced from £15 are available from the Theatre Royal Haymarket box office.

Mr Gonzalo Vargas Llosa, UNHCR Representative to the UK said,

"Over the past months, we have seen an extraordinary outpouring of public support in the UK for the plight of Syrian refugee families, including wonderful initiatives such as the 'Moving Stories' benefit event."



UNHCR is deeply grateful to the organisers, the contributing performers, to the Haymarket Theatre, and to the audience. With your support, we will be able to continue our life-saving work to protect and meet the urgent humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable refugee families."

The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) protects refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless people around the world. Its staff are on the ground throughout Europe providing vital assistance to refugees currently travelling in search of safety from conflict and persecution. UNHCR is leading the humanitarian response to the Syrian refugee crisis in neighbouring countries such as Jordan and Lebanon, as well as working with governments to resettle some of the most vulnerable Syrian refugees so they can rebuild their lives in communities in the UK and in other safe countries around the world.

There is something of a local tradition in support of UNHCR: Blackheath and Greenwich United Nations Association has held three International Art Auctions over the past few years in support of its work.

**PRESS CONTACT – Emma Manton**  
**Listings Details: 4.00pm Sunday 26th. Feb. Theatre Royal Haymarket, Haymarket, London SW1Y 4HT Box office: 020 7930 8800**  
<http://www.trh.co.uk/whatson/moving-stories-sunday-26th-february-4pm/>

## Chas & Dave: The Masters of Rockney

The history of Chas & Dave is to be performed in one special show – and it's coming to Blackheath Halls.

Chas & Dave are one of those iconic acts that still consistently perform to sell-out venues across the UK – and they return to Blackheath Halls with their greatest hits show in March 2017.

Over the last 2 years they have had a new hit album *That's What Happens*, headlined The Royal Variety Show, sold out at the Royal Albert Hall in London, and supported Status Quo.

On 9th May 2015 they performed at VE



*Day 70: A Party to Remember* in Horse Guards Parade, London, which was televised on BBC TV. It's hard to believe that their first album was *One Fing 'an' Anuvver* in 1975!

They know how to give their audiences a good time, and this event will see them perform all the hits that made this Cockney duo famous including *Gertcha*, *Sideboard Song*, *Rabbit*, *Ain't No Pleasing You*, *Margate* and much, much more.

**Chas & Dave: The Full Story Live**  
**FRI 31st MARCH 8.00pm, Great Hall**  
**TICKETS: £29.50 | £27.50 concessions**

## Offering a helping hand

Looking for a job? Need new skills and experience? Volunteering can be a big plus on your CV.

One of the opportunities available is the Person 2 Person scheme, under which volunteers offer support and companionship to isolated or lonely people: volunteers visit vulnerable

adults and older people in their home, and help out with basic tasks and/or take people out locally; travel and phone expenses can be reimbursed.

Three references are required.  
**To find out more, contact Careers Carers centre on 0300 300 2233 or visit [www.thestables7.com](http://www.thestables7.com)**

## St George's Church, Westcombe Park

Weekly services:

**Sunday 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion**  
(All-age service on the first Sunday of each month)

**8:00 p.m. Sceptics Group** (1st and 3rd Sundays) at the Vicarage  
**Tuesday: 7.00pm Greenwich Winter Night Shelter** for homeless people who have been referred

**Wednesday 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer**  
**12.30 p.m. Lunch and Fellowship** (Soup, bread, fruit and cheese)

**Wed. 15th Feb.: Spiritual Film Night: Selma** (2014) Martin Luther King, Jr. and the 1965 Voting Rights struggle in Alabama

Contact: Rev'd Tim Yeager  
[ryeager@gmail.com](mailto:ryeager@gmail.com) Tel. 07804 614245



# FEATURES

## Enderby Wharf: the true story

MARY MILLS & PETER LUCK

**Enderby Wharf has played an important role in world history. The Enderby Group want to preserve it for posterity.**

**Right: Enderby House**

PHOTO:  
Peter Luck



We all take international phone calls and the internet for granted. We can talk, email, send photos, videos, and documents to almost anywhere in the world at the touch of a button.

Many local people will be aware of the Enderby Group, who are running a local campaign to recognise and protect the heritage of Greenwich's unique role in this amazing communication revolution.

It was here that the first transatlantic telegraph cable was made and loaded on to ships, and for over 160 years, continuing still, workers at Enderby Wharf have been leaders in the cable-based technologies that now connect the world. Up to the 1970s the majority of sub-sea cables were made here and today, at the rear of the same site, work continues on making advanced equipment for sub-sea cables.

Local people will be aware that the riverside itself has been sold to developers for housing and the controversial cruise liner terminal. What remains on site is Enderby House, a 19th century Grade II listed building, named for the Enderby family who sponsored Antarctic exploration, and where early meetings of the Royal Geographical Society were held.

At present Enderby House is in a sad state of neglect: the Enderby Group want the interior of the house to be carefully refurbished. In particular work on The Octagon Room, site of early meetings of the Geographical Society, and also The Royal Society, should be carried out.

There is also cable-loading equipment preserved on one of two surviving jetties as well as steps into the river on which there is an important art work. The developers, Barratt, are required to restore the house under their planning consent and the Group are pressing for a future use which will include a recognition of the heritage of the area – and not just a few pictures hung in the bar of a riverside gastro-pub, as has been proposed.

The Enderby Group want to see Enderby House and the space linking it to the Thames Path and the jetties treated as a whole. The space would be called Pender Plaza, after Sir John Pender, the first chairman (from 1864- 1868) of Telcon – the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company. The group have circulated their ideas for the area with an interpretation of the development here of international communications as well as developing the area with facilities for local residents and visitors – including the many people who walk the riverside path. The Group has recently conducted a footfall survey on the path, which has for long been a much-valued local amenity.

What is needed most of all is support for the Group's ideas. They have sent out an information pack out to many local groups and people and are happy to send out more. **Please get in touch if you would like to have copies. See their web site [www.enderby.org.uk](http://www.enderby.org.uk) or their Facebook page.**

**The view to the South-West from Enderby Wharf towards the Old Royal Naval College – now the University of Greenwich**



PHOTO:  
Rob Powell

## Is education happening?

**Education** means the process by which children are led to acquire deep knowledge and deep insights to prepare for their adult lives: about how people tick, about themselves, about the history which led to where we are today, about the natural world, science, technology and the computerizing of information.

**Cramming** means memorizing things superficially, quickly – in short term memory – to pass an exam.

The P E R (Education Renewal Group) was founded in 1993 to try to ban cramming in schools and get back to genuine education.

**For more details contact [philosophyper@aol.com](mailto:philosophyper@aol.com)**

## Book Review The Thick of It

JIM WINTOUR reviews *Substance not Spin*, by Nick Raynsford. Policy Press, 2016, £17.99

Nick Raynsford was the local Member of Parliament for this area from 1992 to 2015. In this book he draws on his experience as an MP, minister and campaigner, to try to answer the question: why do some policies succeed and others fail?

As a local MP he pressed successfully for the first underground station in Greenwich – the additional stop on the Jubilee Line at North Greenwich. He also pressed successfully for the additional station on the Docklands Light Railway at the Cutty Sark and the additional station on Crossrail at Woolwich (due to open in December 2018).

The campaign to add the Woolwich station to Crossrail illustrates how he succeeded. On the one hand Berkeley Homes, Greenwich Council and the Mayor of London offered the Government the carrot of funding for the station. On the other hand, the Crossrail Bill Committee, on which Nick Raynsford sat, threatened the Government with the big stick of stopping the Crossrail legislation altogether unless the Woolwich station was added. The Government gracefully conceded.

He was a very diligent constituency MP, regularly appearing in my office when I worked for Greenwich Council to press the cases of individual constituents. He was also a brilliant campaigner.

When we campaigned together against Margaret Thatcher's proposal to compulsorily transfer council housing to Housing

Action Trusts, we had built up a strong coalition of tenant opposition throughout England. However, it was Nick Raynsford who identified the section in the Government's manifesto that was their Achilles heel. Partly as a result, Mrs Thatcher backed down and conceded a tenant ballot.

Nick Raynsford spent eight years as a Government minister. He was deeply concerned that many voters believed that voting made no difference, with the percentage of those eligible to vote but not doing so rising from 16% in 1950 to 39% in 2005. To counter this alienation, he tried to devolve more power from central government and one of his achievements as a minister was to establish the Greater London Assembly and the post of Mayor of London.

He raises the spectre of the slow death of council housing, with inner London areas like Greenwich being reserved for the affluent, and people on low and middle incomes being driven out to live in Paris style 'banlieues'. As a minister he tried to counter this by building more affordable housing.

There are many lessons to be learnt from this book. But the main lesson may be that an MP endowed with a fierce intelligence, the wisdom to focus on key issues and a Calvinistic capacity for hard work can help to change the world.

**Jim Wintour was a director of housing at the Royal Borough of Greenwich.**

## The Royal Parks: Looking ahead

The Friends of Greenwich Park Annual Lecture is to be given on February 9th by Loyd Grossman CBE, Chairman of the new Royal Parks Board.

Loyd Grossman has been appointed the new Chairman of this new Royal Parks organisation – a merger of the existing government agency with the Royal Parks Foundation (the Parks' charity) into a public corporation with charitable status. His talk will introduce this new organisation, due to be launched shortly, with his vision for the future.

Loyd's lifelong interest in history, the arts and heritage has involved him in many organisations. He has served on the

boards of English Heritage and the Museums and Galleries Commission, and is also Chairman of the Heritage Alliance. He is of course very well known as a journalist, TV presenter and restaurant critic.

**Loyd Grossman's talk "The Royal Parks: Looking Ahead" is on Thursday 9th February at 7.30pm for 8.00pm at The King William Lecture Theatre, University of Greenwich, at the Old Royal Naval College. Tickets are £10 (to include a glass of wine) from Friends of Greenwich Park, 52 Greenwich Park Street, SE10 9LT (tel 8853 2150) or on the door from 7.00pm.**

**Beverley Morris & Co.**  
SOLICITORS



- Family Law
- Planning Law
- Litigation and Employment Law
- Collective Freehold Purchases
- Residential / Commercial Conveyancing
- Wills / Administration of Estates
- Lease Extensions
- Lasting Powers of Attorney

**[www.beverleymorris.co.uk](http://www.beverleymorris.co.uk)**

020 8852 4433 [enquiries@beverleymorris.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@beverleymorris.co.uk)

**35 Montpelier Vale, Blackheath Village, London SE3 0TJ**  
Ground floor offices. Adjacent to Montpelier's delicatessen

**62 Lewisham High Street, London SE13 5JH**  
Close to Lewisham DLR and train stations





# WHAT'S ON



## ARTS

**BLACKHEATH DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY**, St Mary's Church Hall, Cresswell Park, Blackheath [www.artsinblackheath.org](http://www.artsinblackheath.org)  
All meetings are on the 4th Thursday of each month- except August and December- 2pm for 2.30pm  
**23rd Feb. Alexandra Epps on JOHN SINGER SARGENT - THE POWER OF THE PORTRAIT.** Non-members may pay on the door  
**GREENWICH DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY** King William Court, University of Greenwich Monday 13th Feb. 2017 8.00pm prompt. **HABITAT CATALOGUED** by Caroline MacDonald- Haig Visitors may pay on the door  
**STEPHEN LAWRENCE GALLERY**, University of Greenwich **MY GRANDDAD'S CAR:** exploring the metaphorical significance of cars inherited from their grandfathers in Pakistan and Nigeria. Featuring film, photos, and sculpture created while visiting their ancestral homelands. Until February 10th. Free.

## CHILDREN & FAMILY

**CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES AT THE BRIDGE**  
**East Greenwich Pleasaunce**  
**Stay-and-play sessions for under-5s** run on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10.00am-12.00pm and 12.30-2.30pm and Fridays from 10.00am-12.00pm  
Gardening Club for under 5s accompanied by a parent, grandparent or carer on Mondays 1.30-2.30pm  
For info on other sessions involving arts and craft and baby music, visit [www.thebridgegreenwich.co.uk](http://www.thebridgegreenwich.co.uk) or email [thebridges10@gmail.com](mailto:thebridges10@gmail.com)  
**BLACKHEATH HALLS 23, Lee Rd. Blackheath SE3 9RQ 0208 463 0100 [www.trinitylaban.ac.uk](http://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk)**  
**THUMBELINA** Sat 11th Feb 1.00pm & 3.00pm Suitable for ages 2+ £8.50  
**THE UGLY DUCKLING** Sat 25th Feb. 1pm & 3pm **SEA LEGS PUPPET THEATRE** Suitable for ages 3+ £8.50 Plus: 15 minutes: **Meet the Puppets!**  
**GREENWICH THEATRE CROOMS HILL** London SE10 8ES 8858 7755  
**Sun. 12th 5.00 pm & Mon 13th Feb. 2.00 & 6.00pm**  
**HEAVEN EYES** by David Almond (Skellig) presented by Theatre sans Frontieres  
**WOW! SAID THE OWL** Tues 14 Feb. Explore the wow-world of colours with this curious little owl  
**Mark Thompson's Spectacular Science Show** Wed 15th Feb. 11.am & 3.00 pm Think Science is boring? Think again! £13.50, concs £11.50 Child. £8.50  
**MICHAEL MORPURGO's KING ARTHUR** Thurs. 16th Feb. 2.00pm & 5.00pm  
All Tickets £13.50, Concs £11, Children £8.50 Plus £1.00 booking fee] Ages: 7+  
**DON'T DRIBBLE ON THE DRAGON** Fri 17th -Sun 19th Feb. My brother keeps his dragon in a box... 2+  
**SHERINGTON CHILDREN'S CENTRE**, Tel. 0208 - 3053140 - 14, Sherington Road SE7 7JW  
**DAD'S STAY AND PLAY** session every Wednesday, 1.00pm -2.30pm -free drop in Sherington Children's Centre, all home dads welcome Each 2nd Saturday of the month - 10.00am -11.30am - free brunch/arts and craft Contact [Daniel.hall1985@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Daniel.hall1985@hotmail.co.uk) for more details, [www.selondondads.org.uk](http://www.selondondads.org.uk)

## SPOKEN WORD

**BLACKHEATH HALLS 23, Lee Rd. Blackheath SE3 9RQ Box Office: 0208 463 0100**  
**WED 22 February 8.00pm RICHARD GRIERSON ANNUAL ARCHITECTURE LECTURE**  
**RECITAL ROOM:** Presented by Peter Barber, the 2016 NLA Architect of the Year £12.00 | £10.00  
**WED. 1st March 8.00 pm Boris Rummy: THE SPLITS; RECITAL ROOM** A memoir and honest account of a difficult life £10.00  
**INDUSTRIAL HISTORY SOCIETY**  
[greenwichindustrialhistory.blogspot.co.uk](http://greenwichindustrialhistory.blogspot.co.uk)  
21st Feb. Andrew Turner on Redpath Brown & Co  
**BLACKHEATH SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY**  
Friday lectures at 7.45pm Mycenae House.  
**Feb 17 Medical Microscopy** TBC  
Visitors welcome - donations £3 to the society.  
**IN-WORDS**  
Irena Hill has said a sad goodbye to Made in Greenwich, and asks everyone to keep in touch with her via [irena@in-words.co.uk](mailto:irena@in-words.co.uk)  
**Feb. 7th 7.00for 7.30 pm** Jan Fortune & Adam Craig (founders of Cinnamon Press) will read from their latest novels. West Greenwich Library. Free (donations for refreshments welcome)  
**March 7th at 7.00pm** Frances Spurrier and friends will read from their latest collections. West Greenwich Library.  
Free (donations for refreshments welcome)

## Grant Saw Wealth Management Limited

**INDEPENDENT PERSONAL and CORPORATE FINANCIAL ADVISERS**  
Investments - Pensions - Estate Planning

2 Charlton Road, Blackheath Standard  
London SE3 7EX (T) 020 3417 9760  
email: [enquiries@gswealth.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@gswealth.co.uk)  
website: [www.gswealth.co.uk](http://www.gswealth.co.uk).

**HELPING YOU PLAN YOUR FUTURE**  
*Grant Saw Wealth Management Ltd. is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority*

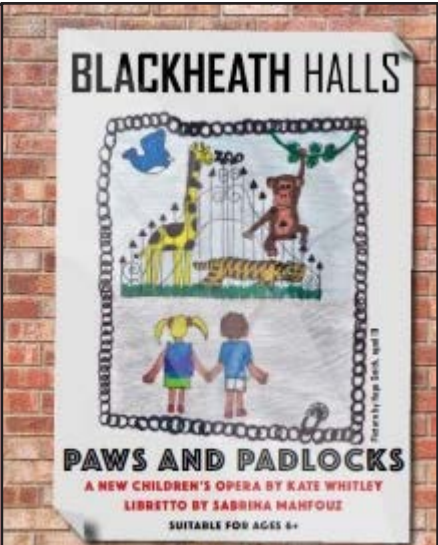


## ADVANCE NOTICE: COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S OPERA

**“PAWS AND PADLOCKS”**  
A new children's opera by Kate Whitley

George and Georgina are accidentally locked in the zoo one night. They make friends with the animals - and discover a dastardly plan . . .  
60 children and adults are needed for this show, no previous experience necessary!  
Participation fee: £40.00

Rehearsals: Sat 1st - Sun 9th April Some evening & weekend rehearsals from Sat.11th March.  
PERFORMANCES: Sat 8th April 2.0pm & 6.0pm  
Sunday 9th April: 2.00 and 6.00 pm  
TICKETS: £11.00 | Under 12s £6.00  
Performances suitable for Ages 5+



## THE WESTCOMBE SOCIETY

**Pl. see page one. These events can only take place if more volunteers come forward to help. Interested? Please ring Joanne on 07709 571777.**

## COMMUNITY

**BLACKHEATH & GREENWICH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE** First Wed. each month, 7.00 for 7.30pm at Sunfields Methodist Church, Old Dover Road  
**BLACKHEATH BRIDGE CLUB** duplicate sessions in Mycenae House Mon & Thurs 7.15pm and on Wed at 1.15pm. Tel Ron 0208 319 1312  
**DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION OF BEXLEY, BROMLEY GREENWICH & LEWISHAM**  
Info: 07762265827 Help Line: 0300 999 1800  
Thurs 23rd Feb & Thurs 20th April 7.45pm  
Talks on Handwriting, and Revision Tips and Techniques. At St Nicholas Church Hall (Village Hall) Church Lane, Chislehurst Kent BR7 5PE  
**Adult Dyslexia Group:** First Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm Community House, South Street, N Bromley BR1 1RH  
**CHARLTON HOUSE [www.charltonhouse](http://www.charltonhouse)**  
8856 3001 Mulberry Tea Rooms Mon-Fri 9am- 4pm  
Lunchtime concert every Friday 1.00pm-2.00pm  
**BLACKHEATH & GREENWICH UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION:** Tues. 21st March Will be showing *The Coming War with China*, John Pilger's alarming (alarmist?) film. The Trump effect... Meeting starts at 7.00 pm as the film is long, and time will be needed for discussion. Free. All welcome.  
**ST MICHAEL'S ART GALLERY** is opening at St Michael's Church Blackheath Park for an exhibition of amateur and semi-professional paintings and sculptures on **2 February 5.00pm to 8.00pm and then on 4th, 5th, 8th and 11th February, 12 to 5.00pm.** Anyone wishing to exhibit please contact Chris at [cjashworth307@icloud.com](mailto:cjashworth307@icloud.com) or the church office at 1 Pond Road. **SMAG** will be open 3 or 4 times a year as a venue for those wishing to exhibit and sell their works.  
**WESTCOMBE WOODLANDS**  
Next volunteers days are **Sunday 5th. February and Saturday 4th March 10.00 am - 1.00 pm.** Please bring your own tools if you have them. Our meeting point will be at the new gate at the western end of the Seren Park car park. NB We are not allowed to park in this private car park.  
**GREENWICH/BLACKHEATH READING GROUP** Meet at Greenwich Union Pub, Royal Hill. First Wednesdays of each month (but this February the meeting is on the second Wednesday! Feb 8th 7.30pm for 8pm Informal, friendly, mixed group. Come join us! Read-Drink-Discuss. Next book: *The Bees* by Laline Paul (2015) Contact [ward.barbara@mac.com](mailto:ward.barbara@mac.com)  
**GLOBAL FUSION MUSIC & ARTS**  
Free workshops Fortnightly Tuesday and Friday community workshops 7.30-8.30pm at Mascalls Meeting Room off Victoria Way, Charlton SE7 7TT  
Info 0208 858 9497  
Fri. 19th Feb.World Cinema Night Charlton House  
Friday 25th event in Mycenae House  
Sat. 27th Feb. Fair-Trade Fortnight Event with Kora Player from Guinea Mosi Conde, Stalls, Taster Sessions, free massage and Trad. Ethiopian Coffee Ceremony. Mycenae House

## THEATRE

**THE GREENWICH THEATRE**, Crooms Hill, London SE10 8ES Box Office: 8858 7755  
**Sun 5th Feb. 7.30 THE VANISHING MAN** For those who believe in magic... £16 | 13.50  
**Mon 6th Feb. 7.30 THE LET AWARD** Les Enfants Terrible showcase the work of those shortlisted £11  
**Tues. 7th - Sat 11th Feb. FRANKENSTEIN** adapted £21.00 | £16.00  
**Wed. 22nd Feb - Sun 12th March Tues- Sat 7.30 pm Sat Matinee 2.30 Sun 4.00 pm UK Premiere of The Rock Musical LIZZIE £26.00 | £21**  
**AND IN THE NEW STUDIO:**  
**31st Jan. - 4th Feb. 8.00pm THEY BUILT IT. NO ONE CAME.** 8 years ago Tobias and Alex formed a spiritualist commune. They are still awaiting their first member... Monty Python eat your heart out ... £11.00  
**Tues.7th - Sat 11th Feb. 7.45 (Sat 6.00 & 9.00pm) A SUPER HAPPY STORY** £11.00  
**THE ALEXANDER PLAYERS**  
Alexandra Hall, Bramshot Ave. SE7  
**Wed. 15th - Sat. Feb.18th 8.00pm Doors open 7.30**  
**THE MEMORY OF WATER** by Shelagh Stephenson 07867 627 987 £9 (£8 Conc.)  
This prize-winning play concerns three sisters who come together for their mother's funeral.

## MUSIC

**BLACKHEATH HALLS 23, Lee Road SE3 9RQ 0208 463 0100 [www.trinitylaban.ac.uk](http://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk)**  
**CLASSICAL:**  
**Sun. 5th Feb. 11.00 am Great Hall THE AUSTEN TRIO** perform Haydn, Handel, Dussek & Cramer. Tickets £14 | £12.00 concs.  
**Fri 10th Feb. 7.30 pm Great Hall STRAVINSKY's THE RITE OF SPRING** plus Kalinnikov's *Symph. No. 1* & O'Hare's *Thread*. £12.00 | £7.00 concs.  
**Wed. 15th Feb. 7.30 pm JETTE PARKER YOUNG ARTISTS RECITAL** Opera stars of the future perform arias & duets. Tickets: £7.00 | £5.00 concs.  
**Sun. 19th Feb. 11.00 am GUILDHALL CANTATA ENSEMBLE** Unmissable chance to hear music from 16th - 18th Century from Monteverdi's Venice played by Guildhall artists £14.00 | £12.00  
**Sun 26th Feb. 6.30 pm** Blackheath Halls Orchestra play Verdi, Beethoven (3rd Piano Concerto) & Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 4 £10 | £8.00 concs.  
**LUNCHTIME RECITALS Mon. 27th Feb. 1.10pm** Viv McLean plays Bach's Goldberg Variations, & Bach/ Busoni's Choral Preludes  
**MAINSTREAM**  
**Sat 4th Feb. UKULELE ORCHESTRA OF GREAT BRITAIN** play "Heresy and Heritage" 8.00 pm Tickets: £26 | £24.00 concs.  
**Sat 11th Feb. THE GREAT AMERICAN SONG-BOOK 7.30 pm** Great Hall featuring the Sam Jewison Orchestra Tickets £15.00 | £5 students  
**7th & 8th Feb. and 7th. 8th March 7.30 pm BEATS IN THE BAR** FREE, but ticketed. Trinity Laban students with guest artists

## NEW CHOREOGRAPHY: MIXED BILL

**TUE 14th. FEB 7.30 pm**  
**LABAN THEATRE £6 | £4**

**Come and see works by the choreography stars of the future as they embark on their professional careers.**

**Box office: 020 8463 0100**

## MYCENAE HOUSE LIVE EVENTS: FEBRUARY 2017

**Wed 1st Feb 7.30pm - Icarus Club.** An evening of acoustic live music performed by high quality, original songwriters. £7.50.  
**Fri 10th Feb 8pm - JazzNights.** Candlit Live Jazz music event hosted by Dave Silk featuring JazzNights Allstars plus guests. £10.  
**Sat 11th Feb 1pm + 3pm - Let's All Dance** present The Princess and The Frog. Magical ballet for 2-9 year olds & their families. £9/£7.  
**Fri 17th Feb 7.30pm - Global Fusion Music & Arts.** Probation: A play about youth crime by Benoit Chaves. Advance tickets £8.  
**Wed 22nd Feb 7.30pm - Burton.** Winner of 'Best International Show' at the Hollywood Fringe Festival with Rhodri Miles. £9  
**Fri 24th Feb 7.30pm - Icarus Club.** An evening of acoustic live music performed by high quality, original songwriters. £7.50.

For further information about all Mycenae House events, please visit [www.mycenaehouse.co.uk](http://www.mycenaehouse.co.uk)



**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  
· WEDDING STATIONARY

1a Lizban st  
blackheath, London se3 8ss  
tel: 020 8853 2268

e mail: [dave@trojanpress.co.uk](mailto:dave@trojanpress.co.uk)  
[www.trojanpress.com](http://www.trojanpress.com)

**r .G. Austin**

(Established 1963)



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

GAS  
SAFE

Shower and Bathroom Specialists

2A Hassendean Rd, Blackheath SE3 8TS  
Telephone: 0208 858 7359  
[rgaustin@fsmail.net](mailto:rgaustin@fsmail.net)

## THE WOODLANDS FARM TRUST

331 Shooters Hill, Welling, Kent DA16 3RP  
Telephone: 020 8319 8900

**February Half Term Events for children**

**Wed. 15th Feb. 1.00 - 3.0pm** Print a picture  
Come up with your own pattern or design and then using special paint and rollers you can print this picture onto paper to take home with you. Just drop in to make your own print. £3 per child.  
**Thurs. 16th Feb.** Woodlands Farm Trail -Then and now 10.00am - 1.00pm See how the farm has changed on our 20th anniversary! £2 per child.  
**Fri. 17th Feb. Get Wild in the Woods** 11.00am - 1.00pm & 2.00pm-4.00pm. Learn how to survive in the wild: shelter building, cooking over a fire etc.and learn what animals need to survive.  
**£4 per child Age 7+ Booking essential!**



## 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)





# FEATURES

## Greenwich Morris

Over the summer readers of *Westcombe News* may well have come across a group of men in white, with brown waist-coats and bells, dancing with sticks or handkerchiefs outside a pub, by the Cutty Sark or the park gates.

For 40 years, on summer evenings and warm weekends, Greenwich Morris Men have danced about the Royal Borough. In July we celebrated our birthday with a day of dance, inviting several other sides to join us: 100 people, from different Morris traditions, dancing by the river! It was a colourful, cheerful and musical spectacle.

Our year began a few months earlier, on May 1st, at dawn. Every May Day, as the sun rises over Blackheath, we dance near the south entrance to the park. We have a huge, appreciative audience – unfortunately, it's in a hurry, but we get a wave and a honk as coaches, lorries and cars speed along the A2. And there are always a few bleary-eyed people who, despite it being 5.15 am, come along to watch us dance, welcoming the summer. Then, every Thursday evening (until it gets too dark for us to catch the sticks), and on many weekends, Greenwich Morris dance somewhere local: at the Cutty Sark (both the ship and the pub!), in the Old Naval College, outside the station.

We venture further afield, too; never missing Rochester Sweeps Festival. In September we were invited by a Morris side in Guernsey, and spent a wonderful weekend dancing all over the island. We are wanted men - in such demand for community events such as Surrey Docks City Farm Spring Celebration, the summer fair at Shrewsbury Park and the wassail in in East Greenwich Pleasaunce – that we sometimes have to turn invitations down.

Morris dancing in Greenwich is very illuminating because the passers-by come from all around the world. They are curious about our dances, not so much because they find them strange but because of the similarities they see with the traditional dances of their own countries.

From Euskera - the Basque Country - to Turkey and beyond there are dances akin to the Morris. An man from Eritrea who saw us thought that we had learned some



of the dances of his country.

We're a friendly bunch, always welcoming new people, who usually pick up the dances pretty quickly. Anyone with some sense of rhythm, and a bit of stamina can enjoy Morris dancing. People from India and America have danced with us – and one current member is originally from Indonesia.

**Julian May**

We come from all walks of life; there's an electrician, an educational psychologist, a town-planner and one who was in Star Wars and Dr Strange, acting with Benedict Cumberbatch. There's no starting, and no retirement, age: our foreman (who teaches the dances) began when he was 11; another regular is in his eightieth year. Morris dancing keeps you healthy and happy – if not wealthy and wise.

We always dance to live music, played mostly on various assorted squeezeboxes. The tunes are terrific, and this is why composers such as Ralph Vaughan Williams and George Butterworth collected dance tunes and folksongs tunes and then incorporated them into their music.

Butterworth was one of a generation of Morris dancers killed in the Great War. In some villages the whole Morris side went off to war and never returned, and there was not much dancing until the folk

revival of the 1950s when young people rediscovered and learned the dances.

We sustain this tradition – the original street dance – by doing it: most of our members saw the side dancing somewhere, liked the look of it, came to have a go and enjoyed it so much that they stayed.

Morris is by no means stuck in the past: contemporary choreographers and hip-hop dancers are incorporating Morris in new works. There's video, viewed by thousands, of us dancing and swapping moves with Tommy Xpensive, a famous and fabulously funky You Tuber from Ivory Coast.

Now the cold weather has come in, Greenwich Morris Men have retreated from the streets to our winter home, Mycenae House. We're not hibernating, but practising and learning new dances – ready for our return, with the sun, on May Day next year. Now is your opportunity! We have some vacancies. If you would like to join us, to have a go at this wonderful, ancient, modern, English and global dance of the people and the streets, or if you are a musician and would like to play, please come along on Thursday evenings, 8.00-10.00pm, followed in the bar of Mycenae House by a liquid physiotherapy session. [greenwichmorris@gmail.com](mailto:greenwichmorris@gmail.com) [www.greenwichmorrismen.com](http://www.greenwichmorrismen.com) Mycenae House, Mycenae Road.

**Surely a phoney tradition . . .  
... isn't it?**

The Ooser that sometimes comes out with the Wessex Morrismen: one of many local traditions



[courtesy Dorset County Museum]

People are curious about the origins of Morris dancing. No one knows for sure but there is a longstanding idea that Morris is a contraction of Moorish, and that the dances might have come from North Africa. Scholars aren't convinced. But, back in the days when we unleashed bagpipers rather than bombers on Libya, a musician friend was sent by the British Council to perform at a festival there. He was astounded to witness six men, in two lines of three, dressed in white, with bells and handkerchiefs come dancing out of the desert. There might, then, be something in this theory.

One thing is certain: people have been Morris dancing in England for a very long time indeed. The earliest known reference to Morris dancing was in 1448, when the Goldsmiths' Company, another group with local connections, paid seven shillings for a 'morysk daunce'. Today that would be more than £180 – a fee we'd gladly turn out for.

The Morris used to be posh, a courtly dance, but when fashions moved on, it lost something of its lustre socially, but not its popular appeal. In 1600, Will Kempe, Shakespeare's clown, who was famous for his jigs, took a strange bet, and Morris-danced from London to Norwich. It took him nine days – and that's where the phrase 'a nine days' wonder' comes from.

Morris dancing persisted in rural areas and different traditions developed: processional dances, often with clogs, in the north west; Border Morris, all ragged jackets and whooping, in the Marches; Cotswold, the most elegant, using handkerchiefs to elongate the lines – which is what Greenwich Morris dances.



## Blackheath Bridge Club

For those who prefer less (physically) energetic pastimes, bridge at Blackheath Bridge Club is the answer!

Come and play at the club, and you will be following in the footsteps of an impressive band of famous exponents of the game, who first cut their teeth at the club, which was formed in 1952.

They include Terence Reese (the first president), Derek Patterson, the twins Neil and Stuart Tredinnick, and Neil Rosen; but our members are really just

average club players of varying ability.

The Club plays "duplicate bridge" – an increasingly popular form of the game. This means that the same hands are played repeatedly by different players, so that at the end of a session you can compare your results with those of other players. Instant feedback!

New players are warmly welcomed, and we have a host system to try to make sure that newcomers are never short of a partner. The Club participates in the EBU's 'Pay 2 Play' scheme, so members

are automatically entered as EBU members. Results are automatically scored, electronically, and players' Master points are automatically totted up by the English Bridge Union.

Results are displayed on the Club's website ([www.bridgewebs.com/blackheath](http://www.bridgewebs.com/blackheath)).

**Duplicate sessions are in Mycenae House Mondays and Thursdays at 7.15pm, and on Wednesdays at 1.15pm. (Limited access on Mondays for disabled people). Please ring Ron on 0208 319 1312 for more info.**

### A & A LANDSCAPES Landscape Specialists



Free advice & estimates



Qualified horticulturalist

All aspects of soft & hard landscaping work carried out including

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

Tel. 020 8318 2530

### Anita's Cleaning Services

Domestic & Commercial Cleaning  
To a Very High Standard

Reasonable Rates.  
No job too big or too small.  
Honest and reliable  
CRB checked, First Aider  
Public Liability Insurance

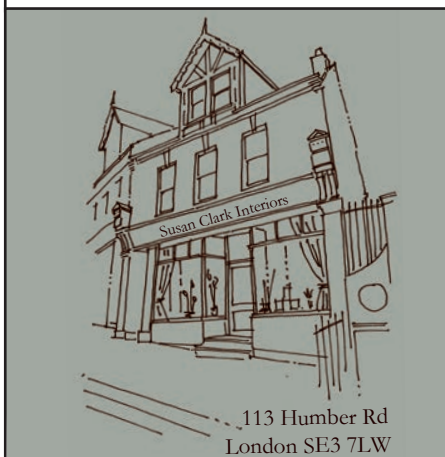
Contact: [anitabonta@outlook.com](mailto:anitabonta@outlook.com) or 07989660419 for more info or a quote

**JAMES REMOVALS**  
"excellence through effort"

- 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

### Susan Clark Interiors



Construction to complete renovation

Project Management • Interior Design  
Upholstery • Joinery • Lighting  
Curtains • Blinds • Paint  
Antique Furniture • Gifts • Cards  
[sales@susanclarkinteriors.com](mailto:sales@susanclarkinteriors.com)  
[www.susanclarkinteriors.com](http://www.susanclarkinteriors.com)  
0208 305 2299





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)



This is an artist's impression of IKEA Greenwich which will be built on the site of the old Sainsbury building and adjacent site on the Peninsula. It will have 100m of glazing to the front and a substantial amount of glazing to the rear which will overlook a community garden.

Local community groups, including the Westcombe Society, were invited to a presentation of their proposals recently. It is their first store to be built in London for ten years. It is a unique design for Greenwich and will be their leading store in the UK. Planned to have solar panels, rainwater collection, a roof garden and open space outside, it will introduce 500

new jobs. It is on six bus routes, provides 75 cycle stands and 20 electrical car charging points. Car parking will be in the existing car park shared with B&Q and the Odeon. The design may change slightly before IKEA apply for detailed planning permission in about a month. They hope to start construction in the summer with the store opening planned for mid-2018.

Community groups will be considering and responding to these proposals. *If you have any comments/queries at this stage do let us know at [environment@westcombesociety.org](mailto:environment@westcombesociety.org) We hope to provide further details in our next issue and on our website [Westcombesociety.org](http://Westcombesociety.org)*

## Mycenae Gardens: a very special place MAGGIE GRAVELLE

Mycenae Gardens is a public open space, owned and maintained by the Royal Borough of Greenwich, part of the original garden of Woodlands, the country house which belonged to John Julius Angerstein (1735 – 1823). He became very wealthy and spent part of his fortune buying pictures which, on his death, went on to form the cornerstone of the National Gallery collection. The house is now home to the Greenwich Steiner School.

The gardens used to be much larger: they included a lake and an ice house as well as some magnificent trees, including the plane trees we can still enjoy today.

Mycenae Gardens has been designated by Greenwich Council as a Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance. The Westcombe Park Conservation Area Character Appraisal, 2010, describes it as a “mature garden with large trees, dense shrubberies and grassland, with a diversity of habitats for birds and other animals.”

The Friends of Mycenae Gardens (FOMG) was set up, according to the website, to bring together people who value these gardens', to protect and 'foster the natural environment and to ensure the space is maintained in ways that appeal to all users.

The *WN* decided to find out how and by whom the Gardens are used and why they value it. Users include the Steiner School, visitors to Mycenae House, dog walkers, wildlife enthusiasts, parents and children as well as local people looking for some peace and quiet. Some people are worried about possible over-use which could disturb the tranquillity of the space. There is also an on-going risk of compaction under the trees depriving them of nutrients, water and air.

In the summer, as reported in the *WN*, the GoodGym Volunteers helped to restore an area under the plane trees by aerating it with forks and then mulching with bark chip. Recently FOMG restored and replanted the shrub beds and these are now marked more clearly to deter further damage. Natural fencing has also been installed in some of the wild areas in order to provide undisturbed space for wildlife.

A visit to the Steiner School on a bright autumn morning included a discussion with the head teacher, Adrian Dow, and with a group of children. Mr. Dow stressed how fortunate they were to have access to such a lovely space and explained that generally the children use the area for 30 minutes each morning and lunch time. The kindergarten also have access to the area every weekday morning. and some of the classes have designated time in the gardens.

“We are happy sharers,” Mr. Dow said, and went on to emphasise the willingness of the school to work with others to protect the gardens. It was playtime during our visit: the children were enjoying the sunshine and the opportunity to run about. They were supervised by a group of staff to ensure that children keep to designated areas. The pupils were enthusiastic about the Gardens

and aware, both of the privilege of using the space and of the importance of taking proper care of it. They had helped to plant bulbs and to restore borders and understood why some areas had been fenced and others deliberately left untidy to encourage wildlife.

The children from the Mycenae House play group and the Acorns also have access to the grounds. This means that overall more than 100 children use the Gardens on a daily basis. Mark Johnson-Brown, Director of Mycenae House, was eager to stress the need for balance in the use of the Gardens. He told us that, as well as the playgroups, the House uses it in some very specific ways. There is an agreement with the Council that part of the grounds can be used for events such as weddings, and cultural festivals, including the popular annual Parksfest.

Dog walkers value the space too. One man takes his dog there most afternoons, out of consideration for the children: he tends to avoid times they are outside since, although they 'make a great fuss' of the dog, it tends to get rather over excited.

The Gardens and the neighbouring Dell are rich in wildlife. Joe Beale, a local naturalist, did a survey in the Dell which revealed the variety of birds - a total of 26 species of which 14 were probably breeding in the neighbourhood. Bats and stag beetles have been recorded, and other beetles almost certainly live in the rotting wood. Animals use the dense, protective cover of brambles and other vegetation, so although in some parks this might by now have been 'tidied up' it is important to retain the natural environment it offers. Joe, who also helped to design the information board about the local wildlife, says “Clearly for many species the Mycenae Woodland Dell has provided a safe refuge for a long time – long may that continue! I value the Gardens as a community breathing space, as a wildlife habitat and an alternative to over-tidied parks and the increasing concreting-over of gardens.”

The FOMG, with the support of the Council, already do an important job acting as guardians of the Gardens, and being vigilant about possible threats to the space. They have contacts with other environmental groups in the area. Is there more that can be done to promote and preserve the Gardens? It might be possible to articulate the value of the space more clearly through signs, labels and information panels. There might be more opportunities for activities, such as bat walks or fungus forays, which highlight the nature conservation aspects. Local experts could be approached to lead such walks. The school might have imaginative ways to increase the pupils' involvement in the Gardens as an educational as well as recreational resource. Further suggestions welcomed.

All the people we spoke to stressed that it is vital to keep a balance between all the different interest groups and users so that this unique and special space continues to be used responsibly and with consideration, for the benefit of all.

## Park Manager's Report GRAHAM DEAR

When this edition of the Westcombe News comes out I hope I will have spoken to some of you at the Open days in the park which were held on Sunday 22nd and Wednesday 25th of January.

These meetings are one of the ways that we will be consulting with park users on the Greenwich Park Revealed project which will lead to a grant application to the Heritage Lottery Fund under the Parks for People grant stream.

There will be further meetings in the park on 5th and 8th March 10.00am – 4.00pm when more developed proposals will be available for view.

The Flower Garden is one part of the park which is more used by local residents rather than tourist visitors. The Cedar lawns and fine bedding displays are deservedly popular but there are some issues:

- The deer herd, which is so much a part of the history of Greenwich Park, is not

very visible; can we improve the viewing points?

- Last summer we trialled a small refreshment kiosk in the Flower Garden. The feedback we received from comment cards was very positive. Would you like us to repeat the trial this year too?

The park team would be pleased to meet and talk to you at the open days to discuss these and any other issues, but if you are unable to drop by comments can be fed back to us via the project mailbox at: [greenwichrevealed@royalparks.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:greenwichrevealed@royalparks.gsi.gov.uk)

Meanwhile, preparations have begun for this year's London Marathon on 23rd April. Having a small part to play in this event is one of the pleasures of working at Greenwich Park. Where else can you see over 30,000 people looking so excited and happy? I am not sure they all look the same 26 miles later at the finish line in the Mall, but it makes for a great atmosphere in the park.

## Controlled Parking Zone

Cllr Geoff Brighty told the WN: “After some delays this is now moving on and I've just been to a briefing for Councillors on the outcome of the public consultation – and it seems to be good news for Old Dover Road.”

Reflecting the views of local traders in particular, the Council's Highways Officers are to recommend that the bays on Old Dover Road – in front of the shops – should be 2 hours free-parking bays.

“I hope you feel this would be a good result.” said Geoff.

There are no proposals to introduce restrictions on Delacourt Road and there is unlikely to be any parking restrictions introduced in St John's Park following a negative response to the proposals from a majority of residents who responded. There may be changes to a small number of bays in Stratheden Road.

“The proposals still have to be approved by the Greenwich Council Cabinet Member,” said Cllr Brighty. “Then there is a process whereby draft traffic orders have to be published with a period of statutory consultation.

“It is likely that the final proposals will be on show at an exhibition and, as I

understand it, will also be circulated to residents (and hopefully traders) – this is expected to happen in January 2017 with an estimated 'go live' date of April.”

An observer commented that questions arise as to how rigorously these controls will be enforced. But it is hoped they will deal with the problems of commuters who leave their cars all day in Old Dover Road.

## Battery Technology

At a meeting of Blackheath Scientific Society in January, Dr Monica Marinescu of Imperial College London talked on her work writing models for batteries used in electric cars. Her research interests included understanding their degradation, improving their performance, and more efficient usage.

For the past couple of years her work has been on lithium-sulphur battery chemistry, commercially available but not yet mainstream. This is considered one of the main contenders to displace the Li-Ion batteries that are currently used in most applications, as it has much improved energy density and safety.

## HAVE YOU MADE YOUR WILL?

**PETER BOWYER**  
**PROFESSIONAL WILL WRITING SERVICES**

Member of The Society of Will Writers and  
The Institute of Professional Will Writers  
**Single/Double Wills**  
**Lasting Powers of Attorney**  
**Home Visits**

Freephone **0800 389 7387**

Visit: [www.londonwills.com](http://www.londonwills.com)



# 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  
8853 1312 Advertising@westcombesociety.org  
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  
**ROOM TO RENT NEEDED** in the Westcombe Park/Blackheath area with people preferably of similar age ( 50s, 60s). I'm Austrian/ Italian - coming to London to mind my grandchild . Required from beginning of April, budget approx. £ 800 - please contact 07791841701

## ROOMS FOR HIRE

**FUNCTION ROOM FOR HIRE**  
Blackheath area, up to 150 people, Bar, disabled access. Tel 07940 296290

## GARDENING

**GARDEN MAINTENANCE:** mowing, weeding, pruning, communal garden contracts, fruit and vegetables, gardening tuition, RHS qualified, also domestic cleaning. Call John and Rachel on 07746 121510

## HOLIDAYS

**WHITSTABLE WEEKENDS / WEEKS** Sea wall house between Oyster Warehouse and Harbour. Sleeps 5. Fantastic views. 8858 6578 or 013 04 367443

## PERSONAL CARE & THERAPY

**BLACKHEATH HOLISTIC HEALTH SERVICE.**  
Counselling, Psychotherapy, Yoga Westcombe Park http://www.bhhs.selondon.co.uk Tel: 020 8858 1991  
**PILATES CLASSES AT MYCENAE HOUSE.**  
**Mondays at 1.45pm and Thursdays at 2.00pm.**  
All levels welcome, mats provided. Please contact Hilary for further details on 07970 290818

## SERVICES & TRADE

**A MAN AND A VAN** Tel: 020 8858 3889  
Mobile: 07885 917842

**ARE YOU A DOG LOVER**, living locally, with spare time? I'm looking for someone to look after my Border Terrier for occasional half days and overnight stays. Timing by arrangement. Payment by the hour or day. Interested? Please ring 07738530301  
Local Carpet/Oven Cleaner

**ANDREW FLETCHER** Painting, Decorating & Tiling services. Over 20 years' experience, fully insured. References available. Call 07702 094382

**PHONE/BROADBAND SOCKETS.**  
Improved Broadband speed plates, Fault Finding Repairs, New Extensions, Tidying of cables. 25 yrs BT, Insured. 07845 705900

**SUNSHINE WINDOW CLEANING** For a no-obligation quote call Martin on 07821403577

**TRAINED CHIMNEY SWEEP & STOVE INSTALLER**  
Fast, friendly Happy to work! Call Anthony on 07772 649577 or email: chimneymaintenance@gmail.com

## HOMEWORKS

All-round handyman for those DIY's you have no time for! General repairs. Painting & Decorating. General Carpentry and flooring. Flat-pack assembly. Patio and deck cleaning. No job too small. Contact Matthew Barron 07903 388658.  
**EXPERIENCED LOCAL ARCHITECT** offering full range of architectural services, inc. planning and building regulations applications, technical and construction drawings, full project management, and site work. Reg. with the Architects Registration Board. Mob: 07853423130 E: gj@gjhanjeearchitects.com  
**MARK CHEESEMAN, LOCAL CARPENTER AND JOINER** with 30 years experience. All aspects of carpentry and construction carried out considerately and to a high standard. Reinstatement of original Victorian/Edwardian/Georgian details, ie shutters, skirtings, plinth blocks, picture rails, cornices etc. Bespoke joinery, wardrobes, cupboards, stairs, kitchens. Sash windows overhauls. Resin timber repairs. Please call M: 07767 456131 or H: 020 8854 4028  
**UPHOLSTERER SPECIALISING IN TRADITIONAL UPHOLSTERY** Www.suemayesupholstery.net or phone 07932 040298

**LOCAL CARPET/OVEN CLEANER** Specialist in cleaning Carpets, Upholstery & rugs. Competitive rates. M: 07828503132 Email: adam@carpet-crew.co.uk http://www.carpetcrew.co.uk

## PUBBLE PLASTERING

Need a plasterer with excellent references? Work is of high standard. Qualified C&G. Plastering-Rendering-Plasterboarding - Repairs. Free quotes! Call Alex on 07547 468459 / 0203 092 0684; email pubbleplastering@googlemail.com

## MALCOLM TIERNEY, CARPENTER

Specialist in refurbishment, repair and replacement of sash windows. 0777 5657371

**WESTCOMBE CLEANERS** I'm a friendly, hard-working & organised domestic cleaner. Regular or single services. Competitive rates. Additional tasks. I love my clients to be happy. Phone 07746 291617  
**DRESSMAKER**

Specialist in Special occasion wear, Bespoke wedding dresses and alterations with over 25 years experience. Bookings in advance on 07904880448

**INTERIOR DECORATOR & CARPENTER** with over 20 years experience. A member of the guild of mastercraftsmen. Free quotes & friendly advice on all your decorating requirements. Local references available.Tel. Ashley Greaves 8858 2981  
**ELECTRICIAN / ALARM ENGINEER**

No job too small TMIET registered. Call 0787 9011792

**PEST CONTROL SERVICES** All types of pests dealt with including fox control. Call John 0208 300 3496

## C.S. CARPENTRY-JOINERY

Decorating and all building work undertaken. Joseph McNamara 8857 5480, mob. 07947155366

**DECORATING, ELECTRICS** Plumbing and Property Maintenance. Est, 25 years. References available. Phil McNamara 8857 5480, mobile 07814 360862

**T.TA ELECTRICS.** NICEIC Approved Contractor, Quality Tradesman. All electrical work undertaken, Fully Insured & Guaranteed. 24HR EMERGENCY ELECTRICAL. Please call Tony on 07961 509 403 OR 020 84887425 OR info@ttaelectrics.co.uk

**JEWELLERY AND WATCH REPAIRS AND VALUATIONS** from Michele Franklin. British Jewellers Association accreditation 07809 502 714 Michele@personaljewellerylondon.co.uk

**AIR CONDITIONING & ELECTRICAL WORK** Fully qualified engineers CSCS Tel: 07419 312547

## HAVE YOU GOT THE SKILLS – OR TIME – FOR DIY?

Or is it all just such an effort!  
If that's your problem, I can solve it !

- \* Decorating inc. preparation, wall-papery, painting, & special finishes.
- \* Re- hanging doors and putting up shelving.
- \* Re-laying floors-lino, wood laminates and ceramics.
- \* Domestic Electrical work.
- \* Plumbing - taps, showers,radiators and external.
- \* Garden revival and maintenance

Need help with any of these?

Please call

Tony: 0208 856 9398 M: 07961 540836  
http://www.tonysdiy.com/

## TUITION

**ITALIAN TUITION** Native Italian teacher offers lessons at all levels.Preparation for GCSE, A-LEVELS courses, Grammar, Conversation Tel 07788 743371  
**MATHS & ENGLISH TUITION** and preparation for 11+ and independent school selection tests by qualified and experienced teacher.marystuition.com Mary Bauckham 07709089838 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.  
**SHOW YOUR COMPUTER WHO IS THE BOSS** Are you looking for some extra help working with your computer? Need some help with your digital photos, online shopping and the jargon? To discuss the options, call Paul on 07958 251448 or email paul.clayton@soulchip.co.uk

## MULVILL ACADEMY OF IRISH DANCE

Adult and Child Irish Dance Classes available in the Blackheath area. Come along for a fun-all-in-one workout. For more information call Rachel on 07707 100521

**SPANISH TUITION** all ages and levels, GCSE, A levels , conversation, literature, by Latinoamerican native speaker. Please contact Miguel at migansiergut52@gmail.com or 07910318513

**MATHS TUITION** Qualified and experienced secondary teacher offers tuition to GCSE level. Call Miv Whitaker: 07745816338; or email miv.whitaker@fsmail.net

## NEED HELP WITH YOUR COMPUTER?

Local technician provides home technical support & tuition. No job too small, all in your own home. Ring Glenn: 8473 4091



**BESPOKE PERSONAL TRAINING**

**SILVER SENIORS**

**BOOST YOUR ENERGY | SUPPLENESS | BALANCE**

**Home Visits | Outdoors**  
SPECIAL RATES Tues - Thurs Afternoons\*

**Email: Daphne@Vanbrughfitness.co.uk**  
Msc Exercise & Health Behaviour

## SPECTRUM Painters & Decorators Interior/Exterior

No job too Small  
Clean and Reliable

Free Estimates  
30 Years Experience  
020 8853 2759 or 0795 0815412

## BETTER TOGETHER Talk about local issues

Hear what the Council is doing

Tuesday 7th Feb. 6.30 - 8.45pm

The Greenwich Centre 12 Lombarde Sq.  
Greenwich SE10 8HB

## BUY LOCAL!

Discounts available on production of your Westcombe Society membership card.

## BLACKHEATH VILLAGE:

### PARES FOOTWEAR

10% OFF all shoes over £20, excluding sale stock  
**RAFFLES DESIGNER WEAR.**  
10% OFF all non-sale goods

**THE VERB SHOP** 10 percent discount on all copywriting and content creation. Free 1 hour assessment of your marketing material.

## 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: 10% Discount on all Computer Maintenance & Repairs (inc Tablets & Smartphones)  
www.greenwichcc.com T: 02082692103

## 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).  
**CORIANDE RESTAURANT** (Station Crescent) 25% off Sunday to Thursday. Bookings only!

## THE STANDARD:

### COTON & HAMBLIN - OPTICIANS

£65 off complete spectacles

### KARAN CHEMIST 10% OFF Weds. only

### BLACKHEATH EYECARE OPTICIANS

20% 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. https://www.blackheateyecare.co.uk/  
**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** 10% discount

## WESTCOMBE PARK ROAD

**KAREN STOREY OF HOMESPACE** offers members 10% discount on decluttering & homestaging services 0844 846 5854 www.home-space.biz

## PENINSULA

### SHENDA FALVEY PERSONAL TRAINING & BOOTCAMPS

Free bootcamp session at Greenwich Peninsula worth £10. Book to secure place (excludes existing customers)  
25% off first personal training session plus free consultation M: 07887 727 335  
www.shendafalveypersonaltraining.com

## WRISTWORTH HEATING & PLUMBING

Installation - Servicing - Repair

Tel: 07725 088230

Email: wristworth@hotmail.co.uk



Check Out Our **NEW** Website: wristworthheating.weebly.com

## THE POINTER SCHOOL



An independent co-educational school for pupils aged 3 to 11 years



*"We believe that, with love, guidance, encouragement, discipline and hard work, every child can do so much more than he or she may consider possible."*  
Mr RJS Higgins Headmaster

Nursery - Year 1  
37 Shooters Hill Road SE3 7HS  
Tel: 020 8858 7977  
earlyyears@pointers-school.co.uk

Year 2 - 6  
19 Stratheden Road SE3 7TH  
Tel: 020 8293 1331  
secretary@pointers-school.co.uk

www.pointers-school.co.uk

LEARNING FOR LIFE

## Childcare for ages 3 months – 5 years

I can see a great nursery from here



If you're looking for a nursery that will help your child to grow and develop – choose Zoom Nurseries.

At Zoom every child enjoys an individual Learning Journey. A record that tracks their daily progress through our fantastic fun-filled learning environment.

It's just one of the tools we use to keep our parents up-to-date with their child's achievements, as well as their personal, social and emotional development. It's an important tool, one that helps us ensure that when they leave Zoom to start school, they leave as independent learners and thinkers, ready for the challenges ahead.

With five nurseries in **Eltham, Hither Green, Blackheath** and **Brockley** that between them have four Ofsted 'Outstanding' judgements, and places available, you don't have to go far to give your child a great start.

To find out more and arrange an informal visit please call **Ann Briley, Assistant Childcare Director** on **07816 413718** or email **ainnbriley.zoom@gmail.com**



Or visit our website for more details [www.zoomnurseries.com](http://www.zoomnurseries.com)

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(See <http://www.westcombesociety.org>)

**CHINIPAN Indian Restaurant**  
15 Old Dover Road SE3 7BT  
Application for a take-away service

**TREE WORKS**  
19 COLERAINE ROAD ref 17/0079/TC  
Reduce crown of thorn tree in rear garden by 25%

## J K Auto Services

All makes of vehicles serviced

— Saab Specialist —

Tyres & Exhaust  
Fitting Service

— Air Conditioning  
Re-gas & Servicing Facilities

Unit 52, New Lydenburg

Industrial Estate,

New Lydenburg Street,

Charlton SE7 8NF

Tel: 020 8293 1511