# Westcombenews



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November 2023 No9

## "Even a leaf in the wind settles sometimes."- Alison Goodman

# Woodlands Heights planning application rejected

yet again **Clive Corlett** 

The Woodlands Heights block of neighbouring flats (previously a nurses' home) on Vanbrugh Hill has been the subject of a series of planning applications since the turn of the century, all of which have involved adding two storeys to this already dominant building. Following a campaign by local residents against the original plans in 2001, the then Greenwich Council Planning Committee refused the application. Developers submitted a new

application in 2020 which, following a renewed campaign mounted by local residents and supported by

local amenity bodies, including the Westcombe Society, was rejected by the present Planning Committee. developers appealed against that decision but were again turned down by the Committee.

The developers then appealed in 2021 to the Government's independent Planning Inspectorate review the case. The Inspector

recently issued a comprehensive and carefully argued report in which she dismissed the appeal.

She identified the main issues as:

occupants, particular regard to an increased sense of enclosure to 6 Lasseter Place and 31 Vanbrugh Hill and loss of privacy, noise and disturbance and light spillage to adjacent residential properties;

- traffic stress to the local highway network and harm to highway safety; and
- the character and appearance of the host property and the area, including the setting of the Westcombe Park Conservation Area and the East Greenwich Conservation Area.



decision, she cited the harm the development would do to the living over-looked are

The campaign to oppose the proposed development organised jointly by residents of Woodlands Heights and Lasseter Place and helped by many other people from the surrounding roads who would also have been adversely affected. The organisers are also very grateful for the invaluable support they have received, throughout this lengthy business, from the Planning Committee and

Summing up the key reasons for her

conditions of adjoining residents over- shadowed by the building, and the danger it would pose to pedestrians, cyclists and motorists because of the increase in delivery and servicing vehicles manoeuvring both within the constricted Woodlands Heights site and while entering and leaving it.

She concluded that "these adverse impacts would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits" of the scheme, and would conflict with aspects of the Council's development policies.

our MP, Matthew Pennycook.

# **Update on LTN Schemes for** Greenwich and Westcombe Park

Representatives of the Westcombe Society recently spent a good deal of time and effort in constructing a reply to the West and East Greenwich Neighbourhood Management proposals. We read re-read the consultative document; attended RBG consultation events: scrutinised the responses on the website; discussed the proposals with neighbours, friends and residents; welcomed comments from other groups and amenity societies; drafted and re-drafted the response and finally submitted the response by the dead-

The final document was long and comprehensive and can be viewed on the Westcombe Society website.

In summary:

- Options A and B are both wholly unacceptable.
- 24-hour restrictions days/week are unnecessary. Most of the problem is attributable to through traffic during the morning and evening rush hours. Any restrictions should therefore focus on rush hour traffic.
- · Residents currently making short, local journeys will be required to make longer, convoluted journeys, both on residential roads within the LTN and on already-congested main roads, resulting in increased fuel consumption and further pollution on roads outside the LTN.
- · Main roads already suffer worse pollution and congestion than any roads within the proposed LTN. It is therefore unacceptable that people, often the most disadvantaged, who

- live on main roads should suffer further pollution, noise, and ill-health due to traffic diverting from the LTN.
- · Car usage is unlikely to reduce unless appropriate public transport options are created, especially to the Greenwich Peninsula and Charlton Riverside.
- The steep hills prevent many from cycling or walking, especially with shopping or luggage. Lack of public transport in some parts of the area mean there is a lack of alternatives.
- Most of the problem is attributable to 'out-out' through traffic. If an LTN is introduced, consideration should be given to exemptions for local residents to reduce the knock-on effect on roads outside the LTN.
- It is unacceptable that traffic should be diverted from Maze Hill Halstow Road and neighbouring roads onto Humber Road, Vanbrugh Hill, Westcombe Hill and the Woolwich Road thus increasing congestion and pollution on those roads. (Option B)
- It is unacceptable that traffic should be diverted onto Langton Way (an unadopted road) due to the introduction of a one-way system in St John's Park (Option B)
- · Changes should not be made unless residents in both East Greenwich/Westcombe Park and West Greenwich are in agreement with the changes in their area. This is to avoid an LTN introduced in one area having a knock-on effect in the other.





# WESTCOMBE SOCIETY

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To access back numbers (in colour) go to: http://www.westcombesociety.org/ westcombenews

# Advertising Manager

The Westcombe News seeks a new advertising manager as the paper goes colour.

Tasks in this voluntary position include responding to queries for new ads, invoicing and

monitoring payment. Many advertisers pre-pay for future ads, so monthly invoicing is minimal. Basic spreadsheet skills a bonus but training could be given.

Around 7/10 hours over the month would be needed.

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Advertise your Christmas Goods and Services in your local paper. Contact the editor Advertising@westcombesociety.org or ring 07939 386215 to reserve space in our December issue.

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# GOOD RESULT!

**Diane Blackwell** 

Westcombe Park folk have once again responded generously to our fundraising efforts for Macmillan Cancer. The recent coffee morning at Mycenae



House had volunteers and guests fired up to help this wonderful charity with purses opening generously to partake of the delicious sandwiches and cakes on offer made by our willing volunteers. Including money raised from the Macmillan walk along the Regent's Canal, the total



raised this year for Macmillan Cancer Support was £1250. A big thank you to everyone involved.

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

www.westcombesociety.org

CHINIPAN RESTAURANT 15 OLD DOVER ROAD ref 23/3231/MA To remove Condition 2 so as to allow takeaway and home-delivery services

27 ULUNDI ROAD ref 23/3132/HD To replace slate roof tiles and rooflights to front and rear slopes, replace front dormer window, and alter rear dormer and remove stairwell rooflight.

42 HUMBER ROAD ref 23/3115/HD To replace two windows on side elevation.

134 HUMBER ROAD ref 23/3103/HD To demolish side and rear walls and alter existing rear extension and new single storey side return infill extension with 3 rooflights.

71 BEACONSFIELD ROAD ref 23/3085/HD

To construct single storey rear extension.

#### TREE WORKS

91 HUMBER ROAD ref 23/3330/TC To fell eucalyptus in rear garden. 81 MYCENAE ROAD ref 23/32663/TC To fell goat willow and two robinias (front and rear gardens).

# Quiz Night at Mycenae House: Join the Fun on November 25th!

Think your general knowledge is worth shouting about? Then get on down to Mycenae House on November 25th (7.00pm for 7.30 pm) for our latest quiz and pit your wits against quizmasters Robbie, Peter and Patrick, and the other teams. Friendly rivalry is key to the evening's fun with tables of 6 (come with a team or fly solo

and join one) pushing for a win. Piping hot fish and chips arrives at half time (£12 per person) and the Mycenae House bar will be open. Entry fee for members is £6 and £7 for non-members.

Why not become a member on the night. To book, call Caroline on 020 8853 0948.

# The Poppy Appeal – 26th October to 12th November 2023

Captain David Kerr hopes our readers will find it helpful to know in advance that if the weather is dry he hopes to bring round poppies and enamel lapel badges when he makes his usual door to door collection in Westcombe Park between Monday 6th and Thursday 9th November. He also hopes to collect under cover at

Marks & Spencer on wet days throughout the appeal and also on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th November.

David Kerr has been provided with a card reader and can therefore accept donations in cash, by cheque or by card. He asks that cheques or CAF vouchers be made payable to "The Poppy Appeal".

# Chrysanthemum Tea

Diane Blackwell

et's get together for tea and Lcake and a chat ... just because! That's the spirit behind ever-popular autumnal Chrysanthemum afternoon tea, held recently at Mycenae House. A lively gathering of senior locals made it an absolute pleasure for volunteers to serve up scrummy sarnies and cakes all washed down with copious cups of tea. It's a great way to catch up with old friends and also to make new connections. We'd love to see you at our Daffodil tea in Spring 2024. Keep The reading

## WESTCOMBE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

We would be delighted to receive your support and annual membership subscription.
Family membership £12.
Individual membership £8.
Senior Citizens and Unwaged £4.

Please send payment to: Christine Legg, 69 Mycenae Road, London, SE3 7SE or email: membership@ westcombesociety.org

# Thames Water Supply Project

Thames Water are planning a major new pipeline to meet the increased need for water as the Boroughs of Lewisham, Greenwich and Bexley could see more than 70,000 new dwellings built between now and 2050. Demand for water, especially at peak times, is estimated to be beyond the capacity of the current network. The exact route has yet to be

determined but is likely to involve

significant works along its way

from Lewisham across the Heath,

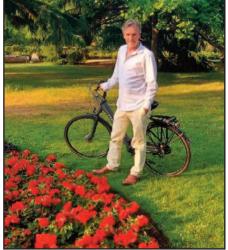
possibly in part beside Charlton Way, and on towards the Standard and Charlton.

Thames Water are consulting with local Councils and engaging with local amenity groups such as the Westcombe Society, initially largely via the Blackheath Joint Working Party, seeking to minimise disruption in the area generally and to protect the Heath. The Westcombe News will publish updates as plans develop and more details are known.

# NEIGHBOURHOOD

# Greenwich from a Dutch perspective

'Greenwich: the English life on the place where time begins' is a recently published book by Dutch journalist Patrick van IJzendoorn,



who has lived in Greenwich since 2006. In the first years he lived in

East Greenwich, and since 2009 in Vanburgh Park, named after Greenwich's most famous immigrant from the Low Countries.

Van IJzendoorn corresponds for the leading Dutch newspaper De Volkskrant and two current affairs magazines. In 2008 he wrote Londen Denkt (London Thinks), a collection of essays about debates in England, followed nine years later by Koel Brittannie (Cool Britannia), a collection of stories from all parts of the country. In between he wrote De Weg naar Wembley, a book about the FA

The current book, only published in Dutch, is an anthology of articles, many of them with local



connections. Van IJzendoorn writes about the Olympics in Greenwich, the famous residents of Croom's Hill (George Orwell among others), Boris Johnson's speech in The Painted Hall, local schools (Invicta, All Saints), the Tudors, the bugs of the Peninsula, Monty Python in the O2, the Lord of the Manor Jonathan Sumption, bell ringing in St Alphege Church, a robbery on Trafalgar Road, care in Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Charlton, mudlarking in the the Thames, Parkside development, the memory of suffragette Emily Davison, the fall and rise of the tea hut on Blackheath and his friendship with the son of a famous Westcombe resident, the late Trevor Dannatt.

# Royal Museums Greenwich Unveils "Feeling Blue" Tapestry

**Polly Morgan** 

Royal Museums Greenwich (RMG) proudly presents a captivating new tapestry commission that combines artistry, history, and cultural significance. Funded with the support of the Contemporary Art Society, this work of art, titled "Feeling Blue" (2023), is a collaborative creation by Scottish-Barbadian artist Alberta Whittle and



the skilled weavers of Dovecot Studios in Edinburgh. It stands as a testament to the rich tapestry of our heritage, woven into the very fabric of Greenwich.

On October 5, 2023, the Queen's House in Greenwich witnessed the grand unveiling of "Feeling Blue." This 160 x 155 cm tapestry is a visual delight, enriched with evocative textures, symbolic shapes, and tropical colours. Crafted over six months by Dovecot Studios' talented weavers Naomi Robertson

shape during the lockdown of 2021. The piece utilized a variety of techniques, yarns, and over 150 colour combinations, lending depth and variety to the tapestry's surface. "Feeling Blue" is dominated by the phrase itself, set against a backdrop of blues and greens that mimic the motion of water. The colour blue invokes immediate associations with

> the vast oceans, yet it also carries the metaphorical weight of "feeling blue" - a term denoting sadness or depression. While the term's origins are somewhat uncertain, some speculate it's tied to the maritime tradition of flying blue flags or bearing a painted blue band when a captain or officer died. For others, blue signifies tranquilli-

ty, a theme resonating through the Queen's House's decoration, particularly in the balustrade of the Tulip Stairs.

Alberta Whittle's work delves deep into the historical fabric of British naval uniforms, revealing a connection to the legacy of British colonialism. The deep blue fabric used in officers' uniforms since the mid-eighteenth century retains its connotations of authority, from law enforcement to the military. However, the broader historical context of the colour and its

connection to colonialism remains largely unexplored.

Whittle extends her exploration of maritime themes through the inclusion of coloured ropes reminiscent of those used on ships. For her, rope embodies both hope oppression. She incorporates decorative coral, serving as a statement on the climate crisis. Notably, the tapestry is situated within "gates," a symbol of containment and control, though in this context, they expand rather than restrict, allowing visitors experience the tapestry from both



"Feeling Blue" finds its place in history as it connects with two sixteenth-century paintings, the Armada Portrait and Sir Francis Drake, which will accompany the tapestry. Both artworks feature pearls as symbols of wealth, some of which was amassed through colonial trade and exploitation.

Whittle shares perspective on the commission, saying, "The commission has been a wonderful opportunity to think deeply about maritime histories and consider the powers in place that decide how these histories are portrayed. This new tapestry is a chance to explore these ideas of power alongside the rhythms of the ocean and its vulnerability under climate colonialism."

Katherine Gazzard, Curator of Art at Royal Museums Greenwich, highlights the institution's commitment to working with contemporary artists who engage with history, collections, and modern challenges. She emphasizes how the Queen's House, once at the forefront of art and design, continues this tradition by showcasing innovative artwork like "Feeling Blue."

"Feeling Blue" is a symbol of unity between the past and the present, an exploration of maritime legacies, and a mirror reflecting the power dynamics intertwined with history. Its public display in the Queen's House invites everyone to embark on this artistic journey, celebrating both tradition and innovation, four centuries after the iconic building's completion.

In collaboration with Alberta Whittle and Dovecot Studios, Royal Museums Greenwich proudly presents this tapestry as a remarkable ode to history, art, and change.



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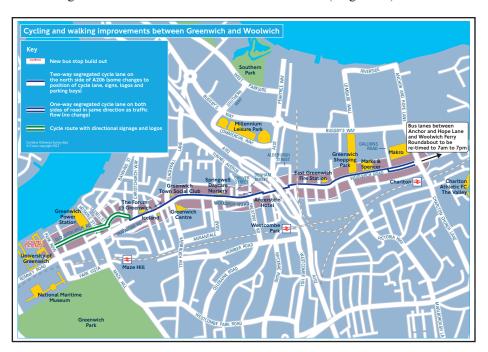
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# **FEATURES**

# Have your say on A206 **Cycle Route**

cycle lane along the A206, Greenwich to Woolwich? TfL are changes | Have Your Say Transport consulting on it now until 12th for London (tfl.gov.uk)

O you have strong views - for December 2023. You can access the or against - the experimental consultation at Greenwich to Woolwich walking and cycling



# A Fresh Modern Take on Handel's 'Semele' performed by **Blackheath Halls Opera**

**Polly Morgan** 

Blackheath Halls Opera delivered a modern and captivating rendition of Handel's 'Semele,' exploring themes of temptation in the age of social media and celebrity. The story kicked off with the anti-heroine jilting her groom at the altar, leading to a riveting and relevant portrayal of the allure of a glamorous life.

The production featured a diverse chorus, comprising students from Trinity, Special Educational Needs schools, and community members, setting the stage for a truly engaging performance. Notable stars from the opera world graced the stage, Juno, portrayed by Katie Bray, stood out with her captivating performance, while Molly Joynson's portrayal of Iris added a delightful comedic touch.

Hannah Leggatt-McPhee shone as Semele's sister Ino, and the cast also included Owen Willetts as Athamas and Garreth Romain as Cupid, both delivering engaging performances.

Designer Elliott Squire's scenes, from Heaven to modern white furniture adorned with fluorescent outfits, added a visually stunning dimension to the production. Director Harry Fehr highlighted the

> enduring appeal Handel's 'Semele, emphasizing the work's human essence and timeless melodies in a fun and frivolous package that continued to resonate with audiences.

This exciting and thought-provoking take on a classic opera, brought to life by the talent of Blackheath Halls Opera and its stellar cast and crew, was a remarkable experience for those fortunate enough to attend.

For future Blackheath Halls performances, visit: www.blackheathhalls.com/



including Francesca Chiejina as Semele, Thando Mjandana as Jupiter, Katie Bray as Juno, and Matthew Rose in the roles of Cadmus and Somnus.

The orchestra, composed of talented local musicians, provided a splendid musical backdrop. Director Harry Fehr infused a modern twist by having Semele fall in love with herself through an iPhone, adding a satirical charm to the production.

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# **Outfoxing the foxes?**

Reports of several animals succumbing to poison on Heathway recently, which many conjectured could be another effort to curb the fox population in our area, prompted questions about one might humanely discourage foxes from residing in one's garden, if that is not a guest one wishes to host.

Inquiries of local gardeners and pest control services produced two consistent responses. Firstly, no one wished to be quoted for fear of the hate mail they would receive from the pro- and anti-fox camps. Secondly, they were unanimous that there is little to be done to discourage foxes from being present if your neighbours are feeding them and no surer way of creating animosity across the fence line than suggesting they stop.

That said, several gardeners noted that foxes are sensitive to unpleasant smells, and therefore suggested boiling a mixture of chili peppers and garlic to apply around borders. Others swear by white vinegar and at least one indicated that she may have encouraged her husband to leave his own unique scent around the boundary. However, these home remedies have to be regularly reapplied, including after every rain, which in the latter case could give rise to a wholly different set of issues with the neighbours.

Other gardeners recommended using motion sensor lights or rigging motion sensors to sprinkler systems to startle and repel nighttime visitors. However, as these clever critters are quite smart, you'll have to frequently adjust the location to keep them

from adapting.

If foxes have taken up regular residence in your garden despite your attempted eviction notices, there are humane ways to move them along. The most effective is live trapping and relocation which is undertaken by professionals.

Whatever approach you take please remember that it is NOT LEGAL to poison foxes and doing so often has an unwanted effect on other wild animals and pets.

For further information and advice

Foxproject.org.uk RSPCA.org.uk Royalgreenwich.gov.uk





# **FEATURES**

# Blackheath Halls enjoys an exterior facelift, providing a new community space for the area

Polly Morgan

The outside of Blackheath Halls has undergone a transformation, thanks to the generosity of local donors, The Hearn Foundation.

With new paving, stone benches and new planting, the area now provides a spacious and open area for the



local community as well as audiences visiting the venue.

A community venue in every sense of the word, Blackheath Halls is a registered charity with no core funding, the venue's events and participatory programmes run every year solely thanks to the generosity of its supporters and donors, many of them living in the local area and this project just highlights

the personal connection many residents feel for the venue.

Also, Blackheath Halls will be taking part in the Big Give Christmas Challenge this year (Tue 28th Nov – Tues 5th Dec), to raise funds for their Transforming Lives Through

Music campaign, opening projects to more young people, engaging more children through workshops in school and taking events out in the community. Every donation made will be matched meaning One Donation, Twice the Impact.

To donate, please visit: https://bit.ly/

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# Greenwich's Art Deco Gem

**David Fletcher** 

The Art Deco period was only named as such in the 1960s and covered the years of the roaring 20s and 30s. The style was based on time-honoured traditions while simultaneously embracing and celebrating the mechanised world. It was the blend of the traditional but also acknowledging progress combined with lively eclecticism of influences from other cultures resulting in a unique, lively, imaginative and decorative style.

On the corner of Nelson Road and Greenwich High Road stands a fine example of a building in the Art Deco style. This was formally the Greenwich branch of Burton the Tailors.

The granite inscribed foundation stones for this building still remain and were laid, as was always the case, by at least two members of the Burton family. Stanley Howard Burton and Barbara Jessie Burton laid the stones at Greenwich in 1932. Their father Sir Montague Burton was the founder of the Burton chain. The building's original facade is intact and unchanged, now bearing the name of its present occupant "Bills" replacing the original "Burton The Tailor of Taste" logos.

Sir Montague originated from Lithuania then part of



Russia. Starting with one small tailor's shop in Chesterfield in the early 1900s his business expanded slowly taking over another tailoring company and then establishing their very own tailoring workshops. The company continued to expand moving to larger and larger workroom facilities and eventually taking over the vast Hudson Road Mills factory in Leeds from the wholesale clothiers, Albrecht and Albrecht, then the largest clothing factory in the world. During World War 1 the factory turned its production to making military uniforms and continued to expand, by 1934 having over ten thousand employees. They were provided with a state-of-the-art canteen facility together with a medical clinic and recreation and sports grounds. An additional modern-style factory followed, dubbed Burtonville, to cope with the increasing demand for bespoke suits. In 1920, Montague Burton had employed a local Leeds architect, Harry Wilson, to design a Burton house-style for his stores and in 1932 Harry became Burton's in-house architect.

He established a shopfitting and building department to manage new projects. By 1939 many of the Burton stores were purpose-built, making a distinctive contribution to the architecture of high streets around the country.

Burton's buildings are instantly recognisable but they were never identical. Burton often preferred a corner location as was their flagship six-storey classical store on the corner of Oxford Street and Tottenham Court Road. It is a very fine example of the architectural quality and design the company were known for.



Many of the stores were clad in a new material called Imperial Stone that could easily be pre-cast to form relief decorations. Harry Wilson adopted the fashionable Art Deco Style for the Greenwich store and appears to have had great fun with the application of stylised relief sculptured elephant heads and intricate geometric motifs to the façade. The store retains its bright stainless steel window frames incorporating in its fascias well-designed concealed awning mechanisms and curved glass windows to complement its location.

The two recessed entrances have intricate mosaic floors incorporating the Burton logo.

The ground floor facade is faced in Pearl Green polished granite, a common feature of most Burton stores, and reflects the quality of materials that were always specified. The first floors of many of their stores were temperance billiard rooms aimed at providing entertainment for male customers. High-quality materials were also specified for the interior of the stores, the dark polished wood on walls and floors giving the interior a very masculine atmosphere.

After World War II Burton was the main manufacturer of the so-called Demob suit and its accessories and it is believed this is the origin of "The Full Monty".

Sir Montague Burton died in 1952, by which time Burton was the world's largest bespoke tailor with over six hundred branches. The Burton business no longer exists but their architectural legacy will survive for decades into the future, many of them protected within conservation

David Fletcher FCSD Fellow of the Chartered Society of

Designers

# ENVIRONMENT

# Congratulations to our local (and nearby) gardeners!

gardening competitions **I** announced their prizes last month, and local groups deserve great applause for their showing.

#### London in Bloom

Charlton Community Gardens won gold medals for both its station garden and its orchard in Charlton Park in the Our Community category for London in Bloom, and Outstanding status in the It's Your Neighbourhood category. Both areas are well worth a visit, and their station garden has helped inspire the volunteers who work on Westcombe Park Station.

The London in Bloom campaign recognises local authorities, parks,



friends parks and community groups, and s c h o o l s across the capital

working to make areas safer, cleaner and greener. The winners were:

Royal Borough of Greenwich | Gold award in City category

Well Hall Pleasaunce | Silver Gilt award in Large Park category

Eltham Crematorium | Silver Gilt award in the Cemetery Crematorium category

#### **Greenwich in Bloom**

The council also hosted a more local competition called Greenwich in Bloom, annual awards sponsored by the Thompson Garden Centre that celebrate the people in our community who work to bring colour and vibrancy to their gardens and neighbourhoods. This year's winners are:

Best Front Garden was won by Lee Chipperfield and Lee Copp with two runners-up.

Best Back Gardens was won by Tina Welling with Lee Copp and Lee Chipperfield and Lorraine Abbs in 2nd and 3rd place.

Lorraine Abbs who was one of the Greenwich resident winners of the competition said: "I was thrilled to win first prize for my pots and containers and third prize for my back garden. I hope other Greenwich residents are inspired to start gardening too. It's great for your wellbeing and the environment too."

Our own St George's Church won first prize for a communal garden in

Greenwich

in Bloom, judged by

the Mayor,

Councillor

Dominic Mbang,

and Adel

Khaireh,

Cabinet



Member for Equality, Culture and Communities. They particularly appreciated the wildflower meadow, with paths carefully mown through it.

A number of Westcombe Park residents volunteer at the Old Pond Garden project at Charlton House, run by the Charlton and Blackheath Amateur Horticultural Society. The project entered the London in Bloom competition for the first time this year, and won Silver Gilt in the Walled Garden category. This is quite an

accolade: the project was up against Charles Darwin's Down House, run by English Heritage, for example. Judges commented that 'the transformation by volunteers is incredible', and gave CABAHS especially high scores for community involvement and environmental sustainability.

Gardeners know that seeing their hard work come to fruition is its own reward, but sometimes it's great to win commendations from outsiders, too.

For all these efforts, hearty congratulations!

Pic 1. CABAHS Volunteer co-ordinator Kathy Aitken, right, and Jason Sylvan, Head Gardener, left, at the London in Bloom ceremony. Presenting the certificate is Ruth Growney, London in Bloom Trustee and judge. Photo: London in Bloom

Pic 2. St George's, Westcombe Park, photo courtesy of Royal Borough of Greenwich



# Planting and Pruning at Mycenae Gardens

The Friends of Mycenae Gardens are holding a volunteer day on Saturday 11th November, when you can help make the gardens ready for winter and even more attractive for the coming spring. From around 10am, there will be plenty to do. We'll be cutting back some of the summer's growth, adding to the dead hedge that protects wildlife, and planting lots of daffodils. All ages are welcome, but please wear work clothes and stout shoes. Gardening gloves might be useful, too. If you have favourite tools, bring them along!

One major job will be to plant a new tree. Inspired by the new story board near the entrance to Mycenae House, prominent local historian Dr Anthony Twist has very kindly donated a whitebeam



to take the place of one of the rowans that suffered so badly in last year's drought, as well as a big bag of spring bulbs. Whitebeams - Sorbus aria - are beautiful trees, with pale grey undersides to the



Whitebeam berries, photo courtesy of the Friends of Princes Park



1a Lizban St Blackheath, London SE3 8SS Tel: 020 8853 2268

Email: info@trojanpress.co.uk www.trojanpress.com

leaves and good red-orange berries in autumn, favoured by birds. Dr Twist wrote a well-received biography of John Julius Angerstein, who lived at Woodlands and built a fortune in finance before bequeathing his art collection to form the basis of the National Gallery. The book was a great help in developing the story board, and we're very grateful for Dr Twists's gift.

Besides the work, you'll be able to buy tea and coffee from the Mycenae House café, and there may be cake! Even if you just want to admire the new tree, please come along and enjoy the volunteer efforts.



# WHATS ON

### **National Maritime** Museum

#### Queen's House Ice Rink

The magical Queen's House open-air ice rink is returning to Greenwich this winter. There will also be a range of winter warmer drinks available, and visitors are welcome to sit within the café area of the festively decorated skate exchange to watch friends and family take to the ice. Dates: 23 Nov 2023 - 7 Jan 2024 (closed on 25 December) Time: 11.00 - 20.00 | Opens at 10.00

from 22 December Age: Suitable for ages 3 and above |

Skate aids available Location: Queen's House, Greenwich

Admission: Adult from £17 | Student from £11.90 | Child from £10 www.rmg.co.uk/queens-house/ attractions/queens-house-ice-rink

What is this Behaviour Podcast Live: Understanding the South Asian Creative Renaissance

Reuben Christian, Aaron Christian and Almass Badat host a live podcast unearthing stories of South Asian people who carve out remarkable careers and lead empowering lives, shedding homogeny through collectively redefining what it means to be South Asian today, and beyond.

Date: 1 November 2023 Age: Suitable for ages 18 and above Location: National Maritime Museum **Season of Identity** 

The Season of Identity will celebrate culture through art, music and fashion to explore Britain's global connections and identities through the themes of the collection including trade, migration and the legacies of empire.

Dates: October 2023 - March 2024 Age: Suitable for all ages Location: National Maritime Museum Queen's House and Cutty Sark

#### **Shine Your Light**

The National Maritime Museum has invited Mehala Ford, founder of South Asian arts platform COMMONGROUND& for the second year in a row to curate the Museum's annual Diwali celebration. This year the Museum will mark the Festival of Light with a family festival including dance performances, yoga workshops, sari styling and a lantern

Date: 11 November 2023 Time: 11.30 – 17.00 Age: Suitable for all ages Location: National Maritime Museum Admission: Free

www.rmg.co.uk/whats-on/ national-maritime-museum/diwali

#### **Seeing Ourselves Live**

Join artist Sharon Walters and special guests as they delve into the National Maritime Museum's collection to look at depictions of people of African descent and their significance today. After producing the Seeing Ourselves podcast earlier this year, Sharon is back for an in-person conversation with queer visual artist, Rudy Loewe, about the disruption of spaces and queering of archives.

Date: 30 November 2023 Time: 18.30 - 20:30

Age: Suitable for ages 18 and above Location: National Maritime Museum Admission: Pay what you can

### Mycenae House

Fri 10th Nov 8pm - Clive Carroll. Playing the music of John Renbourn with special guest Dariush Kanani. £18/£15. Tues 14th Nov 7.30pm -Film Night: '1917'. GFMA present a free Remembrance Day screening of '1917'. Donations welcome. Fri 17th Nov 8pm -

Henry Lowther Quintet. GFMA present a night of live jazz music by UK jazz legend £12.

Sat 18th /Sun 19th Nov 10am-4pm Tis The Season Christmas Fair. Featuring local makers and artists curated by The Corner @ 96. Free

entry. Fri 24th Nov 8pm - Southern Aces. Good-time old-school Soul, R&B and Blues, with a touch of Zydeco

& Boogie! £14/£12. Thurs 30th Nov 4pm - Bach to Baby. Festive Classical Concert for families. £15.

Fri 1st Dec 7.30pm - Rob Bartlitz. A Modern Classical Composer piano concert. £10.

For further information about all Mycenae House events visit www.mycenaehouse.co.uk

## Thomas Tallis **Society Choir** concert

Saturday 11th November 40 part motets by Thomas Tallis and David Bednall. Other motets by Byrd, Gibbons, Philips and Tomkins St Alfege Church Greenwich 7.30 Tickets £16 & £12 available at the door and online -

www.ticketsource.co.uk/tts

#### The Conservatoire

**Create your own Advent Calendar** Each participant will come away with their own calendar!

Sunday 12th November, 2pm - 5pm at the Conservatoire

For ages 8+ (one child and one adult) £40 per pair

**Christmas Crafts and Wreathmaking** Guided by expert tutor Catherine, you'll create your own beautiful linocuts and print them, creating own-brand Christmas paper goods. Sunday 19th November, 2pm - 5pm at the Conservatoire

7-12 yrs, £40 (includes all materials) Wreathmaking Workshop

Work with local florist Clare Oliver to learn the art of wreathmaking. Friday 24th November, 6.30 – 9pm at the Conservatoire

Adults, £75 (includes wreath materials, glass of mulled wine and a mince pie)

#### The Nutcracker

Join soprano Mairéad Sheerin, flautist Klio Blonz and pianist Grace Mo Sunday 17th December, 2pm & 3.30pm at the Conservatoire Adults £12, Children £6, Under 2s

Please visit www.eventbrite.co.uk for tickets

#### **Charlton House** & Gardens

#### Ottoman Journeys: Life & Afterlife in Greenwich

Mondays to Fridays 9:30am -3:30pm, Saturdays 9:30am – 2pm Charlton House & Gardens Free entry

Last chance! Explore the connections between the Ottoman Empire and our borough today.

#### **Sunday Producers' Market**

Sunday 19th November, 10am – 3pm Charlton House & Gardens Free entry

Come to Charlton House's back lawn for a producers' market every third Sunday of the month.

#### Christmas at Charlton House

Friday 24th November, 3:30pm -6:30pm

Charlton House & Gardens Free entry

Celebrate the beginning of the holiday season with us as we welcome Christmas to our historic house and grounds. Christmas market, treats, lights, and more! https://www.greenwichheritage.org/ visit/visit-charlton-house-and-gardens/

#### **Greenwich Theatre**

#### A CHRISTMAS CAROL Mr CHARLES DICKENS presents A CHRISTMAS CAROL

After sold out shows in 2019, European Arts Company returns to Greenwich Theatre with A Christmas Carol as told by the author himself! Actor John O'Connor (Before We Die, Channel 4) faithfully recreates Charles Dickens's famous performance of his best-loved ghost story. A Christmas Carol was the first public reading Dickens gave of his own work. He enacted it over 150 times and the effect on the public was phenomenal. 'The success was most wonderful and prodigious perfectly overwhelming and astounding altogether!' he said after the first night.

#### 12 December + 18 December **SNOW WHITE**

Mirror, mirror, on the wall, don't miss the fairest pantomime of them all! Snow White will be coming to Greenwich Theatre, for our 2023 Pantomime. Secure your tickets early, for the theatrical event of the season. Written by everyone's favourite baddie, Anthony Spargo! Following their 2019 Offie Award winning Sleeping Beauty and their2021 & 2022 nominations for The Queen Of Hearts and Robin Hood, we will once again see the return of the much-loved Greenwich Theatre Pantomime production team. 23 November-7 January

#### CC4K CHRISTMAS CRACKER '23 All the fun of Comedy Club 4 Kids

with a Christmas twist. Starring Comedy Club 4 Kids' regular host Ternan Douieb hims-elf, Howard Read of 'Little Howard' and CBBC fame, and hilarious Helen Duff — this show will be jam-packed with a whole heap of Christmas Comedy Fun to get you in the mood for the BIG DAY (you know, when the big red jolly guy comes down the chimney).

23 December-23 December To book tickets, visit: https://greenwichtheatre.org.uk/

#### **Blackheath Halls**

Wed 1 Nov 8pm Reverend Richard Coles | Borderline National Trinket (Comedy/Talk) Sat 4 Nov 6pm Diwali Dinner and Dance Wed 8 Nov 7pm



Ensemble Pampinea (Classical) Wed 8 - Sat 11 Nov London International Festival of Early Music Mon 13 Nov 1.10pm Lunchtime Recital | Tessa Uys & Ben Schoeman (Classical) Fri 17 Nov 7.30pm Nina Stibbe | Went to London, Took the Dog (Talk) Fri 17 Nov 8pm Ivo Graham | Organised Fun (SOLD OUT) (Comedy) Sat 18 Nov 11am & 3pm A Midsummer Night's Dream (Children's Theatre) Sun 19 Nov 10.30-4.45pm Blackheath Christmas Fair Sun 26 Nov 7pm B'heath Halls Orchestra | I Am I Say

# **Arts Society** Greenwich

www.theartssocietygreenwich.org.uk

#### Wilde about Oscar

Monday 13 Nov 2023 at 7.30 pm Lecturer: Simon Whitehouse Venue: James Wolfe Primary School, Royal Hill, Greenwich Annual membership: £55 (10 lectures). Guests very welcome: £10

Oscar Wilde: writer, wit & the first modern celebrity.



From his childhood in Ireland to his artistic circle in Chelsea & glittering West End first nights, to the criminal trial of the age, we chart Oscar's extraordinary journey & discuss his enduring appeal & legacy. Simon Whitehouse is a (recovering) actor, lecturer, presenter, Alexander Technique & voice teacher & award- winning London Blue Badge Guide. He regularly guides for Arts Society groups on their Visits Programmes in addition to his lecture offerings. He has worked as a guide lecturer in house at Shakespeare's Globe, the Royal Opera House, the BBC & the National Gallery.

#### St Paul's Sinfonia

Local, talented orchestra monthly concerts

Blue Sky Thinking, Mayer, Saint Saens, & Brahms Friday 17th November, St Margaret's Church, Lee Terrace London SE13 5DL.

For tickets and more information.

www.stpaulssinfonia.com/2023-24/

# MARKET PLACE

#### **THERAPIST**

Locally based individual CBT therapist and couples therapist working online and in person at Mycenae House. Book 15 min phone consultation by calling 07889755299 or email hello@Sasha-Louise.com. Visit my website www.Sasha-Louise.com

#### **GARDENING**

Regular gardening maintenance by local professional woman gardener:

0208 858 8139 / 07923912523

#### **TUITION**

PIANO TUITION

Having studied at The Guildhall School of Music and Drama, I subsequently ran Monkey Music in the local area for over 25 years. I have recently relocated to Greenwich and am now in the position to offer private piano tuition. Please send all enquiries to

rebeccapianolessons@outlook.com MATHS & ENGLISH TUITION TO GCSE AND PREPARATION FOR 11+ AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL SELECTION TESTS by qualified and experienced teacher. marystuition.com Mary Bauckham 07709 089 838 marybauckham@gmail.com HOME SUPPORT AND TRAINING FOR YOUR **DIGITAL DEVICES** Need some help with computers, phones and tablets? I'm a DBS checked IT trainer with 21 years experience, friendly and patient. £45/hour (£20 call out), discounted for block bookings. To discuss options, call Paul on 07958 251 448 or email paul.clayton@soulchip.co.uk MATHS TUITION Qualified and experienced secondary teacher offers tuition to GCSE level. Call Miv Whitaker: 07745 816338; or email miv.whitaker@gmail.com PRIVATE TUITION: CEM, GL, ISEB, 11+, KS2 English/Maths Josephine Elliss MSc, PGCE, 20 Years experience. Contact Jo@josephineelliss.co.uk or 0771 253 0218 ADULT & CHILD IRISH **DANCE CLASSES - SE7** www.mulvihillirishdance.com info@mulvihillacademy.com

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#### **DISCOUNT!**

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## **BODYWORKZ - THE FITNESS CLINIC**

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