

SYDENHAM SOCIETY

NEWS

Summer 2014

The Greyhound at Cobbs Corner – what is Purelake playing at?

There has been a public house on this site since 1719. Many people passing the hoardings surrounding the derelict structure which was The Greyhound, last rebuilt in 1873, will not recall what a handsome building this once was. It is therefore worth reminding ourselves of what only seven years ago was the public house which stood at Cobbs Corner, the entrance to Sydenham town.



The Greyhound as it was in 2007

Purchased by developers who wanted to build 70 flats on the site, it closed in August 2007. A high profile community campaign was mounted, involving the BBC and ITV and the local press and a 5000 signature petition. The pub was saved from demolition and Lewisham Council designated the area around Cobbs Corner a Conservation Area; at the same time the building was designated A3/A4.

Changing hands several times since then, the site has had a chequered history. Planning permission was finally granted on 24 May 2010 for two retail units, 42 flats, and a renovated pub, with a piazza and trees. It was anticipated the work would take eighteen months with the flats being completed in May 2012, with the pub re-opening in July 2012. Decorative tiles, part of a 'drinking corridor' in the old building, were to be reinstated as decoration in the new dining room and a competition was



Winning artwork by Designed By Good People

launched for 'public realm art', to be installed as tiles on the rear wall of the building as part

of the permission, to be completed prior to the retail units being fitted out. In spring 2011, Sainsbury's were named as the 'anchor tenant' for the larger retail unit.

All went well at first and the residential units were built on what had been the pub car park and outbuildings. However, the developer, Purelake, trying to enlarge the pub, breached the planning permission by digging out the basement. A further breach occurred when the roof was removed and one by one the walls disappeared leaving a façade supported by scaffolding, all without approval for demolition within the conservation area. Walls were rebuilt and an extra floor suddenly appeared within the roof space, again without planning permission being applied for. The Council stepped in, and in mid-2012 a 'stop' notice was served.

A resolution to grant planning permission was finally granted on 25 April 2013 subject to certain conditions, but until the Deed of Variation is signed by Purelake, Hexagon Housing Association and Meridian, owners of the contract for the retail units, the permission cannot be formally granted. Various appeals and commercial issues between the parties have meant that the site remains blighted, an eyesore at the head of our town.

After so little activity, in mid-May, work unexpectedly began. Purelake were back on site installing the tiling artwork on the rear wall of the pub. As we go to press questions are being asked of the developer as to why this is happening before other remedial infrastructure and refurbishment work has taken place? Concern is also being expressed by the artist responsible for the public artwork as to why this is being installed on a derelict building? Questions are also being asked of the planners at Lewisham as to what they are intending to do to resolve this apparent impasse?



The Greyhound in 2014

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SYDENHAM SOCIETY CONTACTS

Chair

Annabel McLaren
chair@sydenhamsociety.com

Treasurer & Membership

Roger Feather
membership@sydenhamsociety.com
020 8778 4318

Newsletter Editor

Pat Trembath
news@sydenhamsociety.com
020 8659 4903

Newsletter Design & Layout

Julia East
news@sydenhamsociety.com

Newsletter Copy Editor

Emma Mallinder

Newsletter Distribution

Pat Trembath
020 8659 4903

Conservation & Planning

Barbara Kern
conservation@sydenhamsociety.com

Events

Jackie Aldridge
020 8778 5455
Mob: 07837 838710

Roads & Transport

Ilse Towler
iandj.towler@btinternet.com
020 8778 3743

Local History

Steve Grindlay
localhistory@sydenhamsociety.com
020 8699 6398

Contact Address for post

Sydenham Society
35 Bishopsthorpe Road
Sydenham
SE26 4PA

The Sydenham Society is an independent group representing the interests of local residents. Sydenham Society News is non-partisan, non-political and non-commercial.

ARTICLES PLEASE!

If there is something you would like the society to tell everybody, or a local issue you feel strongly about, please send your article, maximum 300 words, to the editor.

Sydenham Society News is read by many local residents, old and new, so please spell out all acronyms and explain anything that a newcomer might not understand.

All articles are subject to editing by the Editorial Team.

Email your article to the Editorial Team at:

news@sydenhamsociety.com or send hard copy to
97 Longton Grove SE26 6QQ.

Disclaimer

The views expressed in articles are those of named contributors and should not be regarded as statements of policy of the Sydenham Society.

E-NEWSLETTER

Want to be kept informed about news and events in SE26? If you haven't already signed up for the Sydenham Society e-newsletter, you can do so by visiting **www.sydenhamsociety.com** and forwarding us your email address. You'll then be sent our regular e-newsletter packed with local news and information about what's going on in Sydenham and the surrounding area.

YOUR LOCALLY ELECTED OFFICIALS

LOCAL MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Jim Dowd MP for Lewisham West and Penge
Tessa Jowell MP for Dulwich and Upper Norwood
c/o House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

LEWISHAM COUNCILLORS

Civic Suite Lewisham Town Hall Catford SE6 4RU
020 8314 6000

Bellingham Ward

Alan Hall Ami Ibitson Jacq Paschoud

Forest Hill Ward

Peter Bernard Maja Hilton Paul Upex

Perry Vale Ward

John Paschoud Alan Till Susan Wise

Sydenham Ward

Chris Best Liam Curran Rachel Onikosi

BROMLEY COUNCILLORS

Bromley Civic Centre Stockwell Close BR1 3UH
020 8464 3333

Crystal Palace Ward

Angela Wilkins Richard Williams

Penge and Cator Ward

Katherine Bance Kevin Brooks Peter Fookes

SOUTHWARK COUNCILLORS

Town Hall Peckham Road SE5 8UB
020 7525 5000

College Ward

Jon Hartley Helen Hayes Andy Simmons

OTHER CONTACTS

Community Police Teams

Community Police contact non-emergency numbers for Lewisham have all changed to **0300 123 1212**

In an emergency dial 999

For non-urgent police matters dial 101

For environmental noise nuisance call:

Lewisham Council **020 8314 6000**

Bromley Council **020 8464 3333**

Southwark Council **020 7525 5000**

The deadline for articles for the next newsletter will be Friday 1 August 2014.



Saturday 5 July – Sunday 20 July 2014

Plans are well underway for the sixth annual Sydenham Arts Festival (SAF) with some amazing acts and shows already lined up. This Arts Council funded arts and music extravaganza will hit streets and venues in and around Sydenham from Saturday 5 July to Sunday 20 July, with an impressive line-up of artists and musicians including some of Britain's best-loved poets and writers.

The two-week long festival's flagship event, **Till The Boys Come Home**, will be an epic four-part community musical, marking the centenary of the start of World War I. Featuring a huge cast, the shows will tell the stories of Sydenham's Great War and the workers of the South Suburban Gas Company, 58 of whom made the ultimate sacrifice.

In a magnificent double-bill, on Saturday 12 July, Scotland's 'poet laureate' **Jackie Kay**, described as one of the best poets of her generation, will be joined by comedian and poet **John Hegley**, 'a Spike Milligan for our time', who we welcome back after his triumphant appearance at SAF's first festival in 2009.

Award-winning children's author, **Jeremy Strong**, writer of beloved tales such as *The Hundred Mile an Hour Dog* and *My Mum's Going to Explode*, will also be appearing on Saturday 12 July.

Two fantastic jazz and swing events will be back by popular demand. **The Incredible Sax Band** will be appearing at St Bartholomew's Church on Sunday 13 July, while the **South London Jazz Orchestra** will be bringing their authentic 'big-band' sound back to the same venue on Friday 18 July.

Last year's **Street Celebration** was one of the highlights of SAF 2013, so expect even more incredible live music, dance and street performance at three locations in and around Sydenham Road, plus global food stalls and a few surprises on Saturday 5 July. It will all be completely free!

Unsuspecting passengers on the 202 bus route will be able to dip into imaginary lives with **202 x 12 Theatre on the Bus** on Sunday 13 July. Six actors will play 12 characters each sharing an array of stories and monologues – some humorous, some moving and others surprising and bizarre.

Once again, art lovers and the curious will be able to view the work of dozens of hugely talented artists from across the area as they open their homes and studios to the public, showcasing the very best in visual arts in South East London. The **Artists Trail** will take place this year over two weekends: 12/13 July and 19/20 July.

Local film buffs will be sharing some fascinating films from around the world, and throughout the last 100 years of cinema, with **Screen Sydenham: A Century of Cinema**. A 'festival within a festival' this collaboration with Sydenham Film Club will feature seven film screenings plus an all-day film event for aspiring filmmakers at TNG Youth Centre.

Following folk singer Dick Gaughan's impressive sold-out gig last year, expect another quality evening of acoustic sounds and passionate singer-songwriters, on Friday 11 July, with **Ian Siegal's 21st Century Folk and Blues** with all-star support from the **The Carrivick Sisters**.

There will also be another chance for new playwrights to work with professionals and see their scripts performed in front of a paying audience, with Stage Write. Judy Upton will again be running the free workshop, and new writers will soon be invited to submit scripts for consideration.

A range of exciting events are also planned for SAF's youngest festival-goers and their families, including a family-friendly *Romeo & Juliet* (featuring cat & dog puppets) at the secluded, yet wild setting of Albion Millennium Green, on multiple days, to mark Shakespeare's 450th birthday celebrations.

SAF's closing event will be a completely free all-day extravaganza **Arts in the Park: Family Fun Day and Arts in the Park Extra** at Home Park on Sunday 20 July. Headlining will be **Glenn Tilbrook**, former frontman of British pop sensation Squeeze, which had hits around the globe in the 70s & 80s with his band the Fluffers. Other guests include award-winning singer/songwriters and Lovers Rock/Reggae stars **Carroll Thompson and Janet Kay**. A fun-packed afternoon of music, dance, drama, workshops and arts activities for families will be followed in the evening by an exciting line-up of some of SE London's hottest musical talent.

More volunteers are always needed. To secure the best roles contact our volunteers' manager Tom Herbert at volunteersmanager@sydenhamartsfestival.co.uk and to keep up to date with news and events visit the new look SAF website (full events list coming soon), Facebook page and follow us on Twitter. Look out for the brochure in libraries, pubs, restaurants and cafés.

STOP PRESS: AN URGENT APPEAL BY SYDENHAM ARTS FESTIVAL

To help ensure July's festival is the best one yet, please make a donation & become a Friend of SAF. For details please go to:

www.sydenhamartsfestival.co.uk

A new quarterly Sydenham Society pictorial quiz set by local historian, Steve Grindlay.

Do you know where this is?

The answer will appear in our Autumn Newsletter.



What's New in Kirkdale? Kirkdale Signage – pointing the way

SEE3, the high street regeneration initiative, has commissioned a local Sydenham business (Designed By Good People) to add some signage to Kirkdale to help build the local brand and increase footfall.

Designed By Good People worked with the local traders and local historian, Steve Grindlay, to rebrand this central area as Kirkdale High Street. Based on the Grade 2 listed imposing Gothic High Street Buildings, the aim is to make the branding bespoke to the high street area and refers to Kirkdale's original name, Sydenham High Street, as it was known in the 1820s.

The branding has been painted as traditional ghost sign



type murals, directly onto the end walls of businesses, something Kirkdale used to have in abundance in the past. The traders have been enthusiastic about this and it helps to build a sense of pride in the area. These end walls have also been painted and smartened up which has also made the area look tidier.

The piano shop has been rewarded for 40 years of service of trading in Kirkdale with a new hand-painted sign for their end wall on Halifax Street. The return wall of JH Skincare Clinic on the corner of Willow Way has also been given similar treatment

In addition to the Ghost Signs, the traders have some reverse graffiti stencils to help promote seasonal trading such as Christmas and Halloween. These stencils will be used to create temporary messages on the pavements that are both fun and informative.

The slightly unusual aspect of the signage used in Kirkdale has already got people excited and talking in a positive light. See link www.sydenham.org.uk/forum for various comments made.

SEE3 hopes this is a good sign of things to come and the beginning of a legacy for traders in Kirkdale.



Future of Kirkdale Planning Group

The Future of Kirkdale Planning Group (part of the SEE3 legacy) has more than 20 members interested in improving the area of Kirkdale. It is made up of representatives from the Forest Hill and Sydenham Societies, traders and local residents. Following the gathering last August at The Horniman Museum to celebrate the first anniversary of the Portas Pilot award, we have been working with architectural postgraduate students from Kingston University.

Over the past 6 months we have met on a number of occasions to discuss how the area defined as the Willow Way Triangle (Willow Way, Dartmouth Road and Kirkdale) could be developed to assist regeneration in this area. We would like to solve a number of unpleasant street problems including poor architecture, empty shops and a clutter of dustbins and recycling bins littering the pavements.

The key site we have identified is the Lewisham-owned former Neighbourhood Office on Willow Way. This is now a long-term redundant site and is likely to be used over the next few years as a decant site for children from Adamsrill School, while the Nursery and Reception classes are rebuilt on the Lower Sydenham site to provide an extra class at entry levels. This site is currently designated for future Industrial and Employment use.

Discussions with local residents and traders have identified a shortage of other local infrastructure thought to be necessary for the regeneration of this area. This includes a Doctors Surgery (there are currently none within Forest Hill ward), educational needs and residential units. After several



workshops we believe that, to a large extent, all could be accommodated within this site as part of a new urban zone which would also offer new public amenity space.

We are therefore in the process of working up a formal submission to Lewisham Council for a change of designation of this site to Mixed Use, which we hope will be given serious consideration by Lewisham Policy Planning Officers when the formal review of Lewisham's Strategic Development sites takes place over the next twelve months.

Our ideas have been discussed with members of the Planning team and with a Policy officer, and have been received sympathetically. A formal submission will be made, after further workshop/s have taken place to gauge local responses to these ideas in the early summer.

As we go to press there appear to be new businesses about to invest in this area – more about these in the Autumn News.

Pat Trembath

What's New in Sydenham Road?

Taking an overall look at Sydenham Road it is not difficult to see the positive changes happening along the length of the main area of the high street.

We now have wider pavements, the trees are in leaf, a lot of street clutter has been removed, smart new 'way-finders' have appeared and few shops are unlet. Building has begun at 278-280 Kirkdale on Sydenham railway bridge (see page 7), which will bring a new wine bar at street level. 22a-24 Sydenham Road (the old Nickells site) has changed hands and the owners are in discussion with Lewisham planners about what can be brought forward on this site and an application is due to be submitted shortly. A new Bistro will shortly open at 23 Sydenham Road and a new deli counter has arrived at Billings as a result of customer demand.

Paving in Station Approach is complete and improvements now reach down to Kent House Road, where there are more trees and the waste collection arrangements have changed. This has enhanced the

environment in this area. In the coming year there is funding for further pavement work which will continue towards Bell Green as far as Highclere Street. Eventually this should be continued along the final stretch of Sydenham Road.

Two major promises have yet to materialise. New toilets in Station Approach, which were due to be installed a year ago, are still on hold while negotiations for permission to demolish the existing block continue between Network Rail and Lewisham. Also outstanding is the need for the traffic lights to be linked allowing vehicles to travel at 20 mph along the length of the road without the constant stop/start and long queues currently experienced. When the lights have been synchronised the pedestrian crossing countdown system will also begin to operate.

On the Hoof

On the Hoof owners Ela and Jeremy Mundy have chosen Sydenham Road as the destination for their new, most ambitious project yet – On the Hoof Bistro, which will open later this summer.

While their ventures to date were all based on coffee and light snacks, the new Bistro will focus on food and wine. The pair set up the first quality coffee shop thirteen years ago at Forest Hill station. As the business grew, the entrepreneurs started to think about opening something bigger and have been looking for new premises for quite some time. Sydenham Road was the obvious choice and the couple, local residents, set their eyes on No 23 – formerly Jay Opticians.

"As soon as we viewed the shop, we fell in love with it and we knew that it was The One. With its prime location, high ceilings, large basement and a courtyard, the building seemed to be perfect for what we were planning to do", says Ela. "What was on our minds was to create a space where local residents can come to unwind, have a cup of coffee, a glass of wine and a bite to eat throughout a day. A place to think of as one tries to escape the daily stresses of life, just a comfortable and casual place to relax, eat and drink, meet your friends or to read a book, all in one."

Open from 9am to 9pm OTH Bistro will offer quality, wholesome, simple, homemade food and interesting wines & beers. With his postgraduate chef experience in the heart of France, Jeremy is designing the adult menu. While the couple's three sons Adam 11, Bruno 9 and Zack 8 oversee the choices for juniors – all cooked on the premises from scratch and based on natural and fresh ingredients.

While waiting for change of use to A3 (now approved), Ela and Jeremy have been lovingly restoring the shop interior bringing it back to its former glory, uncovering old Victorian floors, tiles and wall panelling and preserving its original period paints and colours. Keeping vintage style, the Bistro will be furnished with reclaimed and upcycled materials, many of them

sourced from Sydenham Architectural Salvage. The basement is being transformed into a wine cellar with hundreds of bottles of fine wines on display to choose from. All is being achieved with the help of local professionals and friends, most of them On the Hoof regular customers.

"We have been very lucky and privileged with the help offered by so many wonderful people and we would like to thank them all. Lee Newham for the signage, Gaba & Pawel of The Montage supervising the interior design & furniture sourcing, and many more who all can't wait for the Bistro to be open. We hope all Sydenham residents will find something for themselves in this new addition to the high street," says Ela.



Sydenham Literary Piazza at Home Park

This autumn a new piazza will be built next to the Sydenham Community Library in Home Park. Gill Wynne-Williams reports on progress so far.

The project to enhance the space between the library and Home Park has been conceived and championed by The Friends of Sydenham Community Library and The Friends of Home Park. Spanning two wards (the Sydenham Community Library is in Sydenham Ward and Home Park is in Bellingham Ward) the project has received funding from The Mayor of London's pocket parks initiative and from the London Borough of Lewisham.



Photo courtesy of Joyce Treasure

Plans for the piazza have been designed by Wynne-Williams Associates, Landscape Architects. Following a public consultation in March 2014, the scheme has been updated and approved by the funders. Detailed designs are underway and the works will start in the park in September 2014. Some fences have already been removed outside the library to open up the views into the park.

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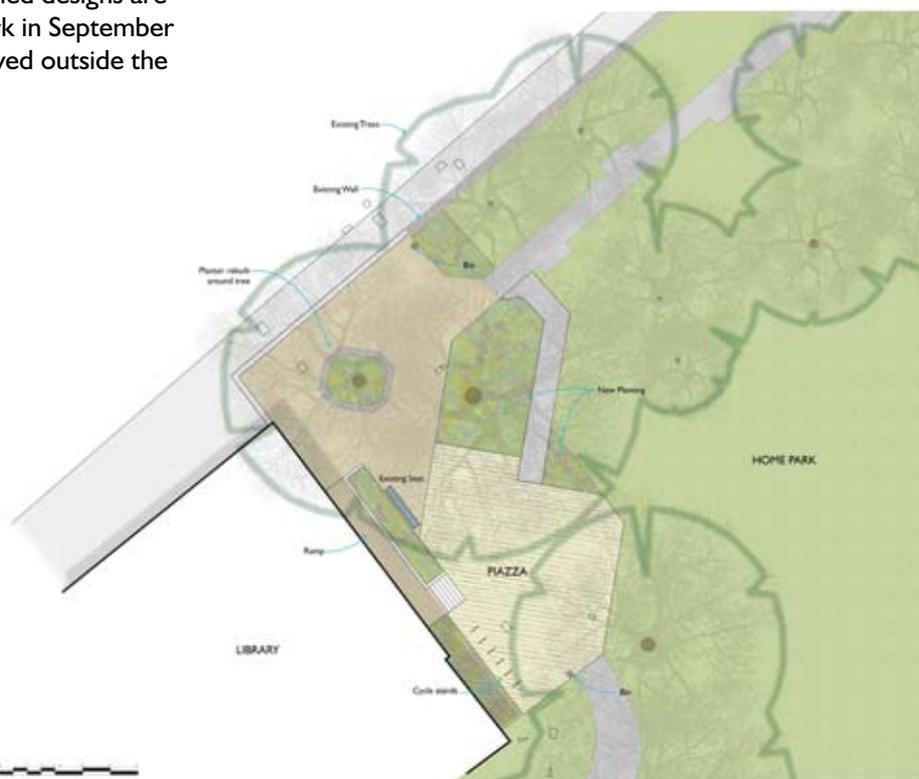
The piazza will consist of a new paved area opening onto the park and onto the street. It will provide a venue for events for both the Sydenham Community Library and Home Park and will create a welcoming new entrance into the park with seating and planting.



By removing the wall in front of the piazza, access into the park will be improved. This view (from Sydenham Road) shows how the piazza will look when it is finished. New paving and planting link the road, library and park together, and views into the park will be improved by the more open entrance space.

The project team is now seeking additional funds for the piazza to finance some of the proposed work and additional items. These include more seating, signage, artworks, outdoor power points for events and sun umbrellas. All ideas for financing these items are welcome.

If you would like to be involved in the project, please contact Martin Hyde at martin.hyde@lewisham.gov.uk or Gill Wynne-Williams at gill.wynne-williams@w-wa.co.uk.



Literary Piazza – where do we go from here?

The stakeholder group is meeting regularly and includes Gill Wynne-Williams, Martin Hyde of Lewisham Greenscene, Chris Thompson of Glendales, Councillors from both Sydenham and Bellingham wards, Friends of Home Park, Friends of Sydenham Community Library and representatives of the Sydenham Society. They would welcome suggestions and offers of help, either with fundraising or by donations of plants and materials. If you would like to name a seat after a friend or an organisation and can offer to fund it, please let us know.

We would like the piazza to be attractive and welcoming, and also to clearly link the park with the library. For example, we would like a decorated story chair for outdoor readings – for which the library would supply the books. The planter round the plane tree will be rebuilt using gabions (metal mesh boxes full of stones), with the advantage of re-using construction materials, reducing the amount sent to landfill and giving the planter some flexibility to deal with tree roots. The gabions will be topped with hardwood providing a seat around the tree. The border of the seat could be carved with words or pictures. Hardwood or ceramic books could be inserted into the design of this or some of the other seating. Names of authors, books or characters could be carved into the stonework of the paving.

Ideally the piazza would be provided with lighting and a power supply for market stalls or a Christmas tree. There is heavy shade and Skansa's new lights are on the other side of the road at this point. One of the elegant pillar lights as installed in Sydenham Road squares would be ideal here, but is currently unaffordable.

The funding already given by the London Mayor's Pocket Parks Fund, and generously matched by Lewisham, is just enough for the basic design to be executed. We are now seeking funding from a variety of sources for all the items mentioned above.

We are also looking for appropriate shade tolerant perennial plants, so if your garden is bursting at the seams please contact Ilse Towler on ilsetowler42@gmail.com or 020 8778 3743 or leave a message at the library.

Ilse Towler

'Next' comes to Bell Green Retail Park

Fashion retailers Next have opened a new megastore in a Sydenham retail park.

At more than 12,000sq ft, the Bell Green store is kitted out with the latest men's, women's and children's fashion, plus an extensive home department. Although initial plans were to open a home-only store, it was later decided to bring the high street retailer's whole range. Until now, the nearest large Next store has been in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, more than 40 miles away.

Store manager Dino Winsborrow says: 'We've recruited 32 new people, most of whom are from the Lewisham borough. Sydenham is an area we have looked into for some time and when this opportunity for a new development presented itself we just had to snap it up.' The store, which also has a Costa coffee shop, opened on 8 May.

A new landmark building for Sydenham Road

Building work has begun at 278-280 Kirkdale, adjacent to Sydenham DIY, near Cobbs Corner. 278-280 Kirkdale was formerly adjacent to Sydenham Station's entrance to platform 1 and the booking hall, which became redundant and was demolished in 1982.

Bought by a pub company, planning permission was agreed in 2007 for a distinctive, futuristic block of one-bed flats with an A3/A4 restaurant/pub unit at street level. For various reasons the site was not developed and subsequently changed hands several times, with planning permission renewed in 2010.

The current owners, Tranquil Homes, bought the site earlier last year and have obtained permission to demolish the empty retail units and agreement to vary the original plans.

The timescale has slipped a bit and the basement was dug out at the end of April, a couple of months behind schedule. Aware of the issue of the confines of the site due to the narrow road over the railway bridge, and having prepared the site, Tranquil Homes plan to build the units off-site and crane these in. When the basement and ground floor are complete the remainder of the timber frame building (coming from Wales) will be up a couple of months later.

It is hoped the seven finished apartments will be ready for occupation during the summer with a wine bar at street level in full swing a few weeks later.

Forest Hill Street Piano

Forest Hill Station now has a street piano, located in the cycle shelter near **On the Hoof** coffee stand. The piano can be played by anybody, at any time, and we encourage you to stop by for a minute for a quick tinkle of the ivories or for a full scale knees-up round the old Joanna.



Proposal to Rebuild the Crystal Palace

Eight months on, many questions remain unanswered

Last October at a televised Press Conference held in Crystal Palace Park the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, and the Leader of Bromley Council, Cllr Stephen Carr, introduced Mr Ni, Chair of the ZongRong Group (ZRG) as the developer who wished to recreate the Crystal Palace and restore the park to its former glory. It was also announced that Arup Engineering would be working with ZRG as consultants.

The timescale for the permission for redevelopment seemed to many to be extraordinarily short for such a large scale building, especially as it would involve amending a Parliamentary Act which limits the size of any permitted development on the top site and is planned on designated Metropolitan Open Land in a Grade 2 listed park. It was stated that the planning application would be submitted in late 2014 and permission sought by early 2015 with the rebuilt Crystal Palace opened by 2018. In late October Mr Ni assured everyone that “a programme of community engagement will be starting later this autumn”.

A programme of community consultation run by Arup began in early December. The first consultation session was criticised for poor publicity, using a small café as a venue and lack of online availability for completion of questionnaires. Two further consultations were held in February and March and complaints about the process resulted in its suspension until there were firm proposals about what would be contained in the brief given to the three shortlisted firms of internationally renowned architects. Originally due to be published on 23 April this will not now be available until late June. What is clear is that no internationally renowned architect is going to replicate the original Crystal Palace. A very modern concept, nodding its head to the original, is far more likely.

The following information has been extracted from a series of questions posed by Val Shawcross, GLA member for Lambeth and Southwark, with responses from Arup, ZRG's consultants. See the full text at www.valshawcross.com

Arup state that approximately half of the new Palace will comprise a new public visitor attraction; this might include an art gallery, museum, exhibition space, a viewing platform or another type of visitor attraction. Additionally the Palace will contain a mixture of other uses including boutiques, conference facilities and a hotel. The Palace will not include housing, a casino or a shopping centre.

The current proposals do not include a venue for significant/large events such as music concerts. Arup say that some residents have suggested that the Palace would benefit from an indoor space for performing arts (music, dance, theatre) and this is something Arup is willing to explore as the scheme develops. Any events would be subject to planning and licensing conditions in the usual way.

With regard to the effect on the local economy Arup agree that one of the fundamental principles for the new Palace, established from an early stage, is that it must support the existing local economy and local businesses. The proposal could provide significant benefits for the local economy through the creation of jobs, increase in number of visitors to the local area and the potential for inward investment. Arup states that as they develop a more detailed understanding of the mix of uses and begin to



understand the potential opportunities and impacts, they will share this information with the local business community and wider public as part of the engagement process.

Arup acknowledges that it will be important to ensure that the increased activity generated by the Palace does not place unsustainable pressures on the transport network (both local road and public transport). The proposal will be developed to consider and address any potential transport impacts from the very beginning. More detailed analysis of the potential impact on local traffic flows and public transport infrastructure will follow as the mix of uses is developed. They understand that transport impact is a key concern of the local community and as such they intend to share the emerging analysis as soon as possible.

Further down the line the planning application will include a full transport assessment setting out the results of the analysis and any mitigation measures which might be required. This will be made publicly available through the statutory consultation process.

Other questions about the proposals asked by Val Shawcross remain unanswered and Arup say that it is for Bromley and the Greater London Authority (GLA) to respond to and these include matters of process and the need for reassurance:

Process

Have any other organisations expressed interest in developing Crystal Palace Park during the last five years?

How is Bromley Council able to lease a large part of a public park to a private business without being subject to a formal tender process?

Why do Bromley and the Mayor of London think it is appropriate to seek to amend the 1990 Crystal Palace Park Act with regard to development on the park before having any firm proposals for the site in question? What form will these amendments take?

How does the proposed rebuild of the Crystal Palace fit in with the currently agreed Masterplan for the Park?

What are the exceptional circumstances which will be used to justify this development taking place on Metropolitan Open Land?

The Local Government Act has particular rules governing how local authorities may dispose of their assets. Can Bromley Council demonstrate how the proposed disposal of a large part of Crystal Palace Park adheres to these rules?

Why does the current consultation on the Bromley Local Development Framework not mention the plans for Crystal Palace Park?

In the context of which planning policy is this project being assessed/measured?

Reassurance

Will Bromley undertake that a lease for the land will not be granted until a planning consent has been granted for the site?
 Will Bromley ensure that sub-leasing the land or selling on of any lease will be made impossible under the terms of any lease signed on Crystal Palace Park or part thereof?
 Will Bromley ensure that the lease contains limits on the activities which can be carried out at the site and prevents any future change of use of any development of the site?

The Future of Crystal Palace Park

The timescale announced on 3 October last year has quite clearly slipped and this is being quietly acknowledged in private conversations with officers at the GLA as well as with Bromley and Arup. Although Arup says it will be carrying out further community consultation, a local community group has decided that they will carry out their own series of debates to fill the vacuum and to gauge local residents' feelings about the ZRG proposals.

The Information Project

A Series of Debates:

1. What is Culture in the 21st Century?

With proposals to redevelop Crystal Palace Park, a group of local residents in the Upper Norwood area have started The Information Project to publicise the possibilities for the park and to help create a critical, intellectual debate about the identity of community, place, culture and design for the twenty-first century.

The group is organising a programme of debates featuring high profile architects, developers, planners, politicians and London-based broadcasters, thinkers and writers. There are also plans to include local residents in a "visioning" exercise.

Noreen Meehan, Chair of the Crystal Palace Overground Festival, and one of the project organisers said: "Crystal Palace is an extraordinary place to live, with myriad aspects to its cultural heritage. The park has been the scene for many of these activities. The debates and events we are organising will draw thinkers and experts into a conversation about what the future should be for this enigmatic and beloved space and what culture actually means during our lifetime." Local architects Dagmar and Christopher Binsted are co-curators of the debates – both are members of RIBA and the South London Architects Society.

The next debate is scheduled for 21 June.



Friends of the Subway

Who are The Friends of Crystal Palace Subway?

We are a group of local (and not so local) residents who would like to see this wonderful space reopened so that it can be enjoyed by the public again. We are currently working with Southwark and Bromley local authorities to increase public access to the space.

Frequently asked questions:

When can I visit the subway?

Currently there is no general public access to the subway. If you would like to visit, please sign up for our e-newsletter so we can keep you informed of future events. The subway will be open as part of Open House London on 20-21 September 2014, you can find full details at www.londonopenhouse.org. This will coincide with an exhibition by our Inspired By The Subway project.

Why is all our publicity online?

At present we are a small voluntary organisation with limited

funding so a website, Facebook and Twitter are within our means, but we are looking at ways of making our information more widely available. The Sydenham Society Newsletter is often a good place to look for updates; in addition check out our website at www.cpsubway.org.uk or email info@cpsubway.org.uk

What is the Inspired By The Subway project?

Inspired By The Subway is a project supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund to research, record and share the history of the Crystal Palace subway. Volunteers are trained in research and oral history skills to enable them to gather information and record the memories of local people. If you have memories of the subway in previous years or photographs or information that you would like to share then volunteers at Inspired By The Subway would love to hear from you. Please visit the website www.inspiredbythesubway.org.uk or email inspired@cpsubway.org.uk

Sydenham Society Member Profiles: Sue Grindlay looks back

The last Newsletter's Member Profile was the last in the series and I have looked back at the list of people chosen for this dubious accolade over the last five years. Some were suggested, most I approached directly, and just a couple declined on grounds of modesty. The first, in February 2009, was our one time President, Ruth Locke, who sadly died in 2012. I was flattered that Pat Trembath decided to use her profile as the basis of her eulogy at Ruth's funeral service.

When I began, I decided to write about the people that I considered were making a difference in our area and what a lot of enthusiasm, talent and creativity there is in Sydenham! Of course there are others and I apologise unreservedly for the ones I have left out. Your contribution to the life of Sydenham is not unnoticed. The ones I did choose surprised me often by their skill, dedication and importantly, their absolute loyalty to Sydenham. All were given the right of veto on the final draft, most choosing to let it go as written with only minor adjustments.

There have been eight men and twelve women. Most, but not all, are in the older age range and this is probably to be expected. Younger people are naturally preoccupied with careers and raising children, and it is only in retirement that many of us even think about giving something back to our community. Only one has moved away: Emma Tarling

moved to Exmouth in Devon (my favourite place) where she is involved with the publicity for the Lifeboats. Others are still going strong in Sydenham and carrying on doing what they do best. Here is my Roll of Honour in chronological order:

Tel: 020 8699 6398 / sue.grindlay@gmail.com

Ruth Locke	Spring 2009	Roger Feather	Winter 2011
Emma Tarling	Summer 2009	Joan Alcock	Spring 2012
Tim Walder	Autumn 2009	Cecily Foulger	Summer 2012
Barbara Downing	Winter 2009	Mary McKernan	Autumn 2012
Steve Grindlay	Spring 2010	Angela Hall	Winter 2012
Pat Trembath	Summer 2010	Doris Pullen	Spring 2013
Barry Milton	Autumn 2010	Lee Newham	Summer 2013
Anthony Scully	Spring 2011	Eileen Taylor	Autumn 2013
Iris Humphries	Summer 2011	Jonathan Kaufman	Winter 2013
Garth Davidson	Autumn 2011	Annabel McLaren	Spring 2014

If anyone would like a copy of the text of one of these profiles, please let me know.

[Ed: I'm sure I speak for all our members when I say this has been a fascinating series of articles and on most occasions I was not aware of who was the chosen one for the latest edition until the article arrived in my inbox as the deadline approached. Thank you so much, Sue – a lovely idea]

Visit any National Trust and English Heritage property free as a Sydenham Society member

Sydenham Society members continue to enjoy free entry to both a National Trust and an English Heritage property thanks to our membership of Civic Voice. This offer includes you and your partner. If you are already a member of the National Trust you can pass this offer to friends and family.

The details are as follows:

National Trust: free NT passes will be available at all Society events (public meetings, trips and our regular quiz night at the Golden Lion) and at the Sydenham Society stall at the monthly SEE3 artisan market (now on the second Saturday of the month). Alternatively, you can have the passes posted to you by emailing Chair@sydenhamsociety.com or by phoning **020 8778 6914**.

English Heritage free day passes are available to download at: www.english-heritage.org.uk/content/imported-docs/p-t/single-admission-pass-2014.pdf

This pass is transferable and can be given to friends or family if you are already members of English Heritage.

If you and your partner are both members of the Sydenham Society, just apply for two passes using the instructions above.



Eltham Palace

Places to go where you can use your free vouchers (prices shown are for single adult entry)

NATIONAL TRUST

Ham House and Garden £10
Ham Street, Ham, Richmond
TW10 7RS

Osterley Park and House £9.25
Jersey Road, Isleworth, Middlesex
TW7 4RB

2 Willow Road, Hampstead £6
Hampstead NW3 1TH

Fenton House, Hampstead £6.50
Hampstead Grove NW3 6SP

Carlyle's House, Chelsea £5.10
24 Cheyne Row SW3 5HL

Sutton House, Hackney £3.50
2 & 4 Homerton High Street,
Hackney E9 6JQ

575 Wandsworth Road £6
Lambeth SW8 3JD

Red House
(Home of William Morris) £7.20
Red House Lane, Bexleyheath
DA6 8JF

ENGLISH HERITAGE

Ranger's House
The Wernher Collection £6.90
Chesterfield Walk, Blackheath SE10 8QX

Eltham Palace and Gardens £10.20
Court Yard, Eltham, Greenwich SE9 5QE

Jewel Tower £4.00
Abingdon Street, Westminster SW1P 3JX

Wellington Arch £4.20
Apsley Way, Hyde Park Corner W1J 7JZ

Apsley House £6.90
149 Piccadilly, Hyde Park Corner W1J 7NT

Down House, Home of Charles Darwin
£10.30 Luted Road, Downe, Kent BR6 7JT

Lullingstone Roman Villa £6.40
Lullingstone Lane, Eynsford, Kent DA4 0JA

Marble Hill House £5.90
Richmond Road, Twickenham,
London TW1 2NL

Chiswick House and Gardens £6.10
Burlington Lane, Chiswick W4 2RP

Update on V22 at Louise House

Reshma Gumani, Programme Director of V22, looks back on the refurbishment of Louise House in time for this summer's Sydenham Arts Festival

We are pleased to report that all essential works needed to get the main building up and running for studios are complete and all 15 studios are now occupied. The majority of artists are local and moved in during March. Those new to the area have expressed how nice and welcoming the local community has been. Now that essential works are complete we are able to focus on the Laundry building at the rear and improve the building's external appearance and general state of repair. This requires structural and electrical works; these, along with designs and works for developing the gardens, will need planning and conservation consent. It is likely to be a lengthy process, but we are keen to get this started.

Our plan is to open the rear building as a future exhibitions and community space. It is very exciting to have already received enquiries about possible future uses ranging from fashion workshops to children's educational events. We are still in our research and development phase and trying to meet as many people as we can in order to get a better idea of how the community space can be used most effectively, for as many people as possible.

We are delighted to announce two open-day events as part of the Sydenham Arts Festival's Artists Trail: Morning Tea on Sunday 6 July and Evening Drinks on Saturday 19 July. This will be an opportunity to invite everyone to see the building. We also hope to meet those interested in using the old Laundry building for independent projects and discuss ways in which Louise House can be used in the future as part of the local community and beyond. We hope you are able to join us and we look forward to meeting new faces as well as inviting friends from the V22 network over to Louise House.

Earlier this year we were given notice to leave our largest studio building housing over 300 artists in Bermondsey. An all too common scenario – artists being pushed out by developers – we have spent the past few months moving into several new buildings. This relocation has highlighted how important long-term leases are in supporting artists and the wider art ecology and we are delighted to be able to offer artists a secure place of work, free from threat of development, here at Louise House.

Although it is still early days, we look forward to the next few years of developing the building and working with the local community to build something really special for the future.

Horniman Museum and Gardens

Art exhibition, 14-15 June

There's an abundance of fun for all the family at the Horniman Museum and Gardens this summer, including our **Edwardian inspired programme, Chelsea Fringe events and the arrival of The Great Animal Orchestra.**

New for 2014, the Horniman presents **Learn Create Explore**, a programme of courses for adults inspired by our global collections, with creative workshops on Tuesday evenings and music, dance and theatre workshops on Saturday afternoons. **Behind The Scenes at the Horniman** is a new series of monthly talks and tours after hours for adults. On Thursday 5 June visitors can gain an insight into the work of our Conservation Department. Details of other talks in the service will be available on our website.

As part of the **Chelsea Fringe Festival**, British electronic collective Metamono presents a night of music and short films inspired by nature on Friday 6 June in **Secrets of Nature – Sounds Unseen with Metamono**. And on Sunday 8 June enjoy guerrilla gardening workshops, music on the Bandstand, garden comedy, vegetable instrument making workshops, tours with our Head of Horticulture and more at our **Gardens Festival**.

The following weekend the Friends of the Horniman host their annual **Art Exhibition** in the Conservatory, featuring paintings, prints and sculptures from South London's thriving artist community.

July sees the arrival of **The Great Animal Orchestra** at the Horniman, a unique sound installation exploring nature's music. Created by Bernie Krause from rare

recordings of natural habitats, the installation launches on 27 July with a day of live music and activities inspired by the animal world.



The Horniman's **Summer Festival** takes an Edwardian theme this year with music, film, dance and activities inspired by this age of optimism prior to the devastation of World War I. The season begins on 12 July with the **Horniman's Curious Tea Party**, a weekend of Edwardian-inspired entertainment with a contemporary twist, in partnership with Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance. There's also an evening of entertainment for adults at our **Edwardian Late** on 7 August, and midweek **Big Wednesdays** afternoon events for families and play schemes.

Our **Gardens** host **outdoor film screenings, evening jazz concerts and Sunday Bandstand concerts** throughout August and the popular **Horniman Farmers' Market** every Saturday. We hope that visitors will also enjoy our new look **Cafe** and dining al fresco on our new **Cafe terrace** with its extra seating and food kiosk.

Further information on events and activities throughout the summer can be found at www.horniman.ac.uk

Sydenham Wells Park news

The new improved tennis courts are proving to be a success and are being used by many local residents, including young families and some really good players. The courts have just had their final coat of paint so they look extremely smart indeed. The water-play area which has been troublesome during last summer is being serviced and hopefully will provide uninterrupted enjoyment for the young people throughout the summer.

The nature reserve is looking good with lots of birds and wildlife and the Christmas tree chippings that Lewisham have put down (and been praised for in the newspapers).

A decision has been taken that the toilets in Wells Park will be open seven days a week during the summer months. This will be compensated for by a reduction in opening hours during the winter.

Three Parks Walk on Sunday 8 June.

Meet in Wells Park at 10.30am by the Wells Park Road entrance (centre double gates). We will head into Mayow Park and down to Home Park for the Big Lunch. Please bring a

packed lunch and wear comfortable shoes.

The next Sydenham Wells Park Improvement Group (SWPIG) meetings are on **Tuesday 9 September and Tuesday 11 November** at 4.30pm in the maintenance hut by the Wells Park Road entrance.

Monika Mitchell, Chair, SWPIG (Sydenham Wells Park Improvement Group)



Mayow Park: cafe, cricket, canines, community

Lots of good things are happening in Mayow Park. Before the summer holidays we will at last have a café, to be run by the team behind Brown and Green café at Crystal Palace station. This is thanks to LB Lewisham finding the money to repair the pavilion and getting Thames Water to replace an old sewer.

The work on this devastated the adjoining, always-open, part of Grow Mayow temporarily, and the garden is now being rebuilt, with thanks to members of the two local cricket teams, who helped with much of the heavy lifting. So we're looking forward to enjoying coffee, cakes and some lovely planting, troubled only by the need to get the paths in the de Frene Road corner of the park repaired.

The nature reserve is looking good with lots of birds and wildlife. The Friends of Mayow Park (FOMP) welcome the involvement of new representatives for sports users, families and dog walkers. Our cricketers are already having an impact, and have also helped bring in significant funding. Sadly, our Bowls Club has folded, so new uses are being sought for the Bowls Green. Lewisham Greenscene will be consulting widely and carefully on this, and FOMP will be a focus for community views.

With the support from FOMP, our dog walkers are introducing a scheme to encourage responsible friendly dogs in the park, whereby

owners of known sociable dogs will be offered a distinctive ribbon for their dogs to wear. It's adapted from a scheme which works in other parks, and will mean owners knowing that their dogs will be safe and that Mayow Park is home to a responsible community of dog owners.

There is still much to do in our park, such as the repair of paths and the tennis courts, for which further funding will be needed. We also need to balance the sometimes conflicting demands of those for whom the park should be a place of peace and quiet with those who want to run about, perhaps kicking a football and getting excited about it. Please join us, via our Facebook page, or by emailing friendsofmayowpark@ymail.com, and find out about other FOMP and Mayow Park events.



Spring into action in Albion Millennium Green

This former tennis courts site spread over 1.7 acres has developed into a small urban woodland with mown grass areas and a small pond. The trees in the community orchard which began life on the Green in 2010 are thriving, although there were some early casualties.

The fruit trees donated from the 2013 Edible High Road event and planted on Orchard Day in October have blossomed and are growing well. Some of the 500 bluebells planted in March have flowered so we should be on track for a mini bluebell wood next year. We still have hard work ahead of us to clear the broken chainlink fencing and parts which have become overlaid with plant growth and accumulated rubbish in order to open up currently inaccessible areas of the Green. This will also allow the creation of new habitat areas and development of a natural play feature from a large felled horse chestnut trunk. We will continue reducing the spread of bramble and unwanted sycamore and ash seedlings, as well as renovating an overgrown privet hedge.

The path between the railway bridge and Forest Hill station needs lots of improvement. A touch of guerrilla gardening here and there wouldn't go amiss, and we have asked the Council to step up rubbish clearance. Holy Trinity and Eliot Bank primary schools have already held events on the Green this year, and further activities are being planned.

Dates for your diary:

14 June 10.30am – 1pm: workday and Capital Clean-Up
 7-10 July and 12-13 July: Sydenham Arts Festival: River Productions bring their new family version of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, performed with dog and cat puppets
 12 July 10.30am – 1pm: workday and Capital Clean-Up
 9 August 10.30am – 1pm: workday and Capital Clean-Up
 13 September 10.30am – 1pm: workday and Capital Clean-Up

Astroturf Outrage – Selina Spider's Column

Once again, spiders are suffering at the hands of humans. The owners of the adjoining garden had theirs covered in Astroturf yesterday, causing several spiders to seek refuge in my garden. As the Senior Spider, I offered them hospitality and First Aid. They told me that other spiders will have perished, as shrubs were hacked apart and ancestral webs destroyed.

Those arriving at the rapidly-established First Aid Web in my garden were traumatised, some arrived missing limbs. Guttrail the Wise told me, "It's total carnage in there. The new generation will be completely wiped out. Only we older spiders know the old routes to safety. Humans have a lot to answer for!"

The final refugees arrived in a very bad state last night. Some bolder spiders had tried to resist the humans, but to no avail. "They just brushed us aside," I was told by one spider in the First Aid Web. "And our webs were torn down, our old homes, where will we go?" she sobbed as I dressed her wounds.

I reassured her that all refugees were welcome in my garden, although some resident spiders have already begun to murmur about lack of space. I silenced these comments by reminding them that as spiders, it is our duty to look out for each other, and at times of crisis we must act together. In this case, we must live slightly closer together.

As well as spiders, worms suffered in this attack. Woagawuga the Worm told me that a steady stream of worms is slowly making its way through the soil into neighbouring gardens.

Woodlice are also on the march, providing a militant voice where other species are still too weak to speak out.

"Humans must go!" I heard hundreds of marching woodlice chanting as they pioneered their own search for new homes. "Who speaks for us?" they asked bitterly. No answer resounded from the new garden, deserted even by those arch-predators, the birds.

Ceinwen Sanderson

Dacres Wood Nature Reserve

Dacres Wood Nature Reserve is again opening up every last Saturday between April and October this year, giving Sydenham residents the opportunity to see one of the last remaining stretches of the old Croydon Canal. LB Lewisham manages the wood and recently opened up the view when they removed some large willows, which were causing problems with flooding.

The recently formed Friends of Dacres Wood are planning a series of special events on these open days, starting with a Teddy Bears' picnic on 31 May. For details of this and following events, visit our website: dacreswood.org.uk or subscribe to the Sydenham Society eNewsletter.

Tim Lund



Interview with a young local author

Clare Ritchie is a 14-year-old local schoolgirl who has accomplished the very rare feat of becoming a published author. The Sydenham Society Newsletter interviewed Clare and asked her about the experience and how Sydenham and its surroundings have influenced the writing of her book *Timeless*.



Tell us a little about yourself.

I'm quite outdoorsy! I run for my school. I like doing active things like hiking, walking and camping. I also play four musical instruments including the violin, the piano, the treble recorder and the guitar. I love reading but writing is my favourite thing to do. I write for the Guardian's young journalism section although I prefer creative writing.

Have you always lived in Sydenham?

Not always Sydenham, but always the local area. My family has lived in Honor Oak Park, Forest Hill and, for the past three years, Sydenham.

Where did you get your inspiration?

I got inspiration for *Timeless* by sitting in Mayow Park and Home Park behind Sydenham Library. The library's architecture of stone walls and barred windows seemed so isolated and cut off, which was the atmosphere I wanted for the house in the modern-day portion of the book.

Do you have any advice for other aspiring young authors?

I know it's a cliché, but you have to believe in your own writing. If you're creating something and you enjoy it, just keep going. When I was writing this novel I didn't think anyone would like it because a dark story written by a 12-year-old isn't usually the type of thing readers jump for, but my mother encouraged me to at least try, and now I've been published.

How do you feel now you've been published?

I've wanted to be a novelist since I was seven, when I would write animal stories which my sister would illustrate, so seeing my book on Amazon made me really happy!

Are you, or do you know, a young person who would like to be published?

We are running a competition for under 18 year olds to submit a review of Clare's book: *Timeless*. Order your copy now from Kirkdale Bookshop or Amazon. Please send your review of around 350 words to news@sydenhamsociety.com by 1 August 2014. The winning review will be published in the autumn edition of this newsletter.



Kate Mallinder

Open Gardens on Tewkesbury Lodge Estate

Saturday 31 May, 5–8pm, Sunday 1 June, 2–6pm.

Four very different hillside gardens, within a short walk of each other, with spectacular views over London and the North Downs. Discover a sculptor's creative courtyard 'container' garden crammed with unusual plants, or a small south-east facing garden with borders rich in colour within formal outlines together with a mini meadow and a tranquil vegetable garden and a greenhouse/compost area. The front garden of another, inspired by Beth Chatto's dry garden, has stunning borders in soft mauves, yellows and white, interspersed with drifts of red and purple poppies. Finally, a hilltop country garden in two sections, informal flower borders under mature trees and raised vegetable beds, a fruit cage, greenhouse, chickens, and wildlife areas to encourage interest and diversity.

- Tewkesbury Lodge Estate is situated behind the Horniman Museum. Short walk from Forest Hill station and bus routes.
- Combined admission – £7, which goes to cancer and caring charities. Children free.
- Tickets and information available from Hilltop 28, Horniman Drive, SE23 3BP.



- Refreshments available, tea and home made cakes on Sunday.
- Plant sales on both days at 27 Horniman Drive.
- Sorry, no wheelchair access. No dogs except guide dogs.

Sydenham Film Club summer screenings

Golden Lion Pub, 116 Sydenham Road. £5 on the door

Sydenham's summer is set to sizzle with a packed programme of screenings from your local film club. Alongside the regular monthly screenings at the Golden Lion on the last Thursday of each month, there'll be six days of celluloid in July as part of the Sydenham Arts Festival.

Thursday 26 June

Dark Days (Marc Singer, UK/US 2001, 94mins)

This cinematic portrait of the homeless population living in the underground tunnels of New York is a documentary like you've never seen before. Filmed in part by the community it features, it is made with great intimacy and humour offering moving insight into the lives that led its stars to go underground.

Thursday 10-17 July

Sydenham Film Club @ Sydenham Arts Festival: Fragments of a Century of Cinema

Kicking off with a free screening of **All Quiet on the Western Front** at The Dietrich Bonhoeffer Church, the programme continues across the week with highlights from a century of cinema, including **Sunset Boulevard**, **Bergman's Hour of the Wolf** and a children's screening of **Lady and the Tramp** at Trattoria Raffaele. For full listings see Sydenham Arts Festival brochure. There is no screening in August, but the Film Club will return as normal to the Golden Lion on Thursday 25 September.

Want to come to all of these? Why not become a member!

You don't have to be a member to go to the film club, but members get free entry to all regular screenings plus an exclusive members' screening once a year. You also get a reduced rate for all screenings at the Festival. Find out more at www.sydenhamfilmclub.org/membership

www.sydenhamfilmclub.org

Facebook: [sydenhamfilmclub](https://www.facebook.com/sydenhamfilmclub) Twitter: [@sydfilmclub](https://twitter.com/sydfilmclub)

EVENTS

Wednesday 18 June – Sydenham Assembly, 7pm at The Sydenham Centre, Sydenham Road (next to the Post Office).

Thursday 26 June – Sydenham Society revisits Brighton for Club 26. Meet at Sydenham Station to buy tickets (2 for 1 deal or 4 for 2, if available). Lunch will be booked at a local restaurant in Brighton. Full details available nearer the time. Please let Jackie (020 8778 5455) or Pat (020 8659 4903) know if you are planning to come on this trip.

Sydenham Arts Festival 5-20 July

For full information of listings & events, go to sydenhamartsfestival.co.uk

Thursday 24 July – Club 26 visits Harbour 321, Kirkdale (on the railway bridge) for a Fish 'n' chip/Kebab supper in their upstairs restaurant at 7.30 pm. Soft drinks available but as the restaurant is not licensed to sell alcohol you are very welcome to bring your own.

Wednesday 17 September – Quiz Nite at the Golden Lion. Our guest Quiz Master on this occasion will be Eileen Taylor, successful contestant on Countdown and Tipping Point. Teams of 4-6 people are invited and scratch teams can be made up on the night. If you want to take part, contact Pat on 020 8659 4903 or Jackie on 020 8778 5455 to book a table.

Sydenham Community Library

The theme of this year's Summer Reading Challenge (for children aged from 5-11) is the **Mythical Maze**.

The following events are taking place on Thursdays in July and August from 3.30pm – 4.30pm. There is no need to book, just turn up.

- 17 and 24 July – make Sydenham's very own dragon
- 31 July – crafts, puzzles and mazes
- 7 August – mask-making workshop
- 21 August – create your own mythical comic strip
- 28 August – costume workshop

Free movies for the over 25s every Friday between 1.30 – 3.30 pm

The New Generation Centre, 111 Wells Park Road, SE26 6AD
 Movie of choice on a large screen. Enjoy a film, meet new people and enjoy tea and cake. For further information call 020 8699 1681.

Friends of the Horniman Art Exhibition 14-15 June 2014

In the Conservatory, Horniman Museum and Gardens, **Saturday 14 June 10am-5pm and Sunday 15 June 10am-4.30pm**. Admission free. See page 11 for more information on Horniman's summer programme.



Sydenham Film Club summer screenings

Golden Lion Pub, 116 Sydenham Road. Tickets £5 on the door. See page 14 for details.

Visit to Hampton Court Palace in September

A day out to Hampton Court is being considered, with the return to London by boat. For a group booking it would be necessary to have a minimum of 15 people prepared to commit to coming. Leaving Sydenham after 9.30 in the morning for those with Freedom passes this would cost around £20 per head (excluding food and drinks). Group entry to the Palace costs £12.06, and the return trip to London by boat (all travelling together), leaving at 3pm or 4pm and lasting about three hours, costs £7.50. It is obviously necessary to obtain expressions of interest in this trip before anything is booked. If you are interested, please contact Jackie on 020 8778 5455, or Pat on 020 8659 4903.



SYDENHAM SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Yearly cost of membership

Individual (includes partner)	£6.00 per annum
Senior Citizen (includes partner)	£5.00 per annum
Postal Member (includes partner)	£8.00/£7.00 per annum

Name _____

Address _____

Post code _____

Tel day _____ **Tel eve** _____

Email _____

Renewal is due in January. Postal members are those resident outside SE23 and SE26 postal areas. Subscriptions can be paid by cheque or Standing Order. Please make cheques payable to The Sydenham Society.

Bank details for The Sydenham Society STANDING ORDER

Name of your bank/building society _____

Address of your bank/building society _____

Account Number _____ Sort Code _____

Signed _____

Your Name (please print) _____

Please pay the Sydenham Society (Lloyds Bank plc, Sydenham Branch, Sort Code 30-98-42, Account no. 00524410) the sum of £8/£7/£6/£5 (please delete as appropriate) on 5 January each year until further notice. This replaces any Standing Order in favour of the 'Sydenham Society'.

Rabbits on Parade in Sydenham

There was not just one, but two fluffy bunnies out and about greeting visitors to the High Street this Easter. They met a host of excited children who were wearing their beautifully decorated Easter bonnets that they made at the free workshops, held in Here for Good over the two Saturdays running up to the main event: the Easter Egg Trail.

Sydenham Traders were as generous as ever, handing out mini eggs and other goodies to the youngsters proudly parading their bonnets in the High Street on the sunny Easter afternoon.



With face painting on offer as well, to add that extra special touch to the happy smiling faces. Whites Pet Care Centre held a Rabbit Care Awareness day to inform would be keepers of rabbits of



their special requirements: a large pen to roam in and a companion to prevent them from becoming lonely. A similar event took place in Sydenham Library with a pen of friendly rabbits happy to be petted. Many thanks to all the traders who took part in the Easter egg trail. And special thanks to the small (but perfectly formed) band of volunteers who worked hard to make these events a success.

Heather Mallinder

The New Generation (Award Winning) Youth Centre, Wells Park Road

The New Generation (TNG) is a new modern and unique youth venue located in Sydenham created and inspired by young people for young people.

In May 2008, the myplace fund was established to deliver world-class youth facilities across the country. Myplace provided a total of over £250m of capital investment for ambitious projects with individual grants of between £1–5m.

A steering group of key stakeholders was established with representation from young people, the voluntary and community sector and Lewisham Council. In December 2009, Lewisham Council was awarded an in-principle grant agreement for £3.5m which was then converted to a full grant in April 2011. The new centre opened in June 2013, providing somewhere for all children and young people aged 8-19 (up to 25 for those with additional needs) to achieve a brighter future. and is a fully accessible centre open five nights a week and Saturday afternoons.

It has recently been named by RIBA as one of the finest

new buildings in the London area, with its architects, RCKa, also winning the coveted prize of Emerging Architect of the Year.

Apart from winning the Royal Institute of British Architects Awards 2014 it has also been commended for the Civic Trust awards 2014 and shortlisted, design excellent category, Placemaking Awards 2013 and the New London Awards 2011.



Photo: ©Jakob Spriestersbach

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to the following new members:

Neil & Lucy Atherton
Dee Carrott
Geoff Crossingham
Emma Drysdale
Carla Evans
Grant Georgiades

Janet Goddard
Thomas Graham
Susan Hanks
Mr & Mrs Hillaert
Kevin Kirwin
Margaret Lewis

Lian Lee
Alison Pearce
Daniela & Christina Saretti
Marina Silva & Simon Crutchley
Virginia Staar & Noel Craven
Hazel Urwin

Members are reminded that subscriptions for 2014 are now due. Many thanks, **Roger Feather, Treasurer.**
Tel: 020 8778 4318 Email: membership@sydenhamsociety.com