

WESTCOMBE NEWS

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Sub-editor: Annie Grey

Reporters: The community – that means you!

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

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environment@westcombesociety.org

DISTRIBUTION Emily Norton and volunteers.

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

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To access back-numbers (in colour) go to:
www.westcombesociety.org/westcombe-news/
Westcombe Society's Blog:
<http://westcombe.blogspot.com>

WANTED! More volunteers to distribute the WN – and to help with Westcombe Society's community events. Please phone 8853 2756 if you would like to help.

WESTCOMBE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

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

Name.....

Address.....

Tel.....

Email:

Please enclose payment as appropriate:

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

The Westcombe Society's AGM

Many thanks to all of you for coming along tonight to hear about our activities over the past year. It also gives me the opportunity to recognise and thank all those involved in the running of the Society. I appreciate the time they give to ensure that we support the Westcombe Park community. I include members of all the committees, the editor and deliverers of the *WN* and all those who help us with events in many ways.

My thanks to the Executive Committee who meet once a month to ensure that the workings of the society are in order.

The Events Committee also meet every month and arrange a varied social calendar, ranging from afternoon teas to Members' Evenings and Quizzes. They have been helped by a team of families who take charge of the Easter Egg Hunt – most of our events are held in Mycenae House or Gardens.

The Environment Committee monitor planning applications on a monthly basis. They also continue to liaise with other groups and societies about matters of environmental interest including transport.

Our membership Secretary is busy registering new members and also sending out emails to members about items of importance or local interest.

Neville continues his work on the *WN* which is a well regarded publication. With reducing numbers of local papers it is an important contribution to the area. But as he will tell you it is our paper and we rely on content from our residents. Thanks also to Emily and her team who organise the distribution of the papers.

We continue to have very good working relationships with the other Amenity Societies and share items of interest very regularly. It is particularly noteworthy that

our opinion on issues is respected.

Working together does help with larger issues, the proposed Rail changes a case in point which resulted in the retention of the Victoria option from Blackheath.

We also worked together, as you know, to ensure that the design of the new IKEA building was as appropriate as it could be for the area and it can be seen changing daily and its size is now apparent. Their wish to install a 48 metre navigation mast attracted over 200 objections and was withdrawn last month.

The more formal committees are only part of the story. We have many volunteers who help in all sorts of ways. We are very appreciative of their help at events and delivering the *WN* amongst others.

Finally, thanks to Michael Helm for yet again inspecting the accounts.

Whilst I am extremely grateful for the help and support you all show for the Society I would very much like to ensure its future by encouraging the increased involvement of our younger residents. To bring fresh ideas and approaches to the Society which we desperately need.

Our editor would very much welcome help in producing the *WN* and we also desperately need help in maintaining and developing our web site. You may know of people who have an interest in assisting in either or both of these areas.

On a personal level I have now been Treasurer and Advertising Manager for nine years and would very much like to pass these duties on. Neither are onerous and do not require attendance at committee meetings if that is preferred.

We need to ensure that the work of the Society continues and I am very happy to speak to anyone who would like more information on what is involved.



Marilyn Little, our Chair

The Pleasaunce Summer Festival

The Friends of East Greenwich Pleasaunce, in partnership with The Bridge, is delighted to be holding its 12th Annual Summer Festival on Sunday 10th June 12.00-5.00pm, at East Greenwich Pleasaunce, Off Chevening Road, SE10 0LB. The event is part of the Parksfest series of events held all over the Royal Borough of Greenwich.

Once again, we have a fantastic line-up of family entertainment and activities, including live music, singing from the community choir, a dog show, an Art tent, and a book stall as well as lots of sports activities and fete games.

This year, we are delighted to welcome for the first time a new Circus production for older children and a Rocket show run by Emergency Exit Arts, which will both take place in the main Pleasaunce Park.

There will be a licensed bar with Pimms, craft beers and cider as well as the famous Pleasaunce Punch, a tea and cakes tent and, of course, Pistachios cafe will be putting on some extra specials too.

There will also be a bouncy castle and face-painting as well as a variety of craft and gardening activities, a story corner, and soft play for the under 5s.

A FREE DAY OUT for everyone and if the weather's good why not bring a picnic!

www.fegp.org

www.thebridgegreenwich.co.uk

The Marathon: They're off!



Laura Norton captured on her camera this dramatic moment at the start of the London Marathon. *In the front row, left to right: Abel Kirui (Kenya, who came 4th), Eliud Kipchoge (Kenya, 1st), Lawrence Cherono (Kenya, 7th) and Sir Mo Farah (GB, 3rd.) On the right one can just see Tola Shura Kitata (Ethiopia, who came 2nd.)*



Letters

Any views expressed are not necessarily those of either the Westcombe Society, or the *Westcombe News*.

From: Gabi Marston Coleraine Road

The piece in April's issue of the *Westcombe News* "The Future Look Bright for Blackheath's Night Life" is great - in the best *WN* comic tradition!

From: Trevor Allman Coleraine Rd.

Via your esteemed publication, I'd like to thank the 105 other voters who proffered support to me and the Official Monster Raving Loony Party in the recent local elections charade. I will wear the support always. The hard work begins now to return some Loonies in 2022.

From Gabi Marston Coleraine Rd.

Thank you for your coverage of the Local Council Hustings event and the list of the candidates. But why were there no Lib. Dem. candidates present? *Ed: Only one Lib.Dem candidate was available, and he cried off at the last minute for strong family reasons.*

From: John E. Murphy Ormiston Rd

The green lung of Humber Road allotments has served local residents well for over fifty years. So it was appropriate that April's *WN* should feature them. My father, the late John Patrick Murphy of Ormiston Road, SE10 spent much of his retirement on his allotment at Humber Road. So the picture and story brought back welcome memories for me.

My father was an engineer, building motorcycles at Associated Motorcycles in Woolwich. We benefited from the fruit and vegetables that his gardening skills produced from the allotment.

John passed away on 5 May 2017, aged 96, and readers may recall that in January 2000 he was interviewed on BBC2 Newsnight from the allotment. The backdrop of Canary Wharf in the distance captured the changing fortunes of London as John spoke about the challenges facing people in the borough, at the start of the new millennium.

John started his allotment when we moved into a



flat in Humber Road from Straights-mouth in Greenwich in 1948. He loved the companionship of fellow allotmenters and being close to local wildlife, including rabbits and foxes as well as the myriad of wild birds.

Ed: Thank you John for sharing this with our readers. Allotments are an important part of many people's lives.

From: Jonathan Mantle Greenwich

I was shocked to see that there is a High Court injunction notice dated 18 March 2018 on the gate of the Prior Street allotments in West Greenwich, obtained by Greenwich Council, ordering the eviction of all "persons unknown" from the site.

As readers will know, the Prior Street allotments have been there for many years and have been an enriching part of the local community.

Ed: Such notices are likely to be aimed at dealing with trespassers, rather than allotmenters.

LOCAL NEWS

Reversing the usual pattern of events...

Dads play – children watch

Dads with children at Millennium, St Mary Magdalene C of E and Halstow schools organised and took part in a Charity Football event at the Valley (the home of Charlton Athletic FC) on Saturday 19th May.

The aims of the event was to raise money for the three schools, to bring the community together – and allow dads to impress their kids with their footballing skills! Three 40-minute matches saw

three teams playing each other.

In addition to watching football, those attending watched the Royal Wedding in the Hospitality Suite, whilst the kids get down to music provided by DJ Craig.

They also bought raffle tickets and took part in the silent auction, with a range of wonderful prizes kindly donated by local businesses.

Much enjoyed by all.

Mark Hertlein

Blue Badge News

Blue Badges enable those people who are disabled to park closer to their destination if they meet certain criteria such as receiving a higher rate of the mobility component of the Disability Living Allowance.

In 2016, the *W/N* reported that everyone wishing to apply for or renew a Blue Badge, needed to do so on-line. Easy-peasy? All one had to do is

- * access the website
- * fill in the form
- * attach a photo as a jpeg
- * scan in any supporting documentation

Hmmm! We all know many people would find such operations seriously daunting.

So they will be relieved to hear the good news!

We are glad to report that Applying for a Blue Badge is about to get easier as residents will soon be able to gain one-to-one help. – though applications for the scheme can only be made online.

However, there is still hope for those who get stymied by online application forms: the Royal Borough of Greenwich is launching face-to-face appointments from 1st April to make the process simpler.

No, not an April Fool!

Residents will be able to visit the Eltham Centre on Mondays, Woolwich Centre on Wednesdays or Abbey Wood Neighbourhood Office on Thursdays to get the help they need to successfully complete their application - whether they are applying for a new badge or renewing one.

The Council cannot process applications until the correct documents and payment are received, so it is hoped that these new sessions should help minimise requests for further information.

London to Brighton Classic Car Run

The London to Brighton classic and kit & sports car run returns to Greenwich Park for the 2018 start location.

Over 400 vehicles will be starting from the park from 8.15am – 11.15am on Sun. 3rd June as they set off to Brighton.

The event celebrates its 30th anniversary with vehicles from the pre-war era sharing the trip with classics from the 1950's to the 90's. .

Cost to join the run is £97 and details can be found on the organisers' website.

Walk on the Wide Side!



With the onset of sunnier weather we are excited to announce that Wide Horizons have two exciting events this June for residents, families and children at our Wide Horizons Environment Centre in Eltham.

On Saturday 23rd June we will once again be opening the gates to our Environment Centre for our annual Family Fun Day at our beautiful nine-acre wildlife site.

You'll have the chance to experience a host of exciting, adventurous activities including a climbing wall, minibeast hunt, fire lighting, face painting, arts & craft, as well as the chance to meet our pigs Wallace and Darwin, and the chickens and ducks in their brand new home. Come along with your family and friends for a great day out!

Or you can just relax and enjoy a picnic, ice cream, cakes and drinks in our beautiful grounds. If you fancy something

a bit more adventurous, we will also be introducing our brand new day time adventure through South East London – The Green City Challenge: walk, jog or run a marathon, half marathon or 5 miles across South East London.

Discover historical secrets, experience amazing views and enjoy parkland, woods and hidden green spaces as you travel through South East London.

The Green City Challenge is a great event that everyone can enjoy, no matter how fit you are or whether you've done anything like this before. Make this your 2018 adventure!

Our aim is to bring the community together in one big day of fun and adventure so please join us for one or both of these exciting activities.

Neil Munro is Director of Adventure Learning Services.

For information, ring 020 8294 8160 or email events@widehorizons.org.uk

Neil Munro

Save the Gas Holder

The Greenwich Industrial History Society is asking residents to sign a petition to save East Greenwich's No 1 Gas Holder on the Peninsula.

This petition calls on energy company SGN and the Royal Borough of Greenwich to follow the policy, endorsed at the Cabinet of the Borough Council in November 2017, to re-purposes the historic East Greenwich No 1 Gas Holder as a landmark heritage building. And we urge the new Council to pursue further discussions with SGN and heritage bodies on the future of the gasholder and its site.

Background

In April 2018 the gas distribution company SGN was given approval by the Royal Borough of Greenwich to dismantle East Greenwich No 1 Gas Holder.

This approval was received in the pre-election period when councillors were in 'purdah' (when normal council business is suspended and a time-limited decision, like this one, would be passed to officers). It appears the planners' decision is in direct contradiction of the Planning Brief policy about the gas holder which states:

“Proposals should respect and respond

MARY MILLS



to the industrial character of the area as a means of relating new development to the local context. In particular, development should build on the heritage value of the gas holder to enhance the character and distinctiveness of the area.”

This is a material consideration in planning, and proposals should have been measured by RBG planners against this approved policy of the Borough, discussing in detail means of meeting its requirements.

The dismantling proposal submitted to RBG by SGN's consultants failed to respond to, or mention, this approved policy for the gas holder. This should have led to the proposal being refused by RBG planners on behalf of the Borough; instead, it was approved.

To sign the petition, please go to <https://www.change.org/p/royal-borough-of-greenwich-save-the-nationally-important-east-greenwich-gas-holder-from-demolition>

Greenwich Open Studios June 2018

Greenwich Open Studios, (or 'GOS') Artists open their studios for two weekends every June. Unlike other studios where a single warehouse block might house a group of artists GOS artist's show in their individual studios.

Established in 1973, GOS has become one of those special annual Greenwich fixtures – a combination of a summer's walk around Greenwich with a unique opportunity to explore the individuality of each artist's working space.

GOS has three hubs – West Greenwich, Blackheath, and the Westcombe Park area of East Greenwich.

The studios are open on the weekends of June 9th -10th and 16th -17th from 2.00-6.00pm unless otherwise stated.

For those that want to stay in the Westcombe Park area there are four artists exhibiting. Lubna Speitan is one of the

most recent artists to join GOS. Her striking night time monochrome landscapes will be a new GOS feature.

Chris Moody's prints are a unique take on modern buildings reflected in water. Colin Boothman, with his memorable landscapes, and Felicity Moss, with her vibrant still lifes are long-established fellow GOS artists.

The work of all twenty GOS artists this year couldn't be more varied, ranging from paintings, pastels and prints to ceramics and even jewellery. GOS leaflets are available in most shops and libraries. If you can't get hold of one go to the GOS website, where you can also see their work and websites. Why not plan an afternoon visiting studios in all three hubs?

<http://www.greenwichopenstudios.co.uk>

John Bangs

Has education lost its way?

‘Education’ actually means the induction of youth into the core of the historic classless culture. This isn't simple. We need first to de-toxify it by removing ancient strands of imperialism, sexism and racism. We need second to energise it by adding new, enduring stuff – modelling with digital electronics. Many educationalists lean towards the left and they conflate the historic classless culture with the current Status Quo – which they hate.

The historic classless culture of the UK is about common law, commonsense, and a freedom to think deeply which was stamped out in most other countries. This is needed.

A society which neglects its core values falls apart. The P E R Group websites: www.philosophyforeducation.co.uk. www.perprospero.co.uk

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FEATURES

Between the Devil and the ICT

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has become an indispensable part of modern life. Not just computers and mobile phones: the internet is a vast source of information; but it can also be used to peddle filth, fake news and misleading advertising. It can also con people out of money, invade our privacy with unwanted ads. and, through social media, create victims of bullying. Because so much that is posted is anonymous, people can spread malicious and damaging lies, and can cause misery and mayhem – especially to anyone in public life such as MPs or “celebs”, and vulnerable young people. It can also make it much easier for criminals to organise their activities, and even undermine democracy by the use of a variety of manipulative dirty tricks. So would we be better off without it? Hardly. Virtually every modern appliance depends on electronic technology; without access to ICT businesses would go bust; whole swathes of public service activities, from the NHS to all other organs of government would just seize up. So ICT Luddites are really living in fantasy land.

BUT No Laughing Matter . . .

Following a letter by Jeremy Hunt, the Health Secretary, to social media companies, about online child safety, the not-for-profit organisation Internet Matters has called for government to consider investment in parent education in order to form a collective approach to keeping young people safe online. Carolyn Bunting, CEO of Internet Matters, said: "Children's internet safety is one of the most pressing concerns parents face in the digital age. "And while there is always more that the tech industry and social media networks can do to enforce age restrictions and protect children's rights, we need to collectively focus on wider education to address the growing behavioural issues online that can negatively have an impact on children's health and well-being. "We know from recent research that the overwhelming majority of parents (96%) feel responsible for their children's safety online. Helping children stay safe in the

Even so, some happy people can, more or less, opt out, as Gabi Marston has done, according to her poem, below. What do readers think?

The Technophobe's Song
It's not part of my psychology
To appreciate technology
I do not moan that
have no fancy phone
I'm one of the few in the land
Who does not boast Broadband
I do not litter
the airwaves with Twitter
No iPad lives here
I need have no fear
of computer hacking
As a computer is lacking.
At seventy-four –
Need I say more?
BUT
I love the landline:
It makes my heart sing
When I hear it ring
If it's from a friend or family afar
Just calling "to see how you are."

Gabi Marston



digital world has become a part of modern parenting. "With the right support, we can empower parents, giving them skills to teach their children to be smart and safe online. We can encourage their children's critical thinking and build their digital resilience, so they can safely benefit from the wealth of opportunity with access to the internet and technology offers. "To achieve this will require a focus from government, industry, schools and parents, working together to make the UK the safest place for a child to be online." *Internet Matters (internetmatters.org) was launched in May 2014 by the UK's four major broadband providers: BT, Sky, TalkTalk and Virgin Media. The independent, not-for-profit organisation aims to help parents to keep their children safe online.*

Lego-thon helps raise awareness of autism

How many lego models could you make in an hour? This is the challenge schools took on for Royal Greenwich's first-ever Lego-thon, creating everything from boats to bridges. The fun activity was designed to promote autism awareness in schools, and was organised by the Council's Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Outreach Service, designed to help young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), their families and professionals. Many schools in the Borough use Lego Therapy to help children with ASD develop a range of skills including how to communicate and collaborate with others and how to express their feelings. Shooters Hill Sixth Form campus which linked their entries to learning outcomes for students, won first prize. Timbercroft Primary in Plumstead, which involved



Millennium Primary School pupil Sean with his creation

every year group from nursery to Year 6, won second prize, and third prize was awarded to Middle Park Primary in Eltham, which not only created models but also organised linked activities including assemblies and class discussions. The winning schools will receive Lego therapy sets to encourage them to carry on the good work, and all participating schools will receive certificates.

Opt in to get information by email from the Westcombe Society

New regulations about control of data mean that the Westcombe Society has to ask members to confirm that they agree to the society contacting them above and beyond reminders for subscription renewals. You may already have had an email about this from us (amongst many others from different organisations). At present we send out information to members by email on the Westcombe Society's events and on issues of urgent local concern as well as, occasionally, information on events organised by others. Members who have not given an email

address may not get this information due to the expense of sending it by post. So if you would like to get more information on our activities do send your email to: membership@westcombesociety.org The Westcombe Society takes care to protect the information we hold on members and a new privacy policy will be available on the website giving more detail on this. We hope that members find that the information sent out by email of value and that as many as possible will opt in to keep receiving it.



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WHAT'S ON



ARTS

GREENWICH DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY K. William Court, Univ. of Greenwich
11th Jun 2018: THE GARDENS OF VERSAILLES by Jane Gardner A look at the work of the gardener Andre le Notre, Royal Gardener to Louis XIV Visitors welcome, please pay on the door.
THE ARTS SOCIETY, BLACKHEATH
28th June Jennifer Toynbee-Holmes talks on THE HOLLAND PARK CIRCLE (inc. Guided Tour on July 10) 2.00pm. with tea and coffee, and lectures at 2.30. Venue is St Mary's Church Hall, Cresswell Park Blackheath. Visitors welcome, please pay on the door.

CHILDREN & FAMILY

GREENWICH THEATRE CROOMS HILL
June 2nd - 3rd. THE ELVES & THE SHOEMAKER Sat 12pm & 3pm Sun 11am & 2pm
Tickets: £10 Children £5 Age 2+
July 1st 7.30 pm DOPPELDÄNGER Part-theatre, part-gig exploration of dangerous doubling - made by a pair of real life doppelgängers.
Tickets £13.50 Concessions £11 Age 12+
THE FAN MUSEUM 12 Croooms Hill SE10 8ER
A BIRD IN THE HAND Tues- Sat 11.00 - 5.00pm
Sundays: 12.00 - 5.00pm Until Sept. 23rd
Fans which incorporate the plumage of birds have a history stretching back thousands of years.
Entrance: £5.00 Childre/Concs. £3.00
THE HORNIMAN MUSEUM
100 London Road, London London SE23
COLOUR: The RAINBOW REVEALED
Until October 28th: This interactive exhibition explores the science of colour through hands-on exhibits and exciting games and challenges. Explore the fascinating ways it is used in nature, art and culture around the world. Why does a red toadstool have white spots? Why does a tiger have black stripes? www.horniman.ac.uk

SPOKEN WORD

IN-WORDS
Wed. June 27th at The Treehouse, top of The Greenwich Tavern, 1 King William Walk SE10 9JH (corner of Nevada Street): it's Cinnamon again! This time launching the latest works of fiction by Jean Harrison and Hazel Manuel with' readings by the authors. 7 for 7.30. Get there early and enjoy a snack or a meal first, with beautiful views over Greenwich Park. FREE event with extra nibbles and drinks upstairs.
Tuesday July 3 at The Knowledge Centre (British Library, Euston Road): in collaboration with Vanessa Lee-Miller - 'At First Sight - floating islands, floating lands'. An evening of story-telling, poetry & music inspired by the Library's acclaimed **James Cook, the Voyages'** exhibition. 7-8.15. £10, £8 (over 60s), £7 (other concessions). We are so excited by this collaboration and by working with the British Library.

TRINITY LABAN CONSERVATOIRE

Make Music Day: Come And Sing
Thu 21st Jun 11.00h-13.00h
Make Music day is celebrated all over the world on 21st June every year. In 2018 Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance are joining in with the festivities.
Whether you've never sung before or you're a regular on the stage, come and sing with us on 21st June and experience the joys of making music with other people. Many pieces to sing, including *Bring me Sunshine!* **Free entry**
Theatre Studio, King Charles Court

AGE EXCHANGE

Thurs 7th June Coach trip to Standen House
Fri 8th June Meet Grant Saw Solicitors over tea & cakes to plan for your future? Ring 8318 9105 to book a place
Sat 9th June 10.- 4.00 Art & Craft & Book Sales
Fri 29th June Free concert 12 noon in the Bakehouse



On Saturday 23 June at 7pm, the Thomas Tallis Society (TTS) Choir will be celebrating the centenary of the rededication of the church of St Alfege after the rebuilding of the church by Nicholas Hawksmoor.

TTS will be celebrating the 300th anniversary with *Rejoice!* A programme for choir with brass ensemble including works by Britten, Dove and Tallis and culminating in Rutter's uplifting *Gloria*.

Tickets £15 and £12, online or at the door, www.ticketsource.co.uk/tts.
There will be a reception in the church hall following the concert to which all are invited.

THE WESTCOMBE SOCIETY

Fri 28th September - MacMillan Coffee Morning
Sat 10th November - Quiz 7.30-10.30pm
Sat 17th November Christmas Bazaar
Blackheath High School for Girls, Mycenae Road entrance.

We need more volunteers to help out at community events being planned for 2018. Interested? Please ring Joanne on 07709 571777

COMMUNITY

BLACKHEATH & GREENWICH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE Meets first Wednesday of every month, doors open at 7.00pm for 7.30pm at Sunfields Methodist Church on Old Dover Road
BLACKHEATH BRIDGE CLUB duplicate sessions in Mycenae House Mon & Thurs 7.15pm and on Wed at 1.15pm. New Tuesday lessons start in September. . Tel. Ron on 8319 1312
SUNDAYS AT SUNFIELDS at Sunfields Methodist Church 95 Old Dover Road, Blackheath SE3 8SJ 1.00 - 4.00 pm ALL older people and their carers are welcome to join us for lunch. Carers are also invited. There is no need to book. FREE
NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME Sat 9th -Sun 10th June 2.00 - 5.30 pm 41 Southbrook Rd SE12 8LJ. is OPEN for charity. £3.50, children free. Tea and cakes. Wheelchair accessible. Dogs welcome.

GREENWICH PARK BANDSTAND

The Friends of Greenwich Park bring you Free Bandstand Concerts at the Bandstand, Greenwich Park. All concerts start at 3.00pm
Sat. 23rd June Royal Greenwich Big Band and Greenwich Steel Band
Sun. 24th June The Lambeth Wind Orchestra
Sun. 1st. July Silver Ghosts

THEATRE

THE GREENWICH THEATRE, Crooms Hill, London SE10 8ES Box Office: 8858 7755
Wed. June 13th - hurs. 14th A DOLL'S HOUSE
An explosive re-telling of Ibsen's classic tale, exploring stigmas around gender and mental health.
June 16th WOKE From the creator of the hit show Black Is the Color of My Voice comes a new story about the 20th-century African-American experience.

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MYCENAE HOUSE EVENTS: June

Fri 8th June 8pm - JazzNights. Candlit Live Jazz music event hosted by Dave Silk featuring Karl Charity (trumpet, flugel & vocals). £10.
Sat 9th June 9.30am - MEfA Montessori Spring Conference. 'Colour for Children with Special Educational Needs'. POA.
Thurs 14th June 1-4pm - Cupcakes for Alzheimers. Eat lots of cake, have lots of fun & raise pots of money for Alzheimer's Society. Free entry.
Thurs 28th June 4pm - Bach To Baby. Classical Concert for families. £10.
Fri 29th June 7pm - The Kimberleys. Exciting, hard hitting folk duo presented by GFMA. £7.
Sat 30th June 7pm - Baby Broadway. Singalong showtunes for all the family. £10.
For further information www.mycenaehouse.co.uk

BLACKHEATH HALLS

BLACKHEATH HALLS 23, Lee Road SE3 9RQ 0208 463 0100 www.trinitylaban.ac.uk
The Halls will be closed until October 2018 for renovation worls. Friends events will continue throughout this period at various venues.

FRI 8th JUNE 1.00pm Boris Bizjak baroque flute: Bach's Flute Partita & C.P.E Bach Sonata & Telemann Fantasy No.7 in D major in The Old Bakehouse Age Exchange Free/Donations
TUE 12 JUN 13.05h Soprano Patricia Auchterlonie, Trinity Laban's Carne Trust Junior Fellow. ORNC FREE
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FRI 22 JUN 19.30h TRINITY LABAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Shostakovich Symphony No.10 & Elgar Cello Concerto **£12, £8, £5 Students Book At: Cadoganhall.com**
THU 28 JUN 19.30h A MUSICAL MEDLEY, including Wicked, My Fair Lady, Disney Classics & West Side Story etc. At The Conference Hall, Deptford Green School **Admission Free, Booking Required**

Rufus Longbottom and The Space Rabbit

Children learn the value of participatory theatre



A theatre company that created a show from ideas generated by 600 primary school children in a series of workshops will perform the show at Greenwich Theatre on Friday, June 1st, as part of a national tour funded by Arts Council England.

"I think unique is an over-used word but I certainly think it applies to Filament Theatre, one of our associate companies," said James Haddrell, the theatre's artistic and executive director. "Their approach in making theatre is to combine exquisite singing with dynamic physical theatre, but for their new show they have added another element to the mix: they have worked with hundreds of children to create the characters and their adventures."

Filament are Sabina Netherclift, a director who specialises in physical theatre, and the composer/lyricist Osnat Schmool.

"We worked in eight schools, three in East London, two in Oxfordshire and three in Derbyshire," said Sabina.



July 3rd - 7th at 9.45pm Thamesmead
The finale of GDIF 2018, Beautiful Thing is a dance/drama of this iconic love story, and features stunning digital projections and new music by Roma Yagnik and a community chorus.
Seats £10 Book online with GDIF

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Stages of the development of the play can be found at www.onceupona.filament-theatre.com. The show can be seen on Fri 1st June at 2.00pm & 6.00pm



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FEATURES

Talk About Art

... Connecting Cultures

This new Talk about ART show features jewellery, glamour and celebrity culture

John Bartram

Talk about Art launches its third show this year in June featuring celebrity culture, gems and art that link the glories of Asian empires with London as a centre of the jewellery trade.

In partnership with Brindishe Manor School, the free exhibition Talk about Art...Connecting Cultures runs from June 7 to 29 at the Lewisham Central Library.

Eight colourful stands depict the ceremonial and religious roles of jewellery in ancient cultures in China and India's Mughal Empire, and paintings carrying jewellery worn by the modern celebrities who flaunt it. The ninth stand features jewellery designed by year 4 pupils at Brindishe Manor.



Beautiful Indian Bride adorned with jewellery and henna

The exhibition explains how precious and semi-precious stones and precious metals are fashioned into jewellery, with sections on Chinese jade, diamond cutting and polishing and the use of platinum, gold and silver.

British crown jewels and famous opals are featured, and jewellery worn by Elizabeth Taylor, Elvis Presley, Sam Worthington and Natalie Mark. Hatton

Garden and Bond Street, the centres of London's jewellery trade, are included as well as the Victoria and Albert Museum, which houses one of the finest jewellery collections in the world.



The Fulani nomadic herders in West Africa wore their wealth in the form of gold jewellery that they could carry with them at all times

All stands carry QR codes: these allow visitors to use their smart phones so that they can find out more information from relevant websites. Follow our news and find out more about TAA on Twitter and Facebook with @talkaboutart1.

Talk About...ART aims to promote greater engagement with the visual arts for children and teenagers who may not have had the chance to learn about them. It does this by mounting professional exhibitions and provides activities which encourage creative participation, research and debate, as well as sharing knowledge through workshops, augmented reality technology, public talks and publications. The aim is to generate life-enhancing benefits for people of all ages and cultures.

During the exhibition fun workshops will be held for groups of up to 30 pupils from local schools where students can make their own pieces of fantasy junk jewellery and model their creations. These are free and run on June 8, 15, 18, 20, 22, 25, 27 and 29 from 10.00am - 12.00pm and can be booked by emailing Marilyn.Moore@lewisham.gov.uk.

Jazz in the Park



Our renowned Midsummer Jazz Concert, organised by the Friends of Greenwich Park, takes place from 1230 - 3.30 pm on Sunday 17 June.

The Phoenix Dixieland Jazz Band will again be bringing their brilliant New Orleans bounce to the charming and enclosed Observatory Garden. They will be supported by the talented local youngsters of the Greenwich Steel Band.

The Garden will open at noon, with the concert beginning at 12.30pm and ending at 3.30pm. Come and enjoy the party. Our sponsors, Davy's of Greenwich, will run a bar, and the Park's Pavilion Cafe will have a stall providing food, ice cream and soft drinks.

Just a reminder that seating is not available in the Garden, so do bring a rug or chair if you don't want to sit directly on the grass. Please note that dogs (apart from guide dogs) are not permitted in the Garden. This is an event for the whole family.

Tickets booked in advance are £5, with under-16s free. (Tickets on the gate, if any are still available for this popular event, will be £7.)

Tickets can be obtained from Friends of Greenwich Park, 52 Greenwich Park Street, London SE10 9LT telephone 020 8853 2150 email: cnbevan@hotmail.com

Please make cheques out to 'Friends of Greenwich Park' and enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

Or buy online:

Midsummer Jazz Concert tickets £5.00 per person. Under 16s: Free

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GREENWICH + DOCKLANDS INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

The WN looks at some of the highlights of the 2018 Festival

FLY BY NIGHT 21 June - 23 June
9.15pm each night Thamesmead



Multidisciplinary American artist Duke Riley's epic outdoor work will see over 1500 trained pigeons soar into the skies above the Thames in a spectacle of unprecedented scale and beauty.

In its first international performance since its première in New York City in 2016, Riley's world-class installation has been reimagined for London's historical military location of Thamesmead, paying beautiful homage to some of the First World War's unsung heroes who played crucial roles delivering messages between distant military units.

The call of a whistle calls a flock of pigeons to emerge from their purpose-built coop and elegantly twirl, swoop and glide through the skies, the leg bands that once carried vital messages replaced by tiny LED lights to illuminate the night sky and create an unmissable performance.

Part of 14-18 NOW, the UK's arts programme for the First World War centenary. Tickets £7.50 - £12.50 from Eventbrite

SOUNDSCAPE 22 - 24 June

Experience a captivating sound installation as you travel above London on the Emirates Air Line. (EAL Ticket required!)

ICARUS 24 June at Greenwich Fair, Cutty Sark Gardens (West) FREE



Icarus is a dance theatre interpretation of the famous Greek myth which explores a universal human story: the tension between our ambition and our capability; between our hopes and dreams - and reality.

We will see Icarus' obsession with the skies and his quest to achieve flight. Using dance and the distinctive, highly physical language that Southpaw has become known for - ever looking upwards.

Icarus is the brand new production from Southpaw Dance Company.

UNDAUNTED 22 June 7.30 pm FREE
Old Royal Naval College



In 2018 we celebrate the centenary of the Representation of the People Act, which gave some women in the UK the vote for the first time. To mark the event, the UK's only female high-wire walker performs her act on a free-standing scaffold positioned between the iconic twin domes of the Old Royal Naval College. Paying tribute to the courage of all those who campaigned for equality over many decades, (like Millicent Fawcett) this spectacular feat reminds us of the fragility of the status quo and serves as a rallying call to the generations of women still to come.

WINDRUSH: 492 22 June 1.30pm Free
Cutty Sark Gardens



A reflective performance featuring a soundscape written by the Greenwich playwright Roy Williams. 70 years to the day that the Empire Windrush arrived at Tilbury Dock from the Caribbean, this durational installation will see the names of the 492 individuals who arrived on that ship transcribed in photoluminescent powder onto the ground around the Cutty Sark, commemorating in light-emitting text the men and women who have become a powerful symbol for the generation who transformed Britain into a contemporary, multi-cultural society.

This reflective performance celebrates the contribution that black and Asian communities have made to British life.

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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



Many local residents were invited to view the Royal Wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex aka Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. On TV! But many then abandoned their sofas to attend wedding parties – at the Pleasaunce, in Siebert Road and at the Royal Standard (above). PHOTO: Neville Grant

After the Marathon



Despite the searing temperatures and the sad death of one runner, the 2018 Marathon seems to have been a very successful event. Those who attended the start of the race on Blackheath report that the atmosphere was festive and good-humoured. They really enjoyed seeing the starts and then moving to see the masses going past.

There was music by the Scots Guards at the start and as always the entertainment continued along the entire route. So far, we have not had any reports of unexpected problems due to road closures, and the stewards appear to have been helpful and well-informed.

The organisers report that the clear-up was swift, and that they were "pleased with the condition of the area considering what we had to deal with on arrival, after many

weeks of rain." There was some concern about the enormous number of plastic bottles which littered the streets immediately after the race. These were in most cases cleared very quickly and we have been assured by Virgin that every effort is made to recycle them.

They also collect, clean and re-cycle discarded clothing. There has also been some discussion on-line about the wasteful use of single-use plastic cups. However, it has also been pointed out that the alternative biodegradable cups seem to go mushy and slippery when they get wet which is obviously dangerous for runners.

Please let us have your feedback, including any problems you experienced, so that we can pass these on to the organisers for next year.

Maggie Gravelle

Council in legal battle

The Council has won a legal battle against a developer who turned the Eagle Tavern in Shooters Hill into nine self-contained flats without obtaining proper planning permission.

Planning permission had been granted for five flats. The owners Winerose Limited appealed, but after an inspection

of the property, the appeal was dismissed. The developers now have four months to cease residential use as it is, or nine months to implement the development in accordance with the approval previously granted. *For information on planning, go to www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/planning*

Shuttle bus - or cable car?

Greenwich Services Plus Ltd (GS Plus) applied to TfL for a licence to run a new "Royal Greenwich Shuttle Service" from the Observatory, in Greenwich Park to Greenwich Town Centre from 26th May.

The service would have been financially supported by the Royal Borough of Greenwich and was intended as a visitor shuttle between Cutty Sark, and the Royal Observatory. If it had been approved, the route would have been:

Royal Greenwich Park, Charlton Way, Vanburgh Park, Vanburgh Park Road, Westcombe Park Road, Maze Hill, Trafalgar Road, Romney Road, Nelson Road, Greenwich Church Street

The shuttle would have run every

fifteen minutes from 10.00am to 5.45pm, with only four pickup/set down points – The Observatory, Charlton Way, Romney Road and Cutty Sark/DLR. Local resident Kim Bowden commented: "There's enough traffic on these roads already."

The Westcombe Society's Environment Committee wrote to object, and has been informed that the application has been withdrawn. Phew!

Ideally, a shuttle service would operate from the foot of the hill to the Royal Observatory, within the park. Perhaps the Emirates Cable Car should be relocated? *The Royal Park are considering running a small vehicle, for those with mobility issues, to the Observatory within the park.*

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Fly-tippers face hefty fines



Fly-tipping is the illegal dumping of rubbish or bulky items on land where dumping isn't allowed. It can be dangerous to health. Fly-tipping pollutes land and waterways and is expensive to clear away. Each year, councils have to spend millions of pounds dealing with the problem.

It is a criminal offence to dump waste illegally. You could be fined or get a prison sentence. It is also an offence to allow fly-tipping to take place.

If someone knocks on your door offering to remove your rubbish, a word of caution: people who allow their rubbish to be dumped illegally could be in trouble. The government is considering proposals to allow on-the-spot fines of up to £400 – even if someone doesn't personally take part in the fly-tipping. So always insist on ensuring that the person offering to remove your rubbish has a licence to do so.

Sometimes people bring waste in a vehicle and dump this on land or by the road. The vehicle owner can be prosecuted for waste crime. So if someone borrows your car, and is caught fly-tipping, or dumping waste, you might be held liable.

This allows the authorities to prosecute someone when the vehicle is identified, not the driver.

The police and authorities can stop, search and seize vehicles used or suspected of being used for illegal waste activities, including fly-tipping.

Greenwich council provides waste disposal sites and recycling centres where you can safely and legally recycle or dispose of unwanted items.

If you see someone fly-tipping, you should report it to Greenwich Council. You can report problems using online forms, email or by ringing the council.

On line, go to <https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/report>.

This provides information on how to report all or any of the following: fly-tipping, or other environmental crime such as littering, street-cleaning issues, street faults (including roads, pavements, trees and street lighting), abandoned vehicles, graffiti or fly-posting, or problems in parks or foot tunnels.

Go-ahead for Silvertown



Transport Secretary Chris Grayling has approved London Mayor Sadiq Khan's plans to build the Silvertown Tunnel.

The plans include an allocation of £933,000 to be spent on a noise barrier at Westcombe Hill and Siebert Road

The No to Silvertown Tunnel campaign has been opposing plans for the tunnel for nearly five years, with air quality tests, public meetings and lobbying politicians. Its chair, Anne Robbins said:

"We're disappointed, but we are proud to have spoken up for communities on both sides of the Thames who objected to having more traffic imposed on them.

"We still believe that this will ultimately make the congestion problem worse, by adding to traffic jams elsewhere. The environmental mitigation suggested – such as running a cycle bus through the tunnel – is a hollow joke, while tolls will just punish those who need to use the tunnel."

Basement developments

In 2016, the *WN* raised the issue of basement development, which has been a hot issue in some parts of London.

In central London, basements are being turned into swimming pools and living accommodation. There are complaints that such developments have a damaging effect on nearby properties – particularly when they extend beneath the street.

A new Residential Extensions, Basements and Conversions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) was adopted during 2016. This provided further guidance on basements, including in conservation areas and listed buildings.

At a Council meeting in October 2016

Cllr Geoff Brighty asked about the effectiveness of the then recently adopted policy – with specific reference to basements. The Cabinet Member committed to a review in 12 months. That review has been underway since late 2017.

In Feb.018 Cllr Brighty was advised that public consultation on the updated SPD would take place after the election "purdah" period. There remains anxiety as to whether the SPD will be sufficiently stringent to consider the impact of any basement development on flooding, ground water, stability and structure. The outcome of the consultation will be presented to the Council in the September.

MARKET PLACE

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