Blackheath Fireworks

"Remember, remember the 5th of November.
Gunpowder, treason and - STOP!”

That is the danger: fireworks night on the heath will have a huge impact on the Ecology Park.

The controversial plan to build a huge tower overlooking the Greenwich Ecology Park on the peninsula is due to be submitted to the Council in July this year. The park is home to 60 species of birds and bees, as well as dragonflies and butterflies, and the plan is strongly opposed by the Friends of Greenwich Ecology Park (FGEP).

Labour’s own councillors in Peninsula Ward are also against the plan.

The Ecology Park was created using £10 million of public money as part of a major regeneration project, and park users claim that the development will overshadow the park and ruin it.

The Council gave outline permission to build the 20-storey tower, but such was the opposition that the developer reduced it to 13 storeys. The developer, Greenwich Millennium Village Ltd (GMVL), pushed the plans, asserting that it was “important to create new homes at Greenwich with the impact on the ecology park.”

FGEP are still very worried about the impact the development will have on the ecology park – and are concerned that additional plans for two more towers have not been up for consultation.

Of the 66 units in the 13-storey tower, only four would be “affordable.”

A recurring feature of new developments in Greenwich is the small number of units that are genuinely affordable, or “social housing.”

Developers claim that new building projects become “non-viable” if “too many” social or affordable units are embodied in the development.

Greenwich claims to have a good record on affordable housing, but critics point out that “affordable” is a relative term: claims that many “affordable” units are snapped up by foreign buyers for investment purposes cannot be verified.

In another case, Meyer Homes wants to build a huge 27-storey tower in General Gordon Square in Woolwich Town Centre.

After strong local opposition, Council officers recommended that the application be turned down – but the councillors were forced to delay their decision after Meyer Homes threatened legal action, in effect putting the planners on notice.

John Edwards, spokesman for Speak Out Woolwich (SOW), said that this was a “cynical ploy by Meyer Homes to give them more time to decide how to push this through for the sake of profit and against the wishes of local people.”

Council officers gave eight reasons for rejecting the application, including:

* an excessive number of one- and two-bedroom units
* the excessive height of the building
* the shadow cast over adjoining areas

Local residents are now hoping that the Council will stick to its guns.

See also page 7: Planning system: “not fit for purpose”

**FACT FILE: SOME BOROUGHS ARE MORE EQUAL THAN OTHERS . . .**

**AFFORDABILITY**

An affordable unit is one available for 80% of the market price. According to the GLA’s official DataStore, Greenwich has one of the best records in London on affordable housing: the trouble is very few Londoners can afford them.

**SOCIAL HOUSING**

23,200 social dwellings were completed in London in 2016/17 of which only 5,360 (23%) are social housing units. In Greenwich in 2016/17:

* 1,560 dwellings were completed
* Only 130 were completed by the Council or by Housing Associations
* Only 83 of completed units were Social Housing
* Only six other London boroughs built less social housing than Greenwich.

Source: Table 255: Household: permanent dwellings started and completed, by tenure and district, 2016-17; Department for Communities and Local Government

Last year £24 billion was spent on housing benefit: much of this money was paid to private landlords. There must be better ways of spending this money!

---

The Thames Path’s Missing Link

The ‘Missing Link’ on the Thames Path as it weaves through Royal Greenwich was officially opened on 20th June.

Until June, a break in the Thames Path at Woolwich – Hooles will mean that cyclists and walkers were diverted inland onto the busy Woolwich Road.

At the opening, a number of local walkers and cyclists attended, to celebrate being the first people to use the new connection.

The Thames Path runs alongside the river and for the most part is free of traffic.
It's all go at the Bridge

A thriving hub of the community the Council-run One O’Clock Club was saved from permanent closure by volunteers in September 2011.

A Community Interest Company (CIC) was formed and the centre was re-launched in April 2012 in its present state. It was entirely volunteer-run for the first two years but rapid growth and successful fundraising led to the employment of a part-time General Manager to oversee administration duties and further expansion and fundraising.

The centre still relies heavily on volunteers in many different capacities, from playgroup supervision to accounting, communications and event organisation. As a result, The Bridge has become a thriving hub of the community, providing training support for local people who have taken a career break and are looking to re-enter the workplace. It’s also a popular launch-pad for local businesses.

The Bridge consists of a large indoor playroom with dining kitchen, adult and child toilet facilities and store rooms, set within a secure enclosed area. It has its own playground and outdoor play equipment suitable for babies to toddlers, to encourage young children to continue the use of existing playground and forest school area.

The floor would be a rubber-play surface for health and safety reasons.

The aim is to provide a safe green space for families to enjoy in an environment free from traffic fumes and congestion.

The centre always appreciates offers of help from individual volunteers and local businesses.

Letters

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

G. Bailey

Humber Road

It was good to see the coverage of the unveil- ing of the first statue of a woman in Parliament Square. No one denies that Millicent Fawcett, who went to school in Blackheath, deserves her place in Parliament Square amid all those men.

But she is not the only connection with Blackheath. John Stuart Mill, who strongly supported women’s rights, lived here, too. Blackheath would be a more fitting memorial to all those who lived and worked for women’s rights through the ages. Among them: the wheelchair suffragette, Rosa Billington, born in Grove Park, highlighted in the JW in Nov. 2013; and Emily Widding Davison, born in Vanbrugh Park, who died at the Epsom Derby in 1913.

Then there was Edith Bessie New, who lived for a time in Hyde Vale: she was one of the first militant suffragists to be arrested for throwing stones at 10 Downing Street; also Mabel Take born in Plumstead, who was the honorary secretary of the National WSPU at its London headquarters.

Many other women locally played a part in campaigns on women’s issues, as suffragettes, suffragists or, as modern feminists: most recently, Mary Stoll, who played a pioneering part in women’s journalism and feminist issues, and Jane Grant, who founded the National Alliance of Women’s Organisations. (NAWO)

Volunteer Centre Greenwich

The VCG has been selected as the Westcombe Society’s charity of the year for 2018 - 19.

The Westcombe Society’s Charity of the Year for 2018/19 is the Volunteer Centre Greenwich. The centre uses volunteering to improve the lives of individuals and enrich the community, and the Westcomber contributors will help the centre to continue with this valuable work.

A funding call will be used to re-accredit one of the centre’s quality marks so that they can continue to deliver mentoring and befriending training and services. It will also be used to update and purchase some crucial IT equipment.

The Volunteer Centre Greenwich promotes the value of volunteers and volunteering in the Royal Borough of Greenwich, and ensures equality of access to volunteering for all people.

They do this by:

• Promoting volunteering to disadvantaged groups

• Providing information and support to all people seeking volunteering opportunities

• Providing induction and support to organisations seeking volunteers

• Providing support and training to volunteers and those who work with volunteers

• Promoting good practice around volunteering

They offer a signposting service for people in Greenwich wishing to undertake voluntary work through a database of voluntary opportunities and they offer a range of membership services to not-for-profit organisations. These include giving information, training and advice on recruiting, managing and good practice in the best use of volunteers.

Volunteering can change people’s lives by giving the skills, confidence and experience needed to progress to a career, improve health and wellbeing and reduce isolation.

The Volunteer Centre Greenwich is based at 10 Woolwich New Rd, London SE18 6AB. If anyone is interested in finding out about local volunteering opportunities or you wish to register your organisation, please contact the Volunteer Centre Greenwich on 0208 417 1417, email: info@volunteergreenwich.co.uk

Website: www.vcggreenwich.org.uk

WANTED: More volunteers to distribute the JW – and to help with Westcombe Society’s community events. Please phone 020 8275 2756 if you would like to help.

COMMUNITY

The John Roan School

Next academic year, student applications for The John Roan School would like to set up a new Inter-Generation Book Project.

This would involve setting up times when young students and local older residents can get together to discuss the books that they enjoyed when they were younger, and what they enjoy reading now.

We’d then like to create a time capsule, to include some extracts from the books discussed, written recommendations and comments, photos etc.

We are looking for anyone who would be happy to meet with our students to discuss books and their reading likes and dislikes.

If you would like more information please contact Jennifer Hall, Librarian at The John Roan School Jallen@johroan.org.greenwich.sch.uk

In Memoriam

Beryl Platts. A memorial service for Beryl Platts was held at St Allege’s Church on Friday May 25th. Beryl Platts (née Seaton) peacefully died at home on January 15th, aged 104. A writer and historian, Beryl Platts was the author of a number of books, including A History of Greenwich and The Origins of Heradry.

Her work was better known locally for her involvement in the campaign against a proposal to drive a motorway through the centre of Greenwich, which led to the formation of the Friends of Greenwich.

The Widow of J.A.C. Platts, Beryl Platts was the mother of Elizabeth and John, and had two granddaughters, Olivia and Sarah.

Peter Lewins. We are sorry to record the death after a long illness of Dr Peter Lewins who acted as membership secretary of the Westcombe Society for a period of ten years and the family our deepest sympathy.

Margaret Skeates was one of the founder members of the Westcombe Society. She ran the Events Committee for several years in the early days, and she started the Craft Fair in Kidbrooke House (as Mycenae House was then named) which she ran for some twenty years. (This was the forerunner to the Christmas Bazaar.)

She died about a month ago in Greenwich and Bexley Hospice after a long illness. Margaret was married to an architect, and they built a house for themselves in Unbragh Hill (no. 2A) where they lived for some years before moving to Sussex. After her husband’s death she moved back to Greenwich.

Harold Marchant’s memorial service took place at St Allege’s on Monday 25th June. Harold was an active member of the Greenwich Society, and the West Greenwich Graffiti Removal Group. Our condolences to his wife Clare.

Grant Saw Wealth Management Limited

INDEPENDENT PERSONAL AND CORPORATE FINANCIAL ADVISERS

Investments - Pensions

2 Chariton Road, Blackheath Standard London SE3 7EX (T) 020 3417 9760 email: enquiries@gswaal.co.uk www.gswaal.co.uk

Helping you plan your future
Grant Saw Wealth Management Ltd. is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

WORSE CAMBER NEWS

ALL EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
Neville Grant, Editor neville@westcombesociety.org Tel. 020 8858 8489
ALL MATERIAL TO BE SENT TO: nwes@westcombesociety.org Deadline for the September: 10th August Environment Editor: Maggie Gravelle Sub-editor: Annie Grey Reporters: The community – find me!

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE Emily Norton All queries and comments to: 020 8853 2756 environ@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 from £400. Four - one issues, £500, less than 3 issues, £700 each. Other sizes: please inquire. Classified Ads (Market Place): 30p per word (a telephone number = one word. An email: within address line = 3 words). Deadline for all adverts is 10th day of the preceding month.

Printed by: Trojan Press

Contact the Westcombe Society: westcombesocietynews@tiscali.co.uk 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 the Editor. We take all due care to ensure accuracy, but cannot be held liable for any errors 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.co.uk/westcombe-news/ Westcombe Society’s Blog: http://westcombe.blogspot.com
Local Councils: the solution – or part of the problem?

Following this issue’s headline about residential development in Greenwich, the WN provides here an overview of housing developments across London. The background: in an attempt to reduce public borrowing and expenditure, the government has been applying a massive squeeze on local government finances, making it increasingly hard to maintain local services. Lord Porter estimates that by 2020 the funding gap will exceed £5bn. To alleviate the pressure, and mainly to finance social care, the government has allowed councils to raise the community charge; but this alone does not pay for the increasing burden of social care, let alone funding house-building. Housing Associations were supposed to take up the slack in the housing sector, but has been slow to do so.

The figures below (for 2016/17) provide a picture of how different councils have tried to overcome financial and legal constraints to improve the housing stock.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total of dwellings completed in 2016/17</th>
<th>Dwellings completed in 2016/17 to Housing Associations &amp; Local Authorities</th>
<th>% of Social Housing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>London overall</td>
<td>23,250</td>
<td>5,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Croydon</td>
<td>1,370</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Southwark</td>
<td>2,210</td>
<td>405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Brier*</td>
<td>1,980</td>
<td>710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Newham</td>
<td>3,100</td>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Greenwich</td>
<td>2,580</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. T. Hamlets</td>
<td>1,540</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Wandsworth</td>
<td>4,040</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Wandsworth</td>
<td>7,600</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Hackney</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Hamron</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Brent</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Lewisham</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Hillingdon</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Redbridge</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Ealing</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Harrow</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Barking</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Dagenham</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Camden</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Bexley</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34. Westminster</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35. Harrow</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36. Isleworth</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37. Merton</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38. Richmond</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39. Havering</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40. Harrow</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41. Kenton</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42. Deptford</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43. The City</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Tree Talk, 2015 Housing developments completed and completed by revenue and capital, 2016/17: Department for Communities and Local Government.

New MOT tests changes

Drivers should be aware that the MOT test was revised in May. One of the changes is the way faults are classified.

For these reasons, many have welcomed the government’s decision to reduce the maximum stake from £100.00 to £2.00. But the problem doesn’t just affect adults: according to an alarming report by the Gambling Commission, a Government regulatory body, society, 2015-16 there were 230,000 individual sessions on Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs) in which a user lost more than £1000. The losses so incurred are often by those at the lower end of the income scale.

This is not just a tragedy for the gamblers themselves – and their families: the Centre for Economic and Business Research (CEBR) think tank reported that problem gambling carries a huge economic and social cost. This amounts to £1.5 billion a year because of its impact on employment, mental health and financial stability. For the FOBTs in particular can be addictive. These costs resource four lessons to produce a programme of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) provision for 15 year-olds. They encourage pupils to weigh risk, identify manipulative behaviour, manage impulses and help others. They cover a range of "risky behaviours", but with gambling as a major case study.

Policy makers, politicians, and the media were brought together at a launch event to engage with this research project, and discuss the future of gambling prevention education for young people.

Needless to say, parents or guardians and teachers share crucial roles.

Gambling: Our children’s future is at stake

Problem gambling affects some 15,000 people in Britain. In 2015-16 there were 230,000 individual sessions on Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs) in which a user lost more than £1000. The losses so incurred are often by those at the lower end of the income scale.

This is not just a tragedy for the gamblers themselves – and their families: the Centre for Economic and Business Research (CEBR) think tank reported that problem gambling carries a huge economic and social cost. This amounts to £1.5 billion a year because of its impact on employment, mental health and financial stability.

For the FOBTs in particular can be addictive. These costs resource four lessons to produce a programme of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) provision for 15 year-olds. They encourage pupils to weigh risk, identify manipulative behaviour, manage impulses and help others. They cover a range of "risky behaviours", but with gambling as a major case study.

Policy makers, politicians, and the media were brought together at a launch event to engage with this research project, and discuss the future of gambling prevention education for young people.

Needless to say, parents or guardians and teachers share crucial roles.

"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 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 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 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 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 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 culture.
Most of us coped with our tables: easy-peasy – though purists would complain that we learnt them parrot-fashion without understanding ‘the concept of number’. The concept of number? No time for that, as we launched into the basics of arithmetic – adding, subtracting, dividing and multiplying, with pounds shillings and pence (remember them?) thrown in for good (or bad) measure. Long division: tricky. Equations: help!

Then came what was laughingly called “applied maths”: “if two men mowed a hundred acre meadow in three hours, how long would it take five men?” Gulp.

This is where the present reviewer is coming from, and it was thus with some trepidation that he picked up this book The Battle for Infinity by local author Christopher Ormell. The title looked daunting: what after all does infinity mean? But the subheading looked much more promising: “Should mathematics be up in the clouds, or on the high ground with the finest views?” This grabbed the attention of this semi-numerate reader.

Christopher Ormell is well-known as a former lecturer in mathematics, and chair of this semi-numerate reader. Ormell’s book argues that “a belated awareness of the abstract stratosphere has proved well-nigh irresistible”. But for that notional woman or man in the street, the message they send back to earth is almost unintelligible. Ormell argues that the lure of the stratosphere came about mainly as a result of a new, exotic, fantastic theory of infinity developed more than a hundred years ago, and professional mathematicians have remained under its thrall ever since.

The result: mathematics has become “glorious” from the point of view of its insiders; but the cost has been a gradual erosion of support from the general public. Arguably, the teaching and learning of maths has never fully recovered from the cult of “New Maths” fifty or so (very) odd years ago, when children as young as five were to be introduced to maths via set theory, binary operations, transformations, groups etc. In those heady days, trendy theory, binary operations, transformations, groups etc. In those heady days, trendy theory, binary operations, transformations, groups etc. In those heady days, trendy theory, binary operations, transformations, groups etc.

How high should we go to get these valuable overviews? This is the question arises: “How high should we go to get these valuable overviews?”

Ormell’s book argues that “a belated awareness of the abstract stratosphere has proved well-nigh irresistible”. But for that notional woman or man in the street, the message they send back to earth is almost unintelligible. Ormell argues that the lure of the stratosphere came about mainly as a result of a new, exotic, fantastic theory of infinity developed more than a hundred years ago, and professional mathematicians have remained under its thrall ever since.

The experience remained imprinted on her memory, so that even sixty years later, she has been able to revive in detailed fresh tones the tedium of daily existence for women in an enclosed household in Andalusia.

Stephanie gives a non-judgmental account of her sojourn, frequently self-ironical, as she narrates from the point of view of her 16-year-old self. Reading between the lines, one discovers that even coming from the oppressive Catholic Ireland of the De Valera period, the enclosed and uneventful life in more backward Jerez feels like prison to the free-spirited girl.

Time has been turned back with the Fascist victory, all progress has been arrested and all freedoms curtailed. In short, mathematics needed to be protected from professional mathematicians: “For the ablest professionals, the lure of the abstract stratosphere has proved well-nigh irresistible.” But for that notional woman or man in the street, the message they send back to earth is almost unintelligible. Ormell argues that the lure of the stratosphere came about mainly as a result of a new, exotic, fantastic theory of infinity developed more than a hundred years ago, and professional mathematicians have remained under its thrall ever since. The result: mathematics has become “glorious” from the point of view of its insiders; but the cost has been a gradual erosion of support from the general public. Arguably, the teaching and learning of maths has never fully recovered from the cult of “New Maths” fifty or so (very) odd years ago, when children as young as five were to be introduced to maths via set theory, binary operations, transformations, groups etc. In those heady days, trendy theory, binary operations, transformations, groups etc. In those heady days, trendy theory, binary operations, transformations, groups etc.
F

WHAT’S ON

THE ARTS

BLACKHEATH ARTS SOCIETY
All meetings are on the 4th Thursday of each month (EXCEPT AUGUST AND DECEMBER), and start at 2.00pm with tea and coffee, and lectures at 2.30. The lecture venue is St Mary’s Church Hall, Coronwall Park, Blackheath. Next talks: 24th April, 22nd May, 27th June. All welcome.

THOMAS HEATHERWICK Visitors welcome the ARTS SOCIETY BLACKHEATH. Our lectures take place in King William II Court at the University of Greenwich, on the Old Royal Naval College site. Parking in the car park, accessed from Park Row. Next meeting: 9th July. See ANTHONY VAN DYCK - Rosalind Whyte Visitors welcome.

CHILDREN & FAMILY

GREENWICH THEATRE CROOMS HILL
Wed. 15th - Sun 26th August UK premier of THE JUNGLY BOOK by Rudyard Kipling. Directed by James Hadfield “The classic tale with thrilling escapade, vibrant puppetry – all of Kolkata’s irresistible characters.”

SHERINGHAM CHILDREN’S CENTRE, Tel. 4288 - 203140 - 16, Sheringham Road SE7 3WF
DAD’S STAY AND PLAY session every Wednesday, 1.00pm-2.30pm - drop in on Sheringham Children’s Centre, all home dads welcome 2nd Saturday of the month - 10.00am-11.30am - free sessions and craft Contact Daniel.hall1985@hotmail.co.uk

MYCENAE HOUSE
Tues 24th - Thurs 26th July 9am-3pm - Music Maestros. 3 day holiday music course at Mycenae House for children 7-16, book via info@thefrequencymusicgroup.co.uk

THE HORROR MIX MUSEUM
COLOUR: THE RAINBOW REVEALED October 2010: This interactive exhibition explores the science of colour through hands-on exhibits and exciting games and challenges. Visitors can explore the fascinating ways we see colour. Visitors are over 5 years only. Why do red flowers have white spots? Why does a tiger have black stripes?

www.horriemix.ac.uk
THE E 14th July, THE SEXTETS GLOBAL FUSION OF MUSIC and the ARTS Sat 18th July, 11am - 3pm CHARTON COMMUNITY FUN DAY

SPOKEN WORD
IN-WORDS
Tuesdays, 3rd and 10th at The Knowledge Centre (British Library, Euston Road); in collaboration with Vanessa Lee-Miller - “At First Sight - floating islands, floating lands”. An evening of storytelling, poetry & music inspired by the Library’s acclaimed James Cook, the Voyages exhibition. 7.45 - 9.15 £10, £8 (over 60s), £7 (concessions). What fun so excited by this collaboration and by working with the British Library.

Visit in-words.co.uk for more information.

N

What’s Off…

Not West Bank has written to its customers saying “They have made a range of improvements to the ways you can bank with us”, thus making it “more convenient to do your banking wherever and when you want.”

Like our branch in Old Dover Road. Er, no, sorry, not really: “we can still catch a bus to Greenwich, where your friendly neighbourhood bank awaits your custom.

Not really pleased: one of the bank’s new neighbours in St Alfege’s Church, opposite.

Blackheath High Open’s intergenerational company and Trinity Laban students work with professional opera singers, including German mezzo soprano Idunn Münch who makes her London debut as Didò in Act 2 of the opera. Farnsworth was described as the Trojan hero Aeneas in this thrilling and unique production.

Mon. 16 July 7.30pm; Tues. 17 July 7.30pm Wed. 18 July 6.30pm & 8.30pm Fri. 20 July 6.30pm & 8.30pm at The Albany, Downe Way, Deptford SE8 4AG £20 | £18 concessions | £12 under 18s

GREENWICH PARK BANDSTAND
The Friends of Greenwich Park bring you live music from renowned artists this summer, including Pulp. Greenwich Park. All concerts start at 3.00pm
Sun. 1st July Silver Ghosh
Sun. 8 July The Crystal Palace Band
Sun. 15 July Gordon Mark Webster’s Mumtaine Sun. 22 July Lowland Wonder Band
Sun. 29 July Belvedere Concert Band
Sun. 5 August Bromley Concert Band
Sun. 12 August South London Jazz Orchestra & Live Band Lindy
Sun. 19 August Galaxy Big Band
Sun. 26 August Greenwich Concert Band
Mon. 27 August Mint Glee Jazz Band

ROYAL GREENWICH GUITAR FESTIVAL
Kings Court West 11th July Guitar Plus One
Thurs 12th July blossoms on the Bandstand! 7.30pm Graham Anthony Devine Our Lady of the Sea Port Sun. 13th July 6.00pm Luthiers Showcase
Sun. 11th August 1-5pm - Total SILC Workshop. Learn a ground-breaking new dance syllabus promoted by the Festival.

THE FAN MUSEUM
12noon’s DINNER DANCE A BIRD IN THE HAND Tues-Sat 11.00 - 5.00pm Sundays: 12:45 - 5:00pm Until Sunday September 23rd. Until Polar Bears: The story of the polar bear. £26-£21.0 | concessions.

GREENWICH MORZART FESTIVAL
ST ALFEGE CHURCH SE10 9BJ 7.30pm each night Performances with the Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra of London on 7th, 20th, 27th July and 10th August. Tickets £15.50, £12.50 Available from box office www.london-orchestra.com

MYCENAE HOUSE THIS SUMMER
MYCENAE HOUSE, Mycenae Road SE3 Sundays: 12-5.30pm - ParksFest Summer Sunday Extravaganza. Garden party event with live music, dance, workshops, stalls, food, drink - more! FREE Wed 11th July 5.30-7.00pm - Piano Stars. Students from Royal Hill Music Academy Perform. Free entry.
Fri 13th July 6.30pm - Jazz nights. Camille Live Jazz music event hosted by Dave Silk £10. Sat 14th July 7.30pm - Summer Colli. A fundraising event of live music and dance presented by G3MA, £15. Fri 16th July 8.00pm - Jazz Nights. Camille Live Jazz music event hosted by Dave Silk £10.
Sun 17th August 1.00pm - Total SILC Workshop. Learn a ground-breaking new dance syllabus dedicated to a vast & eclectic range of clas-mos, contemporary music, £20
Thurs 30th Aug - Thropial Day. A day full of tropical fun, great music & funky armchair exercise suitable for all and for those with disabilities and mobility problems. Free entry. For further information visit www.mycenaehouse.co.uk

Susan Clark Interiors

For further information visit www.mycenaehouse.co.uk

Tel: 020 805 2299
www.susanclarkinteriors.com

Complete renovation to DecorationConstruction, Project Management - Interior Design, Kitchens & Bathrooms Bespoke Curtains & Blinds, Joinery & Felt Piping, Furniture, Gifts, Cards Tel. 0208 305 2299

Susan Clark Interiors

www.susanclarkinteriors.com
FEATURES

The WN looks at some of the highlights in July

In the first of an occasional series, the WN profiles a local artist. This month PENNY MATHESON looks at the work of Lubna Speitam

Lubna Speitam

Last month, the WN printed a news item highlighting the work of artists in the Greenwich Open Studios Goup and their event in June.

Lubna Speitam is one of the most recent artists to join the group. Lubna, who lives in Coleraine Road, trained and worked as a graphic designer until major surgery on her spine brought about a change of creative direction. Sadly, the WN hardly does justice to colour: so here we highlight her haunting monochrome nightscapes. For this reviewer it’s the nightscapes that are the most memorable.

Right:
St Paul’s Cathedral

Lubna at work in her studio in Westcombe Park

Planning on going to university?

Whether you are young, or a “mature student”, now’s the time! The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) website is now live, and should be your first stop when deciding which universities and courses to apply for.

Students hoping to go to university next year can start to look at exactly what’s on offer, what the entry criteria are, and lots more besides.

It can be daunting, whether students are applying straight from school or college, or if they’ve been in work for a while, or even on a gap year, so here are a few tips on what to think about:

Research your subject: Who provides the course that will best suit you? For example, there is a difference between Drama and Theatre Arts, so you need to do your homework.

League Tables give some idea about the quality and nature of courses, but you should also look at prospectuses to get an overview of what topics are covered.

Research your university: Just because a university offers your degree subject and ranks well doesn’t mean it’s a ‘shoo in’. Go to university open days to gain a sense of the student experience. You will spend three or four years there, and may have to move from home, so you want to make sure you will be happy. Check out what the student union is like. Other questions to ask:

- Do they have clubs and societies you are interested in?
- How easy is it to get to class?
- Are you on a campus or in a city?
- If possible talk to former students, many of whom attend open days. Find out:
  - do you get to do work experience?
  - are there sandwich course options with a year in industry?

Look at employability rates for the university as a whole and your field of study.

* Get to know the UCAS application process. It can seem a bit daunting but don’t be put off.

* Know the dates: you can start actually applying for your course in May, but all applications for autumn 2019 need to be received by January 2019 and that includes your personal statement.

* Think outside the box. Even if you aren’t currently studying a “relevant” subject, don’t discount applying to a course that really interests you. Most institutions consider all applications where students have demonstrated a passion for the subject.

* Make sure you attend any open days, workshops and/or school visits. These will help you learn more about the course that you’re interested in.

* Studying a degree is a significant commitment and it’s a big decision, so make sure you get all of the information you can.

Once she had picked up a paint brush there was no stopping her. Following the pain and insomnia post-surgery, she found solace exploring the peace of London after dark and focused on street life at night. Hence her striking – and sought-after – monochrome nightscapes. Her work however is not confined to

CLEONA LIRA – 2PLAN WEALTH MANAGEMENT LTD.

INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISER, CHARTERED STATUS.
SPECIALIST IN INVESTMENTS, PENSIONS & ETHICAL INVESTMENTS.

Address: Heron Tower, 13th Floor, 110 Bishopsgate, London, EC2N 4AD

Email: cleona.lira@2plan.com (T): 0207 112 4968
Website: http://cleona@2plan.com/Blog: http://cleona@2plan.com

2plan wealth management Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

It is entered on the Financial Services Register (www.fca.org.uk) under reference 461598.
Over 30 partner organisations in the fields of academia, business and government, from across Europe, met in Royal Greenwich as part of the European Union funded ‘Sharing Cities’ programme. Residents and policymakers in Greenwich and Peninsular Peninsula will benefit from the five year programme which uses technology to address challenges faced by major cities. Sharing Cities works with the borough’s Low Emission Neighbourhood (LEN) programme which tackle local air quality. The theme of the consortium meeting was ‘Delivery and Innovation through Collaboration’. Partners shared their experiences of implementing innovative trails in the fields of building retrofit, smart energy management systems, electric mobility, smart lamposts, data platforms and citizen engagement.

The Royal Borough also took the opportunity to launch a brand new project called Zer0 Emission Deliveries (ZED), which aims to reduce congestion and poor air quality in Greenwich caused by delivery vehicles – the first council-supported cargo bike zero emission delivery scheme in London. The ZED project will offer businesses and local residents professional delivery service which can transport everything from letters and parcels through to goods weighing up to 200kg, while contributing zero emissions into the local environment. The company chosen to operate the service ‘Rushcargo’ has a proven track record operating an entirely cycle based fleet of vehicles in Brighton, and pays its staff the London Living Wage. The borough has also launched a new low emission initiative for residents, a new electric bike loan scheme. Residents can borrow an e-bike for a month to trial the technology and see how it can help them cycle more and further around London. The 3-month ‘try before you buy’ service will fully support them for the whole of the trial and the travel data collected will be evaluated by Imperial College London.

The Royal Borough of Greenwich’s ground-breaking work on smart city innovation has been highlighted in a high profile publication. Commissioned by the global technology giant Huawei, the UK Smart Cities Index, 2018 identifies how cities are using smart city technology to tackle urban challenges. It judged London and Beyond to be at the cutting edge of smart cities, highlighting the considerable progress in several London boroughs, “notably in the ambitious Digital Greenwich programme.”

The report judged that one of the most ambitious smart city programmes has been launched by the Royal Borough of Greenwich, led by the Digital Greenwich team. The study highlighted that Greenwich is the London demonstration area for Sharing Cities – a £25 million EU Horizon 2020 project led by London, Milan, and Lisbon. The 3-year project, which started in February 2016, is developing, deploying, and integrating replicable solutions across the energy, transport, and information technology (ICT) sectors. The London projects include energy efficiency, renewable energy, urban mobility, and smart parking projects. One of the most ambitious projects is the development of a sustainable energy management system (SEMS) that consolidates and analyses energy data from smart meters and other intelligent devices. The SEMS also links to the broader urban data platform being developed as part of the Sharing Cities programme.

The Royal Borough of Greenwich, the Borough of Lewisham from the OnBlackheath Community Fund, the Royal Borough of Greenwich Blackheath and Westcombe Park, and the Agincourt 600 Charity Fund. The panels are positioned at busy public hubs, such as bus stops or path intersections, and avoid cluttering important views and spaces. They are formed of emulated white steel, screen-printed with full colour images on durable paper, which makes the panels weather resistant. The panels are positioned at busy public hubs, such as bus stops or path intersections, and avoid cluttering important views and spaces. They are formed of emulated white steel, screen-printed with full colour images on durable paper, which makes the panels weather resistant. The panels are positioned at busy public hubs, such as bus stops or path intersections, and avoid cluttering important views and spaces. They are formed of emulated white steel, screen-printed with full colour images on durable paper, which makes the panels weather resistant. The panels are positioned at busy public hubs, such as bus stops or path intersections, and avoid cluttering important views and spaces. They are formed of emulated white steel, screen-printed with full colour images on durable paper, which makes the panels weather resistant.

The architects Nissen Richards have drawn up proposals for a new exhibits space that will also provide live music and conferences at Meridian Quays, near the O2. The new temporary, though, the plan is to use the site only for 8 - 10 years until developer Knight Dragon decide to build housing; if they decide. The new building will be, basically, a two-storey rectangular structure with black cladding – in mourning, perhaps, for the houses that won’t be built there for ten years, if ever. These provide space for 1400 seats and around 3000 standees. The new building will provide jobs, and other developments in the area include a new shopping centre inside the O2 to be opened later this year, with four million visitors expected annual. Doubts have been expressed about the transport system’s ability to cope.

The planning reference is 18/1285.

The Royal Borough of Greenwich, the Borough of Lewisham from the OnBlackheath Community Fund, the Royal Borough of Greenwich Blackheath and Westcombe Park, and the Agincourt 600 Charity Fund. The panels are positioned at busy public hubs, such as bus stops or path intersections, and avoid cluttering important views and spaces. They are formed of emulated white steel, screen-printed with full colour images on durable paper, which makes the panels weather resistant. The panels are positioned at busy public hubs, such as bus stops or path intersections, and avoid cluttering important views and spaces. They are formed of emulated white steel, screen-printed with full colour images on durable paper, which makes the panels weather resistant. The panels are positioned at busy public hubs, such as bus stops or path intersections, and avoid cluttering important views and spaces. They are formed of emulated white steel, screen-printed with full colour images on durable paper, which makes the panels weather resistant. The panels are positioned at busy public hubs, such as bus stops or path intersections, and avoid cluttering important views and spaces. They are formed of emulated white steel, screen-printed with full colour images on durable paper, which makes the panels weather resistant. The panels are positioned at busy public hubs, such as bus stops or path intersections, and avoid cluttering important views and spaces. They are formed of emulated white steel, screen-printed with full colour images on durable paper, which makes the panels weather resistant. The panels are positioned at busy public hubs, such as bus stops or path intersections, and avoid cluttering important views and spaces. They are formed of emulated white steel, screen-printed with full colour images on durable paper, which makes the panels weather resistant. The panels are positioned at busy public hubs, such as bus stops or path intersections, and avoid cluttering important views and spaces. They are formed of emulated white steel, screen-printed with full colour images on durable paper, which makes the panels weather resistant.