



# Westcombe NEWS

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Dec. 2015/Jan 2016 Issue 10



A community newspaper commended by the London Forum of Amenity and Civic Societies

Monthly newspaper of The Westcombe Society: fostering a sense of community

## Warming-up at the Woolwich Winter Warmer



Christmas starts with a bang this year. On Dec. 5th a spectacular fireworks display will light up the sky as part of the Royal Borough of Greenwich's annual Woolwich Winter Warmer.

We are all invited to come along and enjoy the festive event which takes place between noon and 5.30pm in General Gordon Square and Powis Street, Woolwich.

This year's event will be themed around "Toys" and so

many Toy-related films will be shown on the Big Screen in the square. And, if you then need to cool off, admire the fantastic ice sculpture!

The traditional Christmas parade will also make its way through local streets with school children showing off Toy-themed lanterns they have made especially for the event.

A variety of festive-themed strolling characters will be entertaining the spectators and shoppers throughout the day

along Powis Street and in General Gordon Square.

There you can listen to Christmas carols sung by a school choir – or enjoy hip hop and R&B. There will even be a pantomime on the main stage in General Gordon Square.

"This event is going to be fantastic fun for all the family, with something for everyone," says Cllr Miranda Williams. "So come along and soak up the atmosphere!"

## Panto-time!

Which part would you like to play – Granny, the Big Bad Wolf, or Little Red Riding Hood? Come and see the panto in Greenwich theatre and decide for yourself! Until 10th. January 2016



## Newsbriefs



### Cards for Good Causes

Cards for at least 25 charities are on sale at Age Exchange in Blackheath from 23rd Nov. - 6th December. They are also on sale at St Alfege's in Greenwich from November 2nd - December 18th daily, 10.30am - 4.30pm.

### Blackheath Village Day

Blackheath celebrates the start of the festive season on December 5th with activities and events for all the family, and switches on the Christmas lights at 4.30pm.

### Christmas Bazaar

Sadly, the Westcombe Society's Christmas Bazaar – a popular annual event – will not be taking place this year, as the venue, Blackheath High School for Girls,

is carrying out building work. The good news is that the Westcombe Society will still be erecting the Christmas Tree in the Standard. Our thanks to Susan Clark of the Interiors shop in Humber Road for sponsoring the tree this year.

### Parking consultation

Don't forget to respond to the Council's consultation about possible changes to the Controlled Parking Zone, with regard to both your own street and Old Dover Road. The deadline for comments is December 11th.

### Fix My Street

Residents now have a new option for reporting street level problems to the council with the launch of a new, mobile-friendly website

Greenwich Fix My Street. You can now use your mobile phone to report a wide range of local problems – from fly-tipping and broken paving slabs, to potholes. Part of a national service, Fix My Street is a fast and efficient way for us all to report problems as and when they encounter them.

### Woodlands Farm

The Farm's Christmas Fair is on Sun. 6th December from 11.00am - 3.00pm. All are welcome. Visit Santa's Grotto, sip mulled wine whilst browsing stalls of local produce and crafts for early Christmas present ideas. A great day out for all the family. Entry is free, but donations are always welcome. No parking on the farm, so please use public transport.

The Live Nativity comes to The Blackheath Standard Saturday 12th December

The journey begins at 3pm outside St John's Church, Stratheden Road, SE3 7TH

free

a street drama for all ages [stjohnsblackheath.org.uk](http://stjohnsblackheath.org.uk)

## The Wizard of Oz comes to our doorstep



Fresh from success at the Mycenae House "Soup" event, Toni Hale, of the Mental Health Activity Trust, does not rest on her laurels: she ushered in the Pantomime Season at the MHA shop in Delacourt Road with her own local pantomime – when her workers and supporters all dressed up as characters from The Wizard of Oz.

So the Yellow Brick Road led to Delacourt Road! There was Toni Hale, sportingly (all-too-convincingly!) dressed up as the Wicked Witch of the West; there too were The Wizard, the Tin Man, the Scarecrow, the Cowardly Lion – and several Munchkins. And of course Dorothy Gale, the heroine, originally played by Judy Garland.

Auditions failed to cast Terry the dog.

The shop's "Wizard of Oz" Open Day featured all the Oz characters, dressed up in splendid, home-made costumes, along with much else on the Oz / Hallowe'en theme: there were Oz books and dolls, cookies and cakes decorated with ghost motifs, and even biscuits looking like severed fingers, with "nails" painted blood red... No thanks – a bit too realistic!

The MHA Trust has helped over fifty people to get back into full or part-time employment. Toni Hale told the *WN*: "I've a great team of people supporting the trust – and winning the Mycenae Soup event has been an enormous help and encouragement."

## Another successful Quiz Night



The Westcombe Society held yet another successful Quiz night on the 23rd Oct. in Mycenae House. The usual suspects were present but we were very pleased to welcome new groups from Westcombe Hill and Hardy Road. We hope we'll see them at future events.

Congratulations to the winning team – our former chairman Gordon Baker, Di Blackwell, Geri Hanks, and Roger and Sue Allen. The losing team won three raffle prizes, so I hope this was sufficient compensation!

Our thanks to Caroline for taking the bookings and organising the teams; also to the markers Joanne and Patricia, and to Jenny and Teresa for selling the Raffle tickets. We all enjoyed the chippy suppers from 'Fisherman's Inn' (a regular feature of our Quiz Nights) on the Woolwich Road, which arrived hot, and on time.

Finally, thanks to all who took part in the quiz, making it a fun evening, generating much good humour and helping to foster a sense of community. Hope to see you again next time!

The Westcombe Society wishes you A Merry Christmas & a Happy and Peaceful New Year

Carol Singing: Monday 21st December. We'll meet as usual at Mycenae House at 7.00pm and set off between 7.15 and 7.30pm

All carollers – with and without instruments – are welcome. We are joining with St George's Church that evening to sing around the streets of Westcombe Park with mulled wine and mince pies at the end.

We are collecting for the Greenwich Night Shelter. St George's has been a vital part of this project and hosts homeless people one night during the week over the winter period, providing a hot evening meal, a bed for the night & breakfast the next morning.

Latecomers can ring this mobile number to catch up en route: 07709 571777. That's also the number to ring if any household would like to be "carolled"!



## WESTCOMBE NEWS

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ALL MATERIAL TO BE SENT TO:  
**wnews@westcombesociety.org**  
**Deadline for the February issue:**  
 16th January **NOTE: Dec. 2015**  
**& Jan 2016 is a joint issue.**

**Environment Editor:** Maggie Gravelle  
**Reporters:** The community - that means you!

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**DISTRIBUTION** Emily Norton, Shirley Broughton, Brian Carroll, Roger Kidley, Joanne Lucas, and Patricia Slade-Baker.  
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**Printed by:** Trojan Press

**Contact the Westcombe Society:**  
**WestcombeNews@egroups.com**  
**Publisher:** The Westcombe Society  
**Chairman:** Marilyn Little  
 Tel. 020 8853 1312

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## Christmas Nativity

Last year, St John's Church mounted a Christmas Nativity with over 600 members of the local community either taking part or coming along to watch.

By popular demand, we are putting it on again this year – and it will be on Saturday 12th Dec starting at 3.00pm.

We see it very much as an event for the local community and one that will involve them too. Two local school choirs are singing, the local traders and residents are some of the actors, and we will have a live donkey plus three live sheep from Woodland's Farm in Shooters Hill ...

We start at 3.00 pm outside St John's church with the beginning of the Christmas story. Like the three wise men (or the three Kings) we then follow a 'star' to the British Oak Pub. The choirs will sing at each 'stop'.

As we arrive at the Oak, the current Landlady will come from her balcony to let us know there is no room in the inn, just as it occurred in Bethlehem.

We then depart briefly from the Christmas story to process to Blackheath Library, and then tell more of the story, as angels, shepherds and kings will appear on the balconies above the shops.

Finally, we process back to the church – and there, allelujah! is a stable scene with a live Mary, Joseph and baby!

We see the whole event lasting around an hour: a wonderful way of ushering in the Christmas season.

Children are warmly welcome to come dressed up as an angel, king, sheep etc.

**Our web address for further details:**  
[stjohnsblackheath.org.uk](http://stjohnsblackheath.org.uk)

**Jane Beswetherick**

## Not just a Toy Library

Charlton Toy Library is a Registered Charity set up in 1982 by a group of mums who met in their homes on a regular basis with their children. We now have our own premises in Charlton House and offer stay and play sessions and toy and safety equipment lending, as well as an outreach programme working with families in need.

The Toy Library is a fun, stimulating and safe place. We provide families with a place to come and meet other parents, play with their children or get advice from our very experienced members of staff.

We serve 100s of families in and around the borough, many of whom from the Westcombe Park area. We have an extensive range of books on all aspects of childcare, health, disabilities, meal-planning and many more topics.

Our toy selection is fantastic, with age ranges from 0 up to 7 on selected toys. We have a wide range of story-sacks, special needs toys, baby toys, games and puzzles, dressing up and many more, all available for loan for two weeks.

Our safety and baby equipment is also extensive, with items ranging from fire guards to travel cots. These are on loan from one to six months at a time. We also provide vital support to families in three women's refuges in the borough, to several

Homestart groups and to many families referred by health visitors.

Stay and play for under 5s and borrowing sessions run on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings, 9.30 – 12.30, with craft activities on Thursdays and singing on Fridays! Membership fees are low and toys cost from 50p each for two weeks.

The Toy Library is available for children's birthday parties and we also hold fitness classes where children can play while the grown ups exercise! We hold regular fundraising events: don't miss our Christmas Fayre on Saturday 19th December.

As an independent charity we welcome donations of good quality toy and baby equipment. We rely on volunteers to help run our sessions, assist with fundraising and serve on our management committee.

So if you have some free time, enjoy working with children and young families, and would like to gain or share some skills and experience in a friendly sociable environment please do get in touch. [charltontoylibrary@gmail.com](mailto:charltontoylibrary@gmail.com) or ring us on 020 8319 0055; or just pop in to one of our sessions and say hello. Finally many thanks to the Westcombe Society for their ongoing support.



## Letters to the editor

Views expressed are those of the writers only, & may not be those of the W/N or the Westcombe Society.

**From: Len Phelps Ulundi Road**  
 The Blackwall Tunnel is not fit for purpose, given the volume of traffic using it. It forms a pinch point, and causes massive congestion, especially when a breakdown occurs.

It also creates one of the highest levels of pollution recorded in the UK. The proposal to build another tunnel is further and fatally flawed by TfL's intention to use the same southern approach road, the A102, to feed both tunnels. This would form "a single point of failure": a vast traffic jam.

This very bad idea gets worse. TfL propose to charge road users to use both tunnels. In West London there are some 20 bridges across the river: no charge is levied. So why should drivers on the east side be penalised, especially as they already pay road taxes - only 24% of which (according to the RAC) is used to pay for road infrastructure and improvements..

The Silvertown Tunnel Proposal is definitely not the answer. Bridges with the same number of lanes as approach roads and hard shoulders are the only practicable solution.

**From: Genia Browning SE10**  
 In Neville Grant's article *Part of our*

*Heritage* (W/N, October 2015, p.4), he mentions two pubs in Royal Hill, West Greenwich. What is not yet generally known is the re-emergence of *The Greenwich Prince*, just a few doors away from *Richard 1st* and *The Greenwich Union*.

Three pubs in such proximity? Yet each one has its own character – and none more so than *The Greenwich Prince* under its new management: a husband and wife team from Sicily. Fancy tinkering on the keys of the piano, trying tasty Sicilian pizza, having Italian lessons, or just sitting in armchairs by the fire? Then this is just the place!

Best of all, you'll have an ebullient welcome at this newest addition to the Greenwich pub scene.

**From: Jill Stevenson Reynolds Place**  
 I'm writing to say how much I enjoyed the Mycenae Soup evening in October. The food was excellent, the ambience was friendly and informal, and I found the information about those competing for the award was very interesting.

I have no faults to find with the whole evening. Everyone I spoke to enjoyed it. Well done! I hope it becomes a yearly event.

## CAROLLING WITH ST GEORGE'S

Come and join us!

<b>Tues. 15th Dec</b>	8:00 pm The Pilot Pub, 68 River Way
<b>Wed. 16th Dec.</b>	8:00 pm Mycenae House
<b>Thurs. 17th Dec.</b>	8:00 pm Cutty Sark Pub, 4 Ballast Quay
<b>Fri. 18th Dec.</b>	8:00 pm The Crown Pub, 176 Trafalgar Road
<b>Mon. 21st Dec.</b>	7:00 pm Westcombe Park with the Westcombe Soc. ending at St George's

## Cash-back Council style

Maggie Gravelle

In a decision described by Greenwich Council as a 'new scheme to benefit local communities', each of the 17 wards in the borough has been allocated £30,000.

Our ward Councillors, Geoff Brighty, Cherry Parker and Paul Morrissey will be able to propose how this one-off sum should be spent in order to improve the community and respond to local needs and priorities. As the guidance notes make clear, the money is intended to 'be used for events or activities that have a positive impact within the ward.'

Neighbouring wards will be able to combine on a large project or several smaller projects could be financed in a single ward and over a period of time. Our councillors will meet in the near future to decide how to proceed.

## WANTED

On Tuesday 27th October 2015 at 2.20pm, a man purposely threw a white plastic bag containing a sports bottle filled with motor oil into the middle of Vanbrugh Hill. A car drove over the bag, and an explosion caused over £1,500 of damage. A passing mother and child narrowly escaped injury.

If you have any information please alert the Police by calling 101, Crime No. 3621989/15, FAO P.C. Holmes.

**DESCRIPTION: White Male Approx 30 -40yrs old of average Height, with dark (greying?) hair. Wearing Orange Jumper, Chino Shorts, Brown Loafers, carrying a black backpack, and pushing a bicycle**

## What a tangled web we weave...



Nothing tangled about this web, photographed by Myles Dove. This enormous and very beautiful spider's web – eight feet from wall to fence, is however dwarfed by the web of W/N distributors woven by Myles Dove and Barbara Henley.

Last month was the last time they were at the centre of this important and very valuable community network, as they finally handed over the organisation of the distribution of the W/N to Emily Norton – after around 23 years. Says Myles:

"We would like to thank everyone who has helped out in the past; we have enjoyed meeting so many pleasant and helpful folk in the Westcombe Park area, and wish all involved with the Westcombe Society and the W/N well in the future. We greatly enjoy living here, and would not want to live anywhere else."

# LOCAL NEWS



## Open Day for the Westcombe Woodlands



Our MP wields the shears!

Always a great believer in cutting through red tape ...

PHOTOS: Frank Smith

Sunday, 4th October 2015 saw the official and formal opening of the Woodlands to the public. After four years in the making, we saw blue skies and glorious sunshine greet more than 350 visitors entering through our new gate.

The opening ceremony was presided over by the new MP for Greenwich & Woolwich, Matthew Pennycook. We also welcomed The Mayor of the Royal Borough of Greenwich, Councillor Norman Adams.

The photo above shows Matthew as he cuts the ribbon at the new entrance to the woodlands with the ceremonial garden shears after delivering a brief speech of welcome to the crowd.

After this ceremony, everyone headed into the woodlands, finding it hard to believe that this wild green space, haven for so many birds and other wildlife, existed in our city.

Many of the people who attended the open day had never experienced at first-hand the inside of the woodland, so this was a great achievement for all the committee members' and volunteers' efforts over the years.

On arriving at the Glade visitors looked around, and

examined the information boards. They also enjoyed the drinks and refreshments for sale – including cakes made by the children of a member of our committee Don Albrecht. Donations taken on the day amounted to an incredible £175!

The day was a resounding success: it generated much interest with new members eager to join in next year's activities. It is hoped we will be able to undertake another open day in the Summer of 2016.

*The Westcombe Woodlands are located in between Maze Hill and Vanbrugh Hill and very near Maze Hill Station. Please call Frank Smith on 07989 445 057 or Don Albrecht on 07791 075 825 if you would like to join the volunteers.*

BELOW: The Glade



## Bike Storage Success

Maggie Gravelle

Westcombe Park is one of only two places in the borough for these new bike hangars.

These provide secure, weather-proof storage for bicycles. Each hangar, one in Coleraine Road and the other in Winforton Street, Greenwich, has space for 6 bikes and already, at £30 per year, they are fully booked. Greenwich cyclists have welcomed them pointing out that 'they are particularly popular among people who live in flats and have to carry bikes up stairs or have limited storage space.'

The hangars were installed using money from TfL, and the council are planning to install more once the consultation and planning procedures have been complied with.



## Improving Bio-diversity in The Dell

ANN HILL

The Dell in Mycenae Road is a Site of Nature Conservation Importance and, during three Sundays in September, a total of 26 volunteers picked up litter, removed dog mess, made log piles from fallen branches, cleared nettles and brambles from the perimeter path, and prepared three areas for woodland plants and spring bulbs.

These areas, near the entrance gates, have now been planted with honeysuckle, columbines, hellebores, lady's mantle, cranesbills, lungwort, autumn cyclamen, sweet woodruff, foxgloves and primroses to provide nectar for bees and other insects, while hawthorn and pyracantha will provide autumn berries for birds. Look out in the New Year for patches of wood anemones, snowdrops, and bluebells, which have also been planted.

Also look out for a lovely display board 'Wildlife in the Woodland Dell' by local

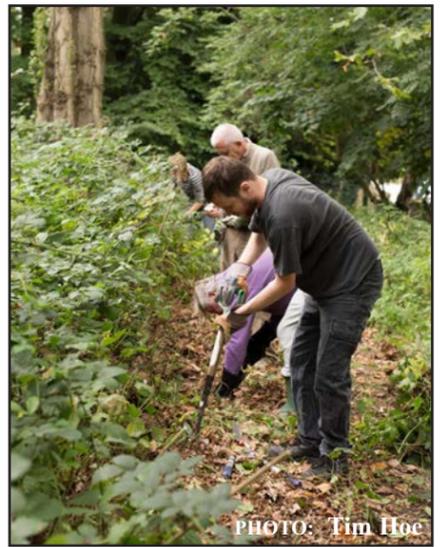


PHOTO: Tim Hoe

graphic designer Yu-Hsuan Lin, which features birds, plants and insects.

These were photographed by her husband Joe Beale during monthly observations he made earlier this year. The panel is on an oak stand made by Greenwich Men in Sheds, a voluntary group within AGE UK. The display board will be unveiled at a date to be announced.

The work has been organised by Friends of Mycenae Gardens with support from the Mayor of London's Capital Clean-up Community Grant, and has brought people in the community together in caring for and enjoying the space.

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## St George's

WESTCOMBE PARK

**CHRISTMAS AT ST GEORGES**  
**Thurs. 10th Dec. 7:30pm: Film Night: "It's a Wonderful Life"**  
**Sunday 20th December**  
**11:00 am: Holy Communion**  
**6:00pm: Christmas Carol Service**  
**Christmas Eve 2.30 and 4.00 pm: Crib Service**  
**11.30 pm: Midnight Holy Communion**  
**Christmas Day 10.30 am: All Age Christmas Communion**  
*Rev'd Robert T (Tim) Yeager, Team Vicar Tel. 07804 614245*

## Santa visits the Pleasaunce

Father Christmas will be making his annual trip to East Greenwich Pleasaunce on Sun. 13th December this year.

Once again, his mode of transport remains a surprise until the last minute – last year he sailed into the park in a dinghy. What next for this international man of mystery and jollity?! Who knows? Will he arrive in a fire-engine, a spaceship?

The event runs from 1-00pm - 4.00pm, with carols from the

Halstow Community Choir at 2.0 pm. As usual, there will be community carols, mince pies and mulled wine for sale, and free visits to Santa in the grotto for children – first come, first served!

As ever, volunteer help is greatly appreciated. The event is funded by Friends of East Greenwich Pleasaunce in conjunction with The Bridge.

**Please call Kirsty on 07961 433041 if you have any queries.**

## Affordable Art Sale

Following the International Art Auction in November raising funds for refugees, Mycenae House Community Centre is mounting another event – an Affordable Art Fair featuring the work of local artists.

The art works displayed are described as "affordable," but one visitor commented that they are also of very high quality. It's not too late for YOU to display your own work! The event runs until 19th Dec.

Mycenae House is rapidly becoming a local hub of the arts. Mark Johnson-Brown, manager of Mycenae House said: "We like to encourage local artists. This is a good opportunity to acquire quality works of art at affordable prices."

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## The Christmassy Christmas Show of Christmassy Christmasness

Squashbox Theatre presents

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**Thursday 17th December**  
4pm & 6.30 pm

**Friday 18th December**  
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**Mycenae House & Gardens**

[www.mycenaehouse.co.uk](http://www.mycenaehouse.co.uk)  
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# FEATURES



BOOK REVIEW

## Innovation, Enterprise and Change on the Greenwich Peninsula

Local resident Mary Mills may be best known as a former Councillor for Peninsula Ward – but she is also an industrial historian with a keen interest in Greenwich's role in creating the Industrial Society in Britain.

She writes: "The history of the Greenwich Peninsula is one of constant development and renewal," and her new book provides highlights of that history.

Until the Second World War, the peninsula was generally referred to as Greenwich Marsh, and for centuries it was used for agriculture. It was owned by the Bishop of Ghent in the tenth century, and the earliest industry on the Peninsula was a tide mill built around 1194 by the monks of Ghent.

Industrialization as we know it today started at the end of the seventeenth century with gunpowder on a site very near Enderby Wharf; but it was moved to Purfleet around 1777. In 1800 George Moore – of the family from Coombe Farm near Westcombe Park Station – developed the site to make bleach. A map dated 1846 shows where the bleach works was situated.

The biggest name perhaps was that of Samuel Enderby, who started a sail works and hemp factory on the site now named Enderby Wharf. He was famous in the whaling fraternity (he features in Herman Melville's novel *Moby Dick*), but despite a distinguished career, he died in 1852 in much reduced circumstances.

This profusely illustrated large-format book (A4), takes us through the various enterprises for which Greenwich became famous: Enderby Wharf became the home



**Awaiting rescue: Enderby House** of Glass Elliot and Co, huge suppliers of cable; notably the Transatlantic Cable which was finally laid by Brunel's *Great Eastern* in 1866 after several attempts.

The company set up numerous telegraph systems world-wide, under the names of, first, Telcon, and later, in the Twentieth Century, Standard Telephones and Cables, which finally quit Enderby Wharf in 1976. Today Alcatel remains a major supplier, using the optical fibre technology that was developed by the Nobel Prize winner Charles Kao, who was Woolwich-educated.

This book has so many other stories to tell, and raises many questions, such as who was Mr Bugsby? And why is the *Pilot Inn* so-called? It also raises questions about the future of the historically very important Enderby House; and what impact new developments, including the huge new cruise liner terminal and the nearby new buildings, will have on society.

**Cost: £8 + p&p (delivered free in local area) available in some local shops, & from M.Wright, 24 Humber Road, SE37K N.G.**

## The second tunnel

ANNE ROBBINS reports on a recent meeting organised by the Westcombe Society to discuss TfL's proposals

The Westcombe Society Environment Committee organized a residents' meeting in November to gauge responses to Transport for London's consultation on the proposed Silvertown Tunnel.

This consultation was our last chance to put forward suggestions for changes to TfL, before the planning application goes to the Planning Authority in the spring.

The meeting looked at some of TfL's arguments for building the tunnel, which would run from the Greenwich Peninsula to Newham's Royal Victoria Dock, roughly following the line of the Emirates Airway.

A number of issues were discussed:

- \* possible new bus routes
- \* the charging structure proposed for both the Silvertown and Blackwall Tunnels
- \* current usage and the impact that the new road would have on traffic locally and on the A102 and A2 corridor
- \* air quality, and how TfL might monitor and mitigate the effects of the tunnel
- \* the impact of construction traffic.

Residents at the meeting represented several viewpoints, including cycling and business. And while the meeting wanted to see traffic queues on the Blackwall Tunnel reduced, it was agreed that the Westcombe Society should not support the plans without firm commitments from TfL to improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion in the area. There were doubts whether this could be achieved.

In particular, TfL's plans for charging were questioned. The meeting felt that the charging plans would seriously disadvantage local businesses, could persuade them to move out of the area, and might also

discourage new businesses from setting up in this part of south-east London.

The meeting also found that the charges, as proposed, might not be high enough to discourage demand, so more drivers would be attracted to the area. With south-bound traffic already often backed up to the Sun in the Sands in the evening, the TfL proposal led to comments that the next step might end up being road widening, with strong feelings against this possibility.

As one attender said, 'It was a small gathering but very amiable and vocal and their views were interesting.' It was very useful to gain a variety of perspectives. The Westcombe Society is grateful to all who came, especially as they may not have anticipated how long the meeting would run! Following this meeting, the Westcombe Society will again object to the plans, with the support of residents. We will be asking for the strongest assurances, built into the planning application, that local disadvantages will be minimized.

### r . G. Austin

(Established 1963)



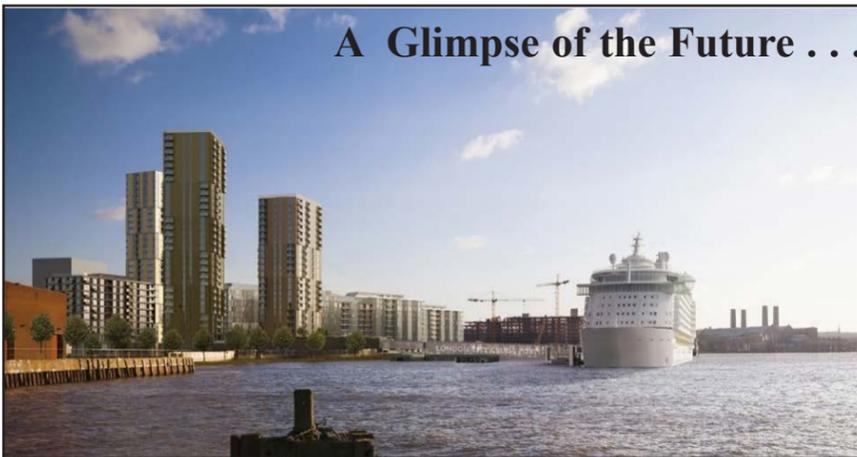
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## A Glimpse of the Future . . .



Book Review

## Evening before Dawn

by Paul Abercrombie

Paul Abercrombie is a highly respected former teacher of French and Russian, mainly in comprehensive schools in South East London.

In his teaching he taught the syllabus, as required, but also insisted on ensuring that his pupils learnt the basic systems of the language (ie the grammar). For this he was marked down by Ofsted, despite the fact that he was extraordinarily successful in getting his pupils into university. (He used to sport a badge that proudly declared "I am an Ofsted Failure"!)

Now retired, Paul has written a compelling book about a boy going through adolescence in a children's home. The boys – often treated as "scum" by some of their teachers and guardians – appear as no more, or less, blameless than those supposed to care for them.

So the Home (always so-called with a capital letter as if to mark it down as an Institution rather than a place where the heart is) is presided over by the poisonous Mr and Mrs Richardson who have a very

unhealthy dislike for young people. No escape at school, either: Mr Noakes is a really horrible sadistic teacher, in the Dickensian Do-the-Boys Hall tradition. These characters are sadly, rather more memorable than those who try to be kind, notably Mr and Mrs Rattray, and the friendly but somewhat ineffectual Miss Cochrane and "Smithy".

How does a bright, sensitive boy survive the bullying and misery of a children's home without a real family to support and sustain him? The hero of the book, Julian, does almost improbably well despite the odds – sustained largely by the calf-love developing between him and Gillian, which is touching in its purity.

The book is one guesses partly autobiographical, for Paul was himself once in a Children's Home. He provides living proof that it is possible to emerge with one's humanity and integrity intact.

**For copies of *Evening before dawn*, please contact the author's agent on 01932 565507, cost £7.50. N.G.**

## Shakespeare Schools Festival at Greenwich Theatre

The pint sized boy as Bottom in *A Midsummers Night's Dream*, had the whole audience laughing. He held the stage, out Bottoming Bottom. His class from Kidbrooke Park Primary School put on an entrancing adaptation of the play, involving every child, six of them acting as narrators.

The same evening saw Hawksmoor School from Thamesmead perform *Macbeth*. The three witches obviously relished doling out 'toil and trouble,' and again six children were narrators, whilst the other roles were shared out. *Macbeth* and *Lady Macbeth* passed their crowns to two others, and other members of the cast took turns to play different parts.

The previous evening, James Wolfe Primary School ably depicted in *Romeo and Juliet* the tragic outcomes of enmity and violence.

Secondary schools also gave meaning to their adaptations of Shakespeare. St Ursula's Convent incorporated effective

group movement in *Twelfth Night* and some excellent acting: Sir Toby Belch was played with believable relish. Eltham College's *The Tempest* also used imaginative and most effective group movement.

John Roan's performance of *Othello* had a lively opening, the actors mingling with the audience, eliciting votes – so establishing a modern political context. The intrigue, betrayal, and the violent outcome left audience members in shock.

Every year, a thousand schools round the country take part in the Shakespeare Festival, and as usual Greenwich Theatre acted as host to our own local schools.

At the end of each evening the director identified the themes of the plays in ways meaningful to the children, and appraised each school's performance. The two evenings I attended saw enchanting displays of youthful talent and enthusiasm, thoroughly enjoyed by both performers and audience – and were highly educative for children and adults alike. **Genia Browning**



### Welcome to our current production

**Old Mother Hubbard**  
By Paul Reakes

This years panto sees Old Mother Hubbard, her children Hughie and Polly, and their faithful dog Dandy, down on their luck and about to be thrown out of their cottage. However a good deed by the poverty stricken family to a fairy, disguised as an old woman leads them on an adventure with surprising results!

The Good Fairy grants Old Mother Hubbard a wish, which is to find long lost Uncle Oswald. Before they know it they are transported in the magic cupboard to the Wild West where they meet villains such as Matt Vinyl and the handsome and charming Tex Laramie.

January 2016

Wednesday 20	6:30pm	Tickets
Thursday 21	7:45pm	£8.00 Adults
Friday 22	7:45pm	£7.00 Concessions
Saturday 23 (Matinée)	2:30pm	
Saturday 23	7:45pm	

Venue  
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Box office: 07502 450983 Email: tickets@theprioryplayers.com

# WHAT'S ON



## ARTS

**BLACKHEATH DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY** St Mary's Church Hall Cresswell Park, 4th Thursday of every month, 2.00 for 2.30pm  
**Tues 26th Jan.** Alike Braine **A History of Western Art:** a dramatic précis of the progress of Art from 13th century Renaissance to 20th century Abstraction  
**GREENWICH DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY** King William Court, the University of Greenwich, Greenwich **Mon. 14th Dec 8.00pm:** **Saved- Animal Heroes in War and Peace** Talk by Hilary Hope-Guise  
**Mon. 11th Jan 2016: Mona Lisa – Behind The Smile** Paula Nuttall on the reasons for her fame. Non members £8. Annual membership £60  
**MADE IN GREENWICH GALLERY 8293-9823** www.madeingreenwich.co.uk 324 Creek Rd SE10  
 A changing display of local artworks, cards, books and poetry.  
**Sat. 7th November to Sun. 9th Jan**  
**Between Inside and Outside:** A new mixed rolling exhibition showing 12 different artists' ways of interpreting the title

## CHILDREN & FAMILY

**GREENWICH THEATRE CROOMS HILL, LONDON SE10 8ES BOX OFFICE 8858 7755**  
**Until Jan 10th: PANTOMIME TIME! This year: LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD**  
**Sat. 16th Jan. HANDA's HEN (One day only)**  
 Performances 11am-1pm-3pm  
 Tickets: Adults £9, Children £6  
**BLACKHEATH HALLS Children's Theatre**  
 Great Hall Blackheath Halls 22, Lee Rd, London SE3 9RQ **Sat. 5th Dec SANTA IN LOVE**  
 Fun filled family show, games, giggles and all your favourite Christmas songs  
 3.00-3.45pm Tickets: £35, £12, and £8  
**THE FAN MUSEUM,**  
 12, Crooms Hill, SE10 8ER Tel. 8305 1441  
**Until Thurs. 31st Dec Made in China: An Introduction to fans, their history and how they are made,** For Children under 5yrs: activity trail, For young people 8-14 years: Intermediate activity trail 11.00am - 5.00pm Tues-Sat 11.00am - 2.00 pm Sun. Adults £4.00, Children £3.00, Concessions £3.00  
 Family ticket: £10 for 2 adults & 2 children plus National Trust/Art Card 50% reductions  
 Afternoon tea, walk in or book, depending on day.  
**OLD ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE**  
**Sun. 6th Dec. 11.30am:** Visit the Victorian Skittle Alley and have a game! Not normally open Free  
**SHERINGTON CHILDREN'S CENTRE**  
**DAD'S STAY AND PLAY** session every Wednesday 9.30-11.30 Sherington Childrens Centre, all Home Dads welcome. Address: 14 Sherington Road, Charlton SE7 7JW (0208 853 0900). Continues even in school holidays and half-term. **Contact Dan Hall on daniel.hall1985@hotmail.co.uk for more details.** www.selondondads.org.uk

## THEATRE

**THE GREENWICH THEATRE** Crooms Hill, Greenwich, London SE10 8ES 020 8858 7755  
**Fri. Nov 20th- Sun Jan 10th Little Red Riding Hood** Performances daily -except Mondays (with the exception of Monday 28th Dec) morning/afternoon/evening performances – (times vary according to date).  
 Standard price- Adults -£28 plus Concessions  
 No concessions between December 18th-31st  
**OLD ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE**  
**Dec. 2nd 6.15pm** British Stage in Miniature presents a re-enactment of the Battle of Watterloo

## THE WESTCOMBE SOCIETY

**Mon 21st December Carol Singing (Jointly with St George's: Meet at Mycenae House 7.15 pm. Ending with mulled wine & mince pies**

## MYCENAE HOUSE

**Sat 5th Dec. 2.30pm:** UKPW Wrestling. Family entertainment, 2 hours of live action.  
**Mon 7th Dec 7.00pm:** Choral Concert by Blackheath Centre for Singing  
**Thurs 10th Dec. 4.00pm and Tues. 22nd Dec at 11.00 am: Bach To Baby.** Classical Concert  
**Fri 11th December 8.00pm:** JazzNights. Live Jazz Christmas Curry Special.  
**Mon 14th + Tues 15th Dec. 6.30pm:** Becky Dell Music Academy. Christmas Concert.  
**Wed 16th to Fri 18th Dec. 4pm + 6.30pm:** Christmassy Christmas Family Show.  
**Fri 18th Dec. 8.00pm:** Icarus Club. Christmas Special Songwriters Show.  
**For further information and to buy tickets visit www.mycenaehouse.co.uk**

## COMMUNITY

**CANCER RESEARCH LUNCH**  
**Thurs. 3rd Dec.** at The Clarendon Hotel, Montpelier Row, Blackheath Prize draw & Raffle. To book, call Wendy on 8265 0335 by **Mon. 30th Dec.** £8.50.  
**BLACKHEATH BRIDGE CLUB** duplicate sessions in Mycenae House Mon. & Thurs. 7.15 pm & on Wed. at 1.15 Tel. Ron on 0208-319-1312  
**WESTCOMBE WRITERS' CIRCLE** 1st. Thursday each month, 2.30-4.30 pm at Mycenae House. Please ring Rosemary Gill on 8858 5088 for more details.  
**THE OLD ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE**  
**Sat. 5th Dec. 2.00pm** Free festive talk: What was Christmas was like at Greenwich through the ages?  
**The Blackheath Society 72971437** Sat. 5th Dec. Blackheath Village Day Christmas Lights  
**GREENWICH & BEXLEY COMMUNITY HOSPICE** Sun. 6th Dec. Santa's Dash 5k Fun Run in Santa Suits Tickets: Adults £20, Children £5 includes Santa suit. Family: 2 adults & 2 children £25  
**GLOBAL FUSION MUSIC & ARTS 8858 9497**  
**Fri. 11th Dec. 7.00 pm** Wassail Night Martin Carthy at Charlton House SE7 8RE  
**Free workshops** Fortnightly Tuesday & Friday evenings 7.30 - 8.30 at Mascal's Meeting Rooms off Victoria Way Charlton SE7 7TT: Tai Chi. Singing, Drumming, Writers' Group, African Dance  
**BLACKHEATH & GREENWICH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE CHRISTMAS SOCIAL**  
**Wed 2nd Dec. 7.30 - 9.30pm** Bring a dish, music & quiz Blackheath&Greenwich@gmail.com  
**BLACKHEATH FLOWER ARRANGING SOCIETY** Meet the third Friday of the month, 2pm, Mycenae House secretary: Rosemary Clayton  
**BLACKHEATH SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY**  
**Fri. Dec 18th** AGM 7.30pm Mycenae House  
**Sat. Jan 16th** Managing The Crossness Nature Reserve-Thames Water Talk by Ms Karen Sutton  
**Thurs. 28th Jan 'Off The Beaten Track'** Talk by Clementine Cecil Times Correspondent in Moscow 2001-2004 (Moscow buildings and their prospects)  
**LIBRARY TALKS on the Peninsula by Mary Mills** Greenwich Centre Library 16th Dec. 6.00pm. Blackheath Library 17th December 7.00pm

## AGE EXCHANGE

**Fri Dec 4th 12.30 - 3.30 pm** The Friends Christmas Lunch CLARENDON HOTEL SE3 ORW Trad. Jazz, piano, carols, raffle - booking open now.  
**BOOK SALES:** on the second Saturday every month (except August & December) 10.00 am - 4.00 pm.  
**LUNCHTIME CONCERTS:** the last Wednesday of every month by Trinity Laban students. Free, but retiring collection in aid of Age Exchange



PHOTO: Barbara Ward

'Secret Horniman', recently staged at the superb Horniman Museum, took the public into the normally unseen areas of the museum by a series of secret clues: an absolute triumph.

This kind of event is staged from time to time at the museum, and combines cultural and anthropological knowledge with imaginative artistic expression to great effect – as can be seen in this "mermaid". **Barbara Ward**

## MUSIC

**OLD ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE**  
**Sun 6th Dec. 7.00 pm:** CHRISTMAS CONCERT in aid of SAVE THE CHILDREN. The ORNC Trinity Laban Chapel Choir provides the music and the readings are by Christopher Godwin, Alex Jennings, Sylvestra Le Touzel, Ilona Linthwaite and Owen Teale. Tickets available on the door, or go to www.ornc.org/Pages/Events; or in person at the Visitor Centre in King William Walk. Kindly sponsored by Roger and Rosemary Morgan.  
**Dec 12th. 7.30 pm:** Dulwich Choral Society perform Handel's Messiah  
**Dec 16th. 7.00 pm:** Old Royal Naval College Trinity Laban Chapel Choir perform The Messiah  
**Dec 21st 2.00 pm** The Rodolfus Choir perform O Magnum Mysterium  
**ST ALFEGE'S CHURCH, GREENWICH**  
**Sat 6th Dec. 7.30 pm:** Thomas Tallis Singers/ Orchestra 'Messiah by Candlelight'  
 Tickets - Ticket Source-online £12/£18  
**THE SPACE THEATRE 269 Westferry Road, E14 3RS** Tel. 0207-515-7799  
**Mon 14th Dec 8.00pm:** London Docklands Singers' Christmas Concert: carols plus mince pies and mulled wine Tickets £6  
**STEINBERG DUO**  
 Steinberg Music Studio, London SE10 9HP  
**£10.00** Works for violin and piano:  
**Sun. 13th Dec. 6.00 pm** Ireland & Sawyers  
**Sun 31st Jan 6.00 pm** Brahms & Franck  
**BLACKHEATH HALLS**  
**Trinity Laban Blackheath Halls**  
**Wed. 9th Dec.** Jazz Choir/ Jazz Ensemble Directed by Martin Lockhart Free  
**Mon 21st. DEC. 7:30pm:** Brio Symphony Orchestra. Mozart: Overture, Magic Flute, Ravel: Piano Concerto, Sibelius: Symphony No.2. Talented young musicians come together as the Brio Symphony Orchestra, conducted by local student and resident Joseph Beesley.



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# FEATURES



## Greenwich Park: the Peoples choice?

Maurice Ben Rose gives a personal view

Inoted with interest the picture of Greenwich Park on the front page of the October issue of the *Westcombe News* encouraging us to vote for it as the 'best green space' in the country.

I'd love to cast my vote for Greenwich Park; but honestly I can't. There are so many beautiful, evocative, ambient green spaces in and around this wonderful city of ours. I remember when I first came South of the river to Greenwich over a decade ago. Then the park was a very pleasant place; Queen Elizabeth's oak was still standing (an object of historical interest).

But over the years I've watched the tree disintegrate. At some stage it was enclosed with a railing (a useless gesture). It could have been preserved; propped up and reinforced with resin like the Elfin Oak in Kensington Gardens. The last time I saw Elizabeth's Oak it was a heap of firewood.

Next, the cafeteria in the park; this was a delightful place when I first went there. It was a warm friendly neighbourly place serving delicious cakes and savouries; the décor too was pleasing. Then I presume a 'Franchise Company' took over and completely re-vamped the interior into the glossy characterless place it is now.

Next the rows of cars parked in the road from the entrance along to the Wolf statue resembling an up-market car-lot. When I go into a park I don't expect to see a row of cars. I agree the park has its plus points. I love the rose garden, the lake with the ducks; the Henry Moore sculpture; the Greenwich Observatory; the bandstand; the splendid sweet chestnut trees lining the paths and of course that magnificent panoramic view of London.

But really honestly and truly I can think of other wonderful green spaces. I suggest your readers travel 'North of the River'. There waiting to enthral them are many fine areas of green park land: Hyde Park; Green Park; Kensington Gardens; but at top of my list is Hampstead Heath.

I know the Heath intimately. Here I spent my boyhood playing Cowboys and Indians amongst the trees and bushes. Oh god, so much more: memories of skinny-dipping in the moonlight; frogs the size of

ones thumb-nail hopping amid the tall grass; the time I went with my son to climb god's tree, it was our secret; the spot over toward

Parliament Fields where 'Dave the Piper' practised early in the morning. . . It's a magical place, open and wild, and you can walk there any time, day or night.

It has over twenty-five ponds – one for ladies to swim in, another for the men, and others for sailing boats and fishermen. The ground dips down to the Vale of Health: a cluster of picturesque houses nestle there with another little pond fringed with reeds and willows, and a small fair with a carousel and swing boats.

Through the woods you pass a pond; a tiny island of reeds; a pair of swans and a rustic bridge like a Monet painting. Beyond stands the beautiful Georgian mansion of Kenwood House. . .

Forgive me for eulogizing the Heath but that, dear *Westcombe News* readers, is some green space! I think I'll award it a little Green Flag of my own.

And now, back to Greenwich Park. Yes, I agree it is a very pretty, well-kept park. But, on certain days at certain times in the year that park is the only place to be. It's after a heavy fall of snow and the place is ankle-deep in the white crispy stuff. Then by god that park comes alive. It beats all the swanky ski-resorts with the posers in their fancy ski- outfits sluicing down the red and black pistes. Greenwich Park comes into its own; it becomes a mad-house! People from all over the borough descend on the park; all ages, all races, in fur-lined boots, bobble-hats, mufflers and parkas, their hot breath mingling in the cold air.

I can remember going there with my eight year old son Micah and my wife Marie Claire. We had a couple of battered old plastic sledges, anything that would slide; dustbin lids; bin-liners; old coats,



PHOTO courtesy of the Royal Parks, Greenwich

plastic sheeting; scraps of tarpaulin.

I still remember it: a rather jolly man clutching a Pilsner launches himself belly-first down the ice slope like a penguin. Everywhere people are slipping, sliding and colliding. Multiple pile-ups occur, it's a happy-go-lucky chaos.

The park is a new place: on the crest of the hill is a 'troika' with Dr Zhivago and Julie Christie look-alikes swathed in furs, moving on out of the park across the "Russian Steppes" of Blackheath. . .

Never have I enjoyed myself so much. It's a joy to see people bonding. The place, the setting; the time of year: the mood of the people all conjoin to make that day and that place truly memorable; and there isn't a blade of grass in sight. Then, oh yes then 'Greenwich Park gets my vote for the best 'green/ white space' in the country.

## Psychological Therapy For Young Mums

53% of Teenage Mums suffer Postnatal Depression – but there's help at hand, writes KATE SMITH

It is estimated that more than half of new mums aged nineteen or under experience depression, putting them and their babies at risk.

A new initiative from MumsAid is set to support young mums in Greenwich to help them to cope with the challenges of motherhood and give their babies the best possible start. Based in Woolwich Children's Centres, YoungMumsAid offers free weekly psychotherapy sessions, along with a crèche, to pregnant and new mothers aged 16 – 19.

Early intervention can be crucial in treating mental health problems among young mothers. Maternal depression has been linked to significant disadvantages for babies' development, and can lead to behavioural problems such as aggression and ADHD. In more severe cases, babies can be at risk of neglect and abuse.

Since 2012 MumsAid has supported women before and after the birth of their babies by providing counselling, peer support and training for frontline staff in Postnatal Depression (PND) awareness.

Clinical Director and Founder of MumsAid, Miriam Donaghy says "The right support makes a big difference, not just to mothers, but also to the healthy development of their babies, and that's why MumsAid is committed to developing and sustaining quality accessible services."

It is thought that only 15% of women with symptoms of PND seek or obtain medical advice. Young mums and their babies are a vulnerable group, and the impact of PND is likely to be especially harmful.

Actress and local mum, Zoë Tapper, has helped with securing a Children-in-Need grant to develop YoungMumsAid. "The post birth period is a vulnerable time for any mum but for a young mum suffering from postnatal depression, it can feel overwhelming and isolating. Services such as YoungMumsAid are a much needed helping hand. A professional, experienced, non-judgemental ear can, quite literally, save a life."

For more information or to access the service, please contact: 07899 661 081 or [young@mums-aid.org](mailto:young@mums-aid.org)

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**THE CASE FOR RADICAL CHANGE IN EDUCATION**

This report was prepared by the PER Group to send to the political parties in May. It has forewords by Anthony Seldon, Richard Harries and Frank Furedi.

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# ENVIRONMENT



Planning applications can be viewed in the library, or at the Woolwich Library on the lower ground floor of the Woolwich Centre, 35 Wellington St. They may also be viewed on [www.greenwich.gov.uk/planning](http://www.greenwich.gov.uk/planning)

## How green is Greenwich?

asks IAN BLORE of the East Greenwich Residents Association

We all share in the pleasures of Greenwich Park and Blackheath as well as the trees and smaller green spaces that are a feature of our area.

But the air pollution, 80% of which is caused by traffic, is less visible and less pleasurable but potentially very serious.

In June the *W/N* featured an article about the work carried out by the Westcombe Society to measure pollution on local roads. Now EGRA (East Greenwich Residents Association) have produced a report based on their measurements of amounts of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>).

Three sites were controls intended to measure what was expected to be low background pollution. The results showed:

- \* NO<sub>2</sub> limits were breached along most main roads, in some cases badly
- \* even the control sites indicated elevated levels of NO<sub>2</sub>
- \* the worst result was, very predictably, at the Woolwich Road flyover junction leading to the existing Blackwall tunnel.

EGRA repeated the measurements at more sites this autumn and have also plotted the results of Greenwich Council's own surveys over the last ten years. In their report, *How Bad is Our Air in East Greenwich*, they present the findings and question some of the myths about air pollution.

### Myth 1. Pollution is only serious at main roadside locations

All the local surveys, including those by Transport for London, Greenwich Council, and No to Silvertown Tunnel, have shown

pollution in excess of EU legal limits on main roads, and elevated levels away from large thoroughfares.

### Myth 2. East Greenwich Pollution is caused by the Blackwall Tunnel.

TfL argue that because the Silvertown Tunnel will reduce congestion, there will be less stationary traffic, and that idling vehicles cause more pollution than moving ones. Although this may be the case (and one has to wonder since the Volkswagen scandal) the increase in traffic overall may be more than offset the advantage of keeping it moving. EGRA also point out that traffic can be gridlocked along Trafalgar Road and free-flowing through the tunnel, so the pollution cannot all be due to congestion at the tunnel.

### Myth 3 Air quality is improving

Greenwich Council reports show pollution levels at 4 sites in or near East Greenwich over the last ten years. These indicate that pollution has hardly changed – and at the Woolwich flyover has remained the same although, according to the Department for Transport, traffic levels over the same period have fallen. (hard to believe...)

The EGRA report speculates that the unchanged level of heavy pollution despite apparent decreases in traffic could be due to an increase in heavily polluting vehicles or in congestion and therefore more idling. Whatever the cause, solutions are urgently needed.

### Myth 4. Technology and regulation will cure the problem.

It is hard to believe that either regulation or technology will find a solution to such an intractable problem that has been increasing in urgency over so many years. The East Greenwich Residents Association will shortly publish the second part of their report which will suggest some of the ways in which improvements could be made.

We pioneered the Clean Air Act in 1956. Let's do it again.

*EGRA and the Westcombe Society have co-operated on this "citizen science" work. It affects us all. Do you have any suggestions to improve our air quality?*

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## The Challenges of Climate Change

On 27th Oct., Blackheath & Greenwich United Nations Association invited Cllr Danny Thorpe, the cabinet member for development and transport, to give a talk in Mycenae House about climate change and its impact in Greenwich.

"The meeting is timely," said Genia Browning, chair of the local UNA. "Many people are very concerned that at the UN meeting on Climate change in Paris the international leadership – including our government – will yet again duck critical issues, and fail to commit to binding agreements on measures to prevent, and mitigate the effects of, climate change, to the extent required."

There is increasing feeling that local government (eg at County/borough council level – in the US, at State level) can do much to influence national governments, both by adopting green policies, and also by pressing national government to grasp many of the nettles that are preventing local authorities from doing more. Greenwich has a good record on some green issues in Greenwich, and like other councils can therefore "lead by example".

Cllr Thorpe went some way towards allaying the fears that Greenwich might not be doing enough. The Climate Change Strategy that was put in place in 2011 is currently being revised and updated. A number of policies were in place, despite financial constraints, and despite the fact that a number of issues were outside the Council's control – particularly in areas such as transport, and roads, for which TfL was responsible.

So the focus of the Council was what was do-able, including managing the Council's own emissions, and encouraging and enabling others to follow suit. So the council was investing in renewable energy and was installing solar PV on RBG-owned housing stock, (which had been graded "Very Energy Efficient"); cavity wall, loft and external wall insulation had also been installed in many homes across the Borough. Grant-funding was ensuring low carbon energy on the peninsula, supplying 15000 homes

Mr Thorpe said that all the Council's energy requirements came from renewable sources, and the council was investigating future opportunities in Greenwich Power Station and Charlton Riverside.

Transport remained an important issue: cycling was being encouraged, and the number of electrical vehicle charging points was being increased. The Car Club scheme was proving very successful. However, the problem of carbon and particulate emissions from motor vehicles was proving difficult, as most of the pollution caused in this area came from sources outside the Council's control – notably, vehicles such as buses and taxis using diesel and through-traffic on TfL roads.

**Neville Grant**

But the big issue focussed on in the meeting was air pollution, and the cruise liner terminal at Enderby Wharf in particular: while the Council had put in place green planning regulations on the terminal buildings and the new blocks nearby, many in the audience raised concerns about emissions from the liners. There were strong feelings that the Council should have insisted on "shore-based power" for the cruise liners instead of permitting the use of on-board diesel-fuelled generators. It was argued that according to the developer's own figures, generators on medium-sized cruise ships consume about 700 litres of diesel per hour – equivalent to 400 idling lorries.

Cllr Thorpe said the Council had looked extensively into the issues of on-shore power – and in particular the emissions. He said that the Royal borough sits within the emission control area, which requires any shipping vessel on the Thames to burn less than 0.1% sulphur fuel.

Those in attendance urged the Council to think again about these issues.

*For information about the local United Nations Association, ring 0208 858 8489.*

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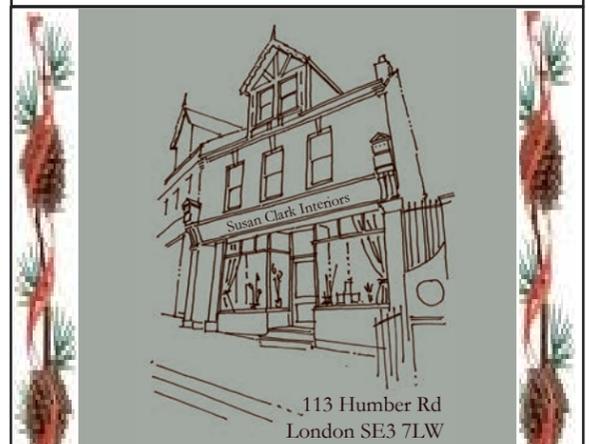
We won't meet the 3rd week of Feb. - it's half term.

The fee for the course is £150, which includes all materials and a half-day silent retreat on 27 February. Please contact [kellyrobson@btinternet.com](mailto:kellyrobson@btinternet.com) or 07900885035

*Kelly Robson has a long-standing meditation practice and was introduced to the Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) programme in 2011.*

*She has trained with the Bangor University Centre for Mindfulness Research and Practice and the Mindfulness in Schools Project.*

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