on the 6th May 2020 the London Mayor announced his Streetspace Plan to overhaul London’s streets.

“Clean, green and sustainable travel is to be at the heart of London’s recovery” and it is hoped that “cycling could increase ten-fold and walking five-fold post-lockdown.”

This transformation of London’s roads will be fast-tracked to provide new cycle lanes and wider pavements to enable social distancing. It is hoped that this will reduce pressure on Tubes and buses and provide a cleaner, green and sustainable way of travel now that the lockdown has been relaxed to allow some businesses to reopen. Those employed in them who cannot work from home are being encouraged to use these cleaner ways of travel.

The rationale for these changes is stated in the Mayor’s briefing as ... “With London’s public transport capacity potentially running at a fifth of pre-crisis levels, millions of journeys a day will need to be made by other means. If people switch only a fraction of these journeys to cars, London risks grinding to a halt, air quality will worsen, and road danger will increase.”

To prevent this happening, TfL, working with London’s boroughs, will rapidly repurpose London’s streets to make changes - up-armed in a city London’s size – which focus on three key areas:

1. The rapid construction of a strategic cycling network, using temporary materials, including new routes aimed at reducing crowding on Underground and train lines and on busy bus corridors.

2. A complete transformation of local town centres to enable local journeys to be safe and walk and cycle where possible.

3. Reducing traffic on residential streets, creating low-traffic neighbourhoods right across London to enable more people to walk and cycle as part of their daily routine, as has happened during lockdown.

Locally, Royal Borough of Greenwich (RBG) have formed a Streetspace Taskforce to identify, develop and implement measures that can be put in place quickly and to develop proposals to TfL. They are focusing on areas they know or expect to be the busiest, currently the three ‘town centres’ (Greenwich, Woolwich and Eltham), high streets and around green spaces. The RBG plan can be found here: https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/news/article/622/plans-to-improve_streets_to_maintain-social_distancing

Greenwich Town Centre has been prioritised because of its narrow footways and, in the short term, will widen the footways within the gyratory using temporary barriers.

Additionally, a ‘School Street programme’ allows emergency street closures to support social distancing for pupils and parents of Invicta School to socially distance. The school is encouraged to walk, cycle or scoot to school.

These temporary adjustments will need to be kept under review by residents in order to inform any possible permanent changes by Transport for London – which would, we believe, require public consultation.

Other initiatives include:

- widening footpaths in ‘town’ centres and around Greenwich Park
- filtering more residential streets to reduce through traffic but maintain access for cyclists, pedestrians and emergency vehicles
- creating more School Streets
- bringing forward plans for the Greenwich to Woolwich cycle route

Residents have an opportunity to inform RBG on how the implemented schemes are working. Additionally, if you are aware of local areas causing issues for Social Distancing please contact: Danny.thorpe@royalgreenwich.org.uk

In summary, Covid-19 travel changes include:

- Londoners must continue working from home wherever possible to enable safe journeys for those who cannot do so.
- Those who need to travel are asked to reimagine their journeys where possible using existing or newly-introduced walking and cycling options and to ‘shop local’ to relieve pressure on public transport. Public transport should be avoided wherever possible.
- Employers are urged to help their staff avoid travelling at the busiest times of day. Face coverings should be used, rigorous cleaning regimes, hand sanitizer points and operational changes at stations will help keep everyone safe
- National requirement to maintain a two-metre distance between passengers wherever possible means public transport will operate very differently to before the pandemic.

If you absolutely have to drive, please avoid peak times and obey speed limits and traffic laws at all times.
- The Congestion Charge, Ultra Low Emission Zone and Low Emission Zone was reinstated on Monday 18th May and will be increased to £15 per day from 22nd June, to prevent London’s roads from becoming unusably blocked.
- To support NHS staff, the Congestion Charge reimbursement scheme is being extended and will also be open to care home workers.
- Free travel for school children and for the over-60s during peak times, is being reviewed. [Note: Peak times have yet to be clarified]

75 YEARS ON

On Friday 8th May in the local streets and gardens we celebrated our victory and freedom from WW/11. Acknowledging as well the debt of great magnitude we will always owe to all the service men and women who gave up their lives to protect this country.

Congratulations

We are pleased to hear of the well-deserved appointment of our MP Matt Pennycook, as Shadow Minister for Climate Change, and to Cllr Denise Scott-McDonald, a former local resident and contributor to the WN, who recently became Deputy Leader of Greenwich Council.

RIP

We regret to announce the death of Dave Shuman, a gentle man in all respects, who cared passionately for the health and well-being of the planet. He was a member of the Green Party, and of Blackheath & Greenwich United Nations Association, and will be much missed by all who knew him. Sadly, people had to watch his funeral on the internet because of Covid-19.

Police state?

A local man, not au fait with the news, drove westwards with his two sons for a day in the countryside, and was stopped 100 kilometres out by the police, who levied a hefty fine and turned him round. No doubt he was misguided, but a number of recent incidents in England raise serious questions. With the Prime Minister urging us to use our common sense, this punts the police and the public in a difficult situation: what is the legal status of ‘common sense’?

Inspector Knacker of the Yard may have a different definition of common sense from Joe Public. The need for clarity has never been greater.

Black Insomnia Coffee Company, the maker of the world’s strongest medium roast coffee, has launched a revolutionary Nespresso-compatible coffee pod which is 100% home compostable.

A Colour Splash

Forget the Powers That Be for a moment! The Blackthistle Royal Standard Village Association Plunger (in the middle of the road between Sun Yuh and The Royal Standard pub) continues to flourish. Thanks to the volunteers who ensure it is watered as necessary.
SEWING FOR GOOD
To Help Save Lives on the Frontline

Two women, backed by a team of amazing volunteers, have launched a local volunteer group, Sew4Good Greenwich. The volunteer-led initiative’s mission is to provide vital garment pieces for those working on the frontline of the COVID-19 crisis in Greenwich and surrounding areas. Nicola and Richa, both local Greenwich residents, had the idea to form Sew4Good Greenwich when asked by a friend to make some scrubs as Nicola has a degree in fashion and textiles and has taught textiles for several years. Nicola explained: “My GP friend needed quite a few scrubs which I couldn’t afford alone. So I got in touch with South London’s ‘For The Love of Scrubs’ and ‘Greenwich Mutual Aid.’”

That was how Nicola got in contact with Richa Kirpalani, a Greenwich Peninsula resident who had worked in luxury fashion in the product development space. These women combined their skill and passion to do social good, forming the volunteer-led group over the recent Easter weekend. The group currently runs on WhatsApp. The group now has about 40 volunteers with different levels of skill, ranging from first-time sewers to retired sanitisation teams, all willing and eager to lend a hand.

Both Nicola and Richa were aware of larger organisations with 40,000 plus volunteers (e.g., For The Love of Scrubs) who are supplying to large hospitals and other organisations but Sew4Good Greenwich takes a different stance and they focus on the local Greenwich area, namely GP practices, surgeries, care homes, and hospices. They have also fulfilled orders for our local GP surgery, Vanbrugh Health Centre, which the surgery was very grateful for. Nicola said: “Our material is mainly sourced from recycled bed linen and donated fabrics. As we can’t accept monetary donations we have been very grateful to the long list of people who have supported us with donations of sheets, duvet covers, fabric, thread and elastic. Retailers such as Merchant & Mills and Rolls & Rems have also been very generous with their donations.”

Richa added: “We have received many requests so far, our biggest requests in terms of quantity was for circa 325 units of PPE including scrubs and headbands for masks. The production of these would not have been possible without our amazing team of volunteers who completed the request and orders in just over two weeks.”

In fact, they have had so many requests for people to join that they have had to put some prospective members on hold based on current demand and operational planning. Sew4Good Greenwich are currently working hard to fulfil their latest request for around 1,000 items of PPE. Richa said: “From a personal and professional perspective this has been one of the most rewarding and fulfilling experiences.”

Nicola added: “The organisations we have already fulfilled orders for have said they are very grateful for our supplies. We are just doing our bit in contributing during this crisis, with the skills we have.”

Richa agreed: “The real heroes are those we are helping on the frontline, we are just providing what we can in a very small way.”

Picture: Left to right: Sharon Bailey - Health care support worker, Dr. Rebecca Moore - GP, Ruth Keel - Training Hub program lead.

Facility: WWW.Greenwichhealth.com IG: Handle @Greenwichhealth

Greenwich Health is a Primary Care Team and supports all GP practices in the Borough.

Picture quote: “Sew4Good Greenwich ensured we had scrubs which enabled us to set up a Coronavirus clinic in under 10 days and see local Greenwich residents, safely.”

Fostering a Child in a Time of Crisis

Royal Greenwich’s fostering recruitment and assessment activities haven’t stopped because of Covid-19 but they have been adapted to ensure people stay safe from catching the virus. Any enquiries, interviews, ongoing training and support is being delivered safely through email, telephone, and video calls.

Our team have already contacted over 150 children, families and carers since the crisis began. Jennifer Bygrave, vice chair of the Greenwich Foster Carers Association Committee, said: “It has been good to hear that most carers are coping well with this unusual situation - understanding and accepting the limits of their control and keeping a brave face for their family and the children they are looking after.”

Cllr Jackie Smith, Cabinet Member for Children’s Services and Community Safety, said: “These amazing foster carers who dedicate so much of their time to make a positive change in the lives of so many Greenwich Greenfingers, young people and parents do a wonderful job and we are truly grateful to them, but we still need more people to step up and join them. I encourage you to learn more and get in touch if fostering is something you would like to do.”

If you are interested in becoming a foster carer and can answer ‘yes’ to the following criteria, we’d like to hear from you:

-are over 18 (and mature)
-have a spare room
-have a wish to dedicate to caring for a young person or child.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a foster carer with us, please call 0800 052 1449 or email fostering.duty@royalgreenwich.gov.uk.

BROTHERS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

BROTHERS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

For community spirit look no further than Kaz and Erol Kille, originally from Turkey, the boys who are Brothers Bakery at the Standard. Before Covid-19 and lockdown the bakery was only known for its pastries and bread. Now locals also know it as a shop where kind-hearted generosity shine in hard times.

Wanting nothing in return, Kaz and Erol are tackling the Covid challenge by giving away eggs, yeast and bread rolls, and delivering bread to vulnerable customers trapped at home in isolation.

“For us it is a good feeling to be able to help the community in this way,” says Kaz. “We feel we are doing something positive at a time when some shops are actually raising prices. This is a chance to do our bit.”

“We could have shut up shop when lockdown started but decided to hang in there because we know that bread is a family staple, and cake and coffee are treats in hard times.”

It all started in March when supermarkets were hit with panic buying. Recall Kaz: “A local teacher came into the shop and we started chatting about the situation. I was surprised when she said she couldn’t even get eggs. She’s a mum and I know how vital eggs are to a family’s diet. We gave her 30 eggs then and after that Erol and I realised we could do something useful here. The wholesaler I get eggs from, usually supplies to cafes and restaurants and, as they’re all closed, there was lots of stock. So we ordered five cases each containing 180 eggs.”

To their delight and surprise, locals walking past started seeing boxes of eggs outside Brothers Bakery and a sign inviting them to help themselves. Some people asked if they had to pay, others donated to

Kaz and Erol Kille
LOCAL NEWS

NEW COUNCIL CABINET

The Leader of the Royal Borough of Greenwich, Cllr Danny Thorpe, confirmed changes to the Council’s Cabinet at last night’s Annual Council Meeting. Cllr Danny Thorpe said: “The coronavirus pandemic has touched every aspect of the Council’s work, and new Cabinet will help us shape our services as the borough recovers. Businesses will need support to get back on their feet, schools will reopen for children who have been stuck at home for months, our social care services will help vulnerable residents, and our leisure centres and libraries will reopen. It’s clear that many services will not be the same, and we want residents to tell us how we could do things differently in a post-coronavirus world.

So over the next few weeks we’re going to run Q&A sessions with our Cabinet Members so that residents can find out more about who they are, and more importantly inform them about their upcoming priorities.”

Q&As with the Leader, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Members will be advertised on the Council’s website, social media channels and Greenwich Info in due course.

The full Cabinet is:

Cllr Denise Scott-McDonald, interim Deputy Leader, Economy and Skills
Cllr Steve James, Environment, Sustainability and Transport
Cllr Adel Khairou, Culture and Communities
Cllr Chris Kirby, Finance and Resources
Cllr Sarah Merritt, Planning and Regeneration
Cllr Matt Morrow, Children and Young People
Cllr Anthony Okereke, Housing
Cllr Jackie Smith, Community Safety and Enforcement
Cllr Miranda Williams, Health and Adull’s Social Care

SCHOOL’S BACK

Local primary schools are going ahead with plans for a phased wider opening of schools. Headmistress Vicki Cuff from Invicta Primary School wrote, “Over the past week, I have been looking carefully at the Government’s ambitious plan with the senior leadership team and school governors and thinking carefully about what this means for Invicta. We have been reading and digesting the guidance from the Department for Education and unions as well as talking to staff, governors, the Local Authority and other headteachers to consider what is possible for the Invicta community and what this might look like in practice.

• Our governing body has agreed that the phased wider opening of Invicta will not begin before 8th June at the earliest, in order for us to make a safe and robust plan.

• Our plan will begin with the phased (gradual) return of the government’s priority year groups of EYFS, Year 1 and Year 6 with the order of these year groups to be confirmed.”

At the time of going to press Halton Primary was yet to confirm the date when their pupils will be going back to school. “We need to consult and inform the parents first.”

With regard to secondary schools, RBG finish their press release: “Discussions between headteachers, boards of governors, teachers, parents and the council are continuing. It is likely that the situation will continue to change as ideas are discussed and new information is considered.”

All schools agree that in any phased return, the safety of the pupils, staff, and wider community will always be a primary consideration.

ZOOM DATE: ST GEORGE’S COMMUNITY LECTURE SERIES

Tuesday, 16 June 8:00pm
“Understanding the United Nations: Unnecessary or Indispensable?”
Speaker: Neville Grant, Author and Chair, UN Association of Blackheath and Greenwich.
Best known to residents in the Blackheath area as the former editor of the Westcombe News, Neville has been involved, both locally and nationally, with

WEB’S BEEN HERE BEFORE….. AGAIN

News from 1665

In 1665 Samuel Pepys moved out of London to avoid the plague, and was commuting between Greenwich and Woolwich, partly to supervise work at the dockyards.

August 22nd … I went away and walked to Greenwich, in my way seeing a coffin with a dead body therein, dead of the plague, lying in an open close belonging to Coome farm, which was carried out last night, and the parish have not appointed any body to bury it, but only set a watch there day and night, that nobody should go thither or come thence, which is a most cruel thing: this disease making us more cruel to one another than if we were devils.

August 25th … This day I am told that Dr Burnett, my physician, is this morning dead of the plague; which is strange, his man dying so long ago, and his house this month open again. Now him self dead. Poor man.

August 26th … thence I by water home, in my way seeing a man taken up dead, out of the hold of a small ketch that lay at Deptford. I doubt it might be the plague, which, with the thought of Dr Burnett, did something distress me, so that I did not what I intended, and should have done at the office…….

August 30th … then abroad and met with Hadley, our parish clerk, who, upon my asking how the plague goes, he told me in increases much and much in our parish; for, say he, there died nine this week, though I have returned but six, which is a very ill practice and makes me think it is so in other places; and therefore the plague much greater than people take it to be…….

September 4th … walked home, my Lord Bruncker giving me a very neat case to walk with, but it troubled me to pass by Coome farme where about twenty-one people have died of the plague…… and a man is constantly kept there night and day, to keep the people in……

LOCAL NEWS IS GOOD NEWS……

The Sunday Times (April 19th, page 13) warns that six out of ten local papers are unlikely to survive the current Covid-19 crisis. We should all fervently hope that this is not a self-fulfilling prophecy. Local newspapers have been playing a vital role during the crisis; they have been publishing guidance from local councils, and giving information on local services, provided by both the councils and voluntary bodies. They also highlight local news that does not get a mention in national papers.

In bigger papers, advertisers have increasingly moved their budgets to websites on the internet. Journalists have become an endangered species. Hundreds of newspaper employers have been laid off (even before the crisis), and at least 50 local papers have suspended publication.

Community newspapers, such as the Westcombe News, are a different story. The work is all done by devoted volunteers, who edit, write and distribute the papers.

However we hope that readers of the RN will not desert our other local papers – we need them all. We don’t realise how much we need things until they are gone. This could be the long-term central message really, of the lockdown……

-Neville Grant

Grant Saw Wealth Management Limited

INDEPENDENT PERSONAL and CORPORATE FINANCIAL ADVISERS

Investments - Pensions - Estate Planning

2 Charlton Road, Blackheath Standard London SE3 7EX (020 3410 1360 email: enquiries@gswwealth.co.uk website: www.gswwealth.co.uk

HELPING YOU PLAN YOUR FUTURE

Grant Saw Wealth Management Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

DON’T LIVE WITH DOMESTIC ABUSE

Call 080 801 006 00 (free to call)

See your partner or family member being abused? Give them your support and help them break the chain of abuse.

See someone you know or care about being abused? Be a friend, it’s safe to call.

See someone you don’t know or care about being abused? People are natural, it’s safe to call.

If so, This is Domestic Abuse!...
Boris has said that the outbreak of corona-virus is our biggest challenge since the war. It didn’t seem that way at first. It was more like the virus crept up on us. Lockdown was a shock, our disbelief thickening the air but we thought, it won’t be long until it’s over. Instead, the seriousness of our situation deepened, and we started to hear about a projected 18 months, we learned about this being the first wave and finally we understood that we are now in the new normal, that our lives might never completely go back to how they were.

How could they? Most traumatic events, in hindsight give as much as they take. We are given the gift of reflection which we may squander a little on thinking nostalgically about the past but change is change. New knowledge makes us grow, we are surviving better in lockdown how they were.

New experiences, and our present will reflect this new knowledge. New knowledge makes us grow, we are given the gift of reflection which we in hindsight give as much as they take. We have had new experiences, and our present will change to reflect this new knowledge.

Covid-19 in hindsight could be seen as a great balance. Those of us who have experienced mental health issues which have led to isolation or re-learning might find we are surviving better in lockdown than our more outgoing, outwardly mobile brethren who, without the distraction of work, find their inner guy ropes loosening. Local community is now seen as life enhancing; as a valuable asset to be cared around us count. The war, to make the changes that will leave behind but also, for those of us remaining, the greatest opportunity since the pandemic recedes. This is the rebirth potential that is being revealed as the pandemic recedes. Covid-19 might come to be judged, not only as a terrifying ordeal for those that lost their lives and for the loved ones they leave behind but also, for those of us remaining, the greatest opportunity since the war, to make the changes that will make our lives and the lives of those around us count.

—Anne Williams

“It’s funny how the ugly duckling always has so many beautiful things to teach us.”
—Curtis Tyyone Jones

The Changing Nature of Covid-19

“Please, we’re social distancing”

Pic: Three Classes of Railway Travel illus. London News 1847

PAINTING & DECORATING

Interior/Exterior* Experienced Reliable Clean Fully Guaranteed/Insured. References available. Free no obligation quote and advice given

JOHN AT JAMES & LAMONT
Office 020 8462 4646
Mobile 07928 535695
jamlam.john@btinternet.com

A & A LANDSCAPES
Landscape Specialists

Free advice & estimates
Qualified horticulturist
All aspects of soft & hard landscaping
* work carried out including
* Maintenance *Site clearance
* Turfing *weeds surgery
* Fencing *Patios
* Brickwork
Tel. 020 8318 2530

A laina Frymorgen runs the Neal’s Yard Remedies franchise in Blackheath Village. For everyone who appreciates having an alternative to allopathic medicine, her shop is a valuable resource. Indeed a local treasure! A place where, along with a back massage, you can get your health concerns listened to, and remedies suggested. A herblist is also available to tailor-make remedies to suit the customer’s needs.

Like any good doctor, Alina is proud of how much research she does, going to lectures given by complementary practitioners from around the world as well as attending refresher training sessions in order to keep abreast of all current developments in the field of complementary medicine.

I’ve asked Alina to share a little of her story as well as giving us an insight into how Covid-19 has affected her shop.

“When I left Poland in the mid 80’s, it was more like jumping galaxies. I left a grey, socialist authority that saw its state of one party, one culture, one religion and one type of medicine. To me London offered much more than I had ever thought existed. Finally life was rich, colourful, exciting and full of choices. I quickly chucked away pork chops for a vegetarian diet and soon embarked upon studying homeopathy.

Even my pediatrician mother had no idea what it meant then.”

Alina got a job in the Neal’s Yard shop in Covent Garden.

“Back then, there was no Google, no social media, no internet. We spent a long time sharing herbal and homeopathic books with customers, looking for the best solutions. Many happy clients were coming back to thank us for the amazing improvement. Work was meaningful and very satisfactory.”

But how did Alina get from being a shop assistant to owning her own shop?

“After my first lecture with Ian White, the founder of the Australian Bush Flower Remedies, I decided to try the Abundance Essence, ‘to open up for the numerous opportunities the Universe has to offer’. It worked! I soon had the eureka moment: I would love to have a shop like the one in Covent Garden only in my neighbourhood.”

“So in September 2001, with a huge help from my dear friends, I opened the franchise in Blackheath. Alina loves owning her shop even in these times of the ‘disappearing high street’. She believes ‘on-line’ purchasing cannot supply what she can - vibrant, one-to-one and face-to-face help and support of her customers’ needs.

So what happened when lockdown began? How has Alina continued to serve her customers?

I have never felt more appreciated as a local well-being hub, as during the present times. I have stayed ‘open’, in a new way, since the beginning of the lock down. My customers, who don’t rely solely on pharmacueticals, have been contacting the store via email, phone or Facebook to place their orders. I process each order and place it outside the store. The payment is contactless or via bank transfers. For those people who have been in isolation my husband is very happy to deliver to their doorsteps (literally).

We are all more anxious and worried at present. Stress affects our health in multiple ways. I have sold loads of herbal teas for better sleep and nervous exhaustion, also for many aspects of indigestion.

“People are buying more essential oils at the moment to create a beautiful ambiance at home. Parents are looking for Bach flower remedies, for ‘focus’, to help in home schooling.

“On top of pandemic-related problems we are in the hay fever season for which we have always sold homeopathy, herbs and supplements. The media often mention the evidence that Vitamin D is very beneficial to our immunity. Such information brings us lots of custom. The phone hasn’t stopped ringing.”

Thank you Alina! I’m wishing you lots of future success in your business and in the health of your customers.

MAN & VAN
Collections Deliveries & House Clearances

For a polite & prompt service please contact:
Edward on 0208 301 5303 or 07906 169705

Goldstar Academy

Discover the joy of learning!
"Specular in STEM Maths"
3 to 11 and Group Tuition

STEM GCSES, KS1/KS2, SATS, Phonics Test and 11+ Exams

"Specialist in STEM Maths"

1 to 1 and Group Tuition

Westcombe News June 2020
The Westcombe Society’s very own Quizmaster Extraordinary J-J has created for WN readers not one, but two quizzes. (No looking on the internet!) We will print the answers in July’s edition of WN.

**QUOTATIONS AND SAYINGS**

**EXAMPLE:** OAWAAP (Anonymous) **On a wing and a prayer** (Anonymous) being the clue!

Now its your turn:

1. EGCCTP (Agathon)
   Ans_________________________

2. HSGMYP (Motto of the Order of the Garter)
   Ans_________________________

3. ALITBR (Jane Austen)
   Ans_________________________

4. TLBOI (Jane Austen)
   Ans_________________________

5. WWFG (Samuel Beckett)
   Ans_________________________

6. ATOBIAJF (John Keats)
   Ans_________________________

7. L’E’C’E’LA (J-P Sartre - in French)
   Ans_________________________

8. YPYPAYTIC (Anonymous)
   Ans_________________________

9. AIFBTIBOPW (Voltaire in English)
   Ans_________________________

10. PITLROAS (Samuel Johnson)
    Ans_________________________

**WHO AM I?**

1. Which actor/politician used to shop at Safeway (before M&S)?
   Ans_________________________

2. Which famous widowed football player was a pupil at Blackheath Bluecoats?
   Ans_________________________

3. Which actor starred in Mama Mia (whose name has a link with ‘barrel’)? and a pupil at Thomas Tallis School?
   Ans_________________________

4. Which actor whose name has links to Sir Paul McCartney, went to Kidbrooke School?
   Ans_________________________

5. A Russian who worked in the Deptford Docks and has a statue near Deptford Creek - who was he?
   Ans_________________________

6. There is an elm tree planted in her honour in Marion Wilson Park - who is she?
   Ans_________________________

7. She was the pioneering first headteacher of the first purpose-built comprehensive school - who was she?
   Ans_________________________

8. The National Gallery, a local public museum and Mycenae House - whose name links these places?
   Ans_________________________

9. Which 18th century English composer has strong links with a Greenwich church?
   Ans_________________________

10. She was appointed Ranger of Greenwich Park in 1805 and was rumoured to have had a colourful life?
    Ans_________________________

**ORIGAMI**

Origami actually has many health benefits: it improves fine motor skills and brain development; develops imagination and a sense of colour plus it improves concentration and spatial awareness. As well as creating free gifts and presents - so good for your purse too! So why not give it a go?

**MYCENAE HOUSE**

**WHAT’S ON COMING BACK SOON...**

**THEATRE**

**COMEDY**

**FILM**

**TROJAN PRESS**

We are now open to print

- Business cards - Flyers
- Invoices - Letterheads
- Books - Brochures
- Calendars - Format - Invites
- Order of services - Programmes

In Lizban St
Blackheath, London SE3 8SS
Tel: 020 8853 2268
Email: info@trojanpress.co.uk
www.trojanpress.com

Can you see the rabbit?

Tutorials: https://origami.me/video-tutorials/ (more on a youtube).
Buy Origami paper from Amazon https://www.amazon.co.uk/Origami-Paper/??1d=U7F8&node=2010283031

Explore Greenwich in 100 Objects at Hogblog.org
https://www.instagram.com/hogblog.50/
https://twitter.com/100Hogblog

WHAT CAN YOU FIND?

**100 FOUND OBJECTS’ WHAT CAN YOU FIND?**

Are there any objects, whether lost, found, in plain view or hidden away, that you feel represent your ‘manor’?

The history of ‘West Combe’ has been documented over the years. William Lambard, whose family owned the Manor of Westcombe, published ‘Perambulation of Kent’ in 1576. Since then many local historians have dug deep into the archives to update or rewrite our local history. Today, a new ‘blog’ is seeking suggestions for Westcombe and East Greenwich to enrich ‘A History of Greenwich in 100 Objects’.

Based on the British Museum’s book and radio series ‘History of the World in 100 Objects’ the more modest Greenwich ‘blog’ can be found at www.hogblog.org/.

The site seeks to build on the 20 objects featured so far, from statues and sculptures to paintings, everyday items from the archives and mudlarking ‘finds’ from the river.

The definition of an ‘object’ is open to interpretation - for example we will not be featuring buildings - though we have made an exception for the Blackheath Tea Hut, which due to its recent destruction fits the category of ‘lost’ objects. A very Westcombe example could be the ‘missing Mary’ - a religious statue that disappeared some years ago from its niche above the door of Mycenae House. (See pic)

Are there any objects, whether lost, found, in plain view or hidden away, that you feel represent your ‘manor’?

Please send suggestions and any images of objects to: editor@hogblog.org. Also get in touch if you are motivated to write a short blog (from 500 to 2,500 words) about your nominated object.

There is also a short course planned for the autumn on ‘50 Objects of Greenwich’. Sessions led by curators, conservators, mudlarkers and storytellers will feature paintings and prints, mudlark finds, objects in streets and parks, and a Greenwich selection from the 2.5 million items in the RMG stores at Kidbrooke. To respect the need for continuing caution over public and social space it is likely the course will be delivered as a webinar or digital tour hosted by Royal Museums Greenwich.
THE ART OF LOCKDOWN

8-12YRS

Jennifer is 12 years old and a Year 7 student at Thomas Tallis School. She lives in Wycherley Close and her hobbies are drawing, painting, baking and making stuff! During lockdown the Lewis family has been spending much more time in their back garden and Jenn decided to liven it up by painting many of the stones there. (The stones are beautifully coloured, visit www.westcombebeautycor.org to see full online and in colour.)

Niamh Branagan 7yrs old, Year 2, ‘The Great Fire of London’, Halling School project. Niamh also paints rainbows in her spare time.

Samuel Kidder 8yr old

Isolation Feelings

I don’t usually stay home this long
I don’t usually have banana cake every day
I don’t usually have so much screen time
I don’t usually only get to see two friends
I don’t usually do WhatsApp play dates with them
I don’t usually see my family so much
I don’t usually have lovely meals
I don’t usually realise how lucky I am

A Young Entrepreneur Helping the NHS

Blackheath High School GDST student Emma has designed a collection of ‘BHS for the NHS’ t-shirts and bags to raise money for the NHS Charities Together. Emma’s collection also includes a line of quarantine birthday t-shirts, designed and personalised for those who are celebrating their birthdays away from friends and loved ones. The ‘BHS for the NHS’ collection has been supported by students and pupils alike and thus far Emma has raised £205 for NHS Charities Together and is hoping to reach her target of £200.

Entrepreneurial 11 year old Emma was inspired by the beautiful rainbows that have been drawn in support of the NHS and decided to put her time to good use. Emma commented: “When we go out for a run, we count the rainbows in the windows of the houses around us. It is incredible to see everyone coming together to thank the NHS and essential workers who are keeping us safe at the moment...I designed BHS for the NHS which shows BHS girls inside a rainbow to say thank you. I’m proud that our school is showing our support.”

Head at Blackheath High Junior School, Mrs Sarah Skevington, said: “Everyone at Blackheath High is so very proud of Emma. She has gone above and beyond, inspired by the beautiful rainbows that have been put together by her teachers and her peers at Invicta Grammar School – as well as contributing to the UK’s national collection of quarantine birthday t-shirts. It is incredible to see people coming together from all over the country to show support to the NHS and our key workers, especially during these unprecedented times.”

If you’d like to order a tote bag and support Emma’s efforts to raise money for the NHS please visit her website: https://the-eggylake.com

A Model in the Making

A serial entrepreneur is offering FREE Zoom businesses classes teaching children everything they need to know about being their own boss. Natasha Courtenay-Smith, 43, winner of four business awards and currently CEO of London marketing agency, Bolt Digital, started the lessons for her own children after UK schools closed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The free lessons are hosted by Natasha Monday to Friday during lockdown for 30 minutes from 11am and are suitable for children aged between seven and 12.

Activities include:

“Saved by the kids” - where the kids help turn around failing businesses, like a zoo and restaurant, which have been impacted by the Coronavirus lockdown.

“Product creation” - where the kids come up with brand and product names for things like a best-selling chocolate bar.

“Great Bosses” - the goal of this lesson format is to analyse the qualities of successful entrepreneurs, leaders and bosses.

“The UK needs to ensure more children are equipped with the skills of opportunity creation, understanding businesses, not being scared of businesses - giving it a go because they won’t all succeed but some will.”

Natasha outlines below the five things she believes EVERY child should know about running a business:

PURPOSE: The purpose of running a business is not just to make a profit, it also has a wider purpose - to ensure it contributes to the local area, it does a good job for its customers, and it enriches the life of its team - as well as contributing to the UK economy.

USPs: Identifying unique selling points - how to create them and how to create excellence within those USPs.

MINDSET: How to achieve a successful mindset with things such as goal setting - and how to achieve those goals - how to rise up after falls, feeling fears and moving forwards anyway, and how to improve your pace of decision-making.

ADAPTING: How businesses and people need to adapt as the world changes around them. Understanding that we all face change and it’s one of the only certainties in life.

FINANCES: Understanding the financial mechanics of running a business. What drives profit, how to drive profit by doing a better job, diversifying to offer a better experience for your customers and how to manage your business costs.

Children and parents can join Natasha live every week day at 11am via Facebook www.facebook.com/groups/boltbidkids or they can watch the recorded lessons on demand any time via the same link.

The Mask Girl of Siebert Road

Peggy Lake, 12 years old, has been making masks for her friends and family. She loves sewing and wanted to make something that was helpful and also reusable. I have been given three of these masks and they are very comfortable to wear and pretty! - Ed.

Next Generation Family Artist

Rafferty is 9 years old and lives on Westcombe Hill. He goes to Invicta and his teachers have put together some super art lessons which have inspired him to pick up a paint brush instead of having his nose in a book!

“Saved by the Kids”

Westcombe News June 2020

6
NATHAN WAY RE-OPENED
now Nathan Way Refuse and Recycling

gas-holder expert is a friend and has been it. We have been lucky that the British hard, both to try and save it — there are Tunnel.

to the construction of the Silvertown Tunnel.

Over the past couple of years a small group of industrial historians has worked hard, both to try and save it — there are plenty of examples of usefully adapted holders around the world — and to record it. We have been lucky that the British gas-holder expert is a friend and has been involved with us. We need to thank the staff of Southern Gas Networks who have

NATHAN WAY RE-OPENED

There has also been an increase in Ashdown Forest bees, and now Nathan Way Refuse and Recycling

69 VANBRUGH PARK ref 20/0490/F
To convert two one-bed flats into a family maisonette with alterations to the fenestration and balustrade of the conservatory.

8 RUTHIN ROAD ref 20/1235/HD
To construct single storey rear infill extension

12B HARDY ROAD ref 20/0744/F
To install external stairs and replace rear window with a door and window.

TREE WORKS

23 BEACONSFIELD ROAD
ref 20/1364/TC
To felt Eriobotrya japonica loquat in front garden.

1 BEACONSFIELD ROAD
ref 20/1153/F
To construct 4-bedroom house with basement in garden.

39 GLENLUCE ROAD
ref 20/1016/HD
To construct single storey outbuilding with basement in rear garden.

BEAUTY IN A GAS-HOLDER
Mary Mills

Above Pic: Peter Field
Right Pic: Peter Luck

arranged for us to visit during the 18 months of demolition and we now have an amazing archive of photographs including a lot of drone footage from SGN.

SGN have commissioned an art work and along with local councillors we have been part of a judging panel as demolition has moved to the visible part of the holder in the last month and the guide frame has come down, many local residents have been taking pictures — and persons unknown put up a banner. There are at least three stop frame animations of the demolition, some videos and hundreds of photographs. Not one person has said they are glad to see it go.

A lot of other holders are coming down and there are many local campaign groups but nothing seems able to stop this relentless process. One which may have escaped however, is the very good-looking holder on the canal in Bethnal Green. It has escaped the Ofgem ruling because it has escaped the Ofgem ruling because it has been bought by a developer — but we understand developers were told East Greenwich was not for sale.

THE LONDON FORUM
Helen Warner

The Westcombe Society, along with 1 over 100 other London amenity and civic societies, is a member of the London Forum. The Forum represents the views and interests of societies and their members on issues that are important for those who work and live in London. Their main focus is on Planning, Development Management, Heritage, Transport, Environment, Waterways and Open Spaces. They do this by taking part in meetings and consultations held by the Mayor of London, Transport for London, other London-wide bodies, and departments and agencies of National Government - submitting written responses, monitoring and responding to consultations, policies and decisions, and mounting campaigns on important issues. They consult and keep members up-to-date with open events and briefings.

London Forum (LF) is a charity with no paid staff. Representatives from its membership make up the committees.

The London Forum is currently having frequent virtual meetings for its members to discuss vital issues such as the implications of Covid19 in the planning system. With the countryside charity CPRE, Friends of the Earth London and planning network Just Space, they have created a Charter for in order to help safeguard the role of local communities / public voice in the planning process.

Just some recent matters on which the LF has submitted responses included:
• The Mayor’s New London Plan
• White Paper on Planning, particularly government’s plan to allow permitted development right for upwards extensions; housing-led regeneration of high streets and a policy for “densifying gently in existing residential areas”
• The LF supported ‘Building Better, Building Beautiful’ Commission (BBBHC)
• Extensions to the Northern & Bakerloo lines, re-signalling on the Piccadilly line and proposals for extending Croydon Tramlink
• Changes in bus routes and cycle ways and the impact of greener buses on high streets
• Crosrail

‘SPOT THE DIFFERENCE’

The borough has been replacing some local road signs, but only if they really need it. These two are on opposite sides of the northern end of Coleraine Road, across from each other — Anne Robbins

ENJOYING THE GARDEN IN JUNE

Roses epitomise the English garden in June so let us stop a moment to enjoy them as we pass by. This is the month when the garden is in full swing with long warm days and maximum sunlight boosting plant growth. Vegetable plots are starting to brim with goodness. Flowers are appearing in abundance and this is a lovely month for lupins, delphiniums, sweet peas, day lilies, peonies, and comflowers. There is still plenty to do at this time of year. Here are a few jobs to keep you busy:

• Encourage continued flowering by removing dead heads.
• Keep container plants and hanging baskets well-watered (daily in hot weather) and give them a liquid feed every 2-4 weeks.
• Put house plants outside in a sheltered spot to enjoy extra light.
• Plant out any remaining bedding plants and tender annuals.
• Thin out hardy annuals and self-seeded niggia and marigolds.
• Tie sweet peas and other climbing plants onto their supports. Stake dahlias.
• Sow wallflowers for next spring.

• Take cuttings of fuchsias, pelargoniums, and osteosperums.
• Mulch if you have any. Apply on moist soil.
• Cut back all foliage of oriental poppies and delphiniums to the ground after flowering. New growth will soon emerge.
• Prune spring-flowered shrubs that have become an untidy shape.
• Give tomatoes a liquid, potash-rich, feed weekly once the flowers start to set.
• Make time to sit and relax and especially enjoy the balmy evenings. I love to hear and watch the swifts skirling and swooping high up and glimpse the evening bats.
• Count yourself lucky if you see a stag beetle flying at dusk…they are so endangered.

THE LONDON FORUM

The London Forum is currently having frequent virtual meetings for its members to discuss vital issues such as the implications of Covid19 in the planning system. With the countryside charity CPRE, Friends of the Earth London and planning network Just Space, they have created a Charter for in order to help safeguard the role of local communities / public voice in the planning process.

Just some recent matters on which the LF has submitted responses included:
• The Mayor’s New London Plan
• White Paper on Planning, particularly government’s plan to allow permitted development right for upwards extensions; housing-led regeneration of high streets and a policy for “densifying gently in existing residential areas”
• The LF supported ‘Building Better, Building Beautiful’ Commission (BBBHC)
• Extensions to the Northern & Bakerloo lines, re-signalling on the Piccadilly line and proposals for extending Croydon Tramlink
• Changes in bus routes and cycle ways and the impact of greener buses on high streets
• Crosrail

‘SPOT THE DIFFERENCE’

The borough has been replacing some local road signs, but only if they really need it. These two are on opposite sides of the northern end of Coleraine Road, across from each other — Anne Robbins

ENJOYING THE GARDEN IN JUNE

Roses epitomise the English garden in June so let us stop a moment to enjoy them as we pass by. This is the month when the garden is in full swing with long warm days and maximum sunlight boosting plant growth. Vegetable plots are starting to brim with goodness. Flowers are appearing in abundance and this is a lovely month for lupins, delphiniums, sweet peas, day lilies, peonies, and comflowers. There is still plenty to do at this time of year. Here are a few jobs to keep you busy:

• Encourage continued flowering by removing dead heads.
• Keep container plants and hanging baskets well-watered (daily in hot weather) and give them a liquid feed every 2-4 weeks.
• Put house plants outside in a sheltered spot to enjoy extra light.
• Plant out any remaining bedding plants and tender annuals.
• Thin out hardy annuals and self-seeded nigella and marigolds.
• Tie sweet peas and other climbing plants onto their supports. Stake dahlias.
• Sow wallflowers for next spring.

• Take cuttings of fuchsias, pelargoniums, and osteosperums.
• Mulch if you have any. Apply on moist soil.
• Cut back all foliage of oriental poppies and delphiniums to the ground after flowering. New growth will soon emerge.
• Prune spring-flowered shrubs that have become an untidy shape.
• Give tomatoes a liquid, potash-rich, feed weekly once the flowers start to set.
• Make time to sit and relax and especially enjoy the balmy evenings. I love to hear and watch the swifts skirling and swooping high up and glimpse the evening bats.
• Count yourself lucky if you see a stag beetle flying at dusk…they are so endangered.