

BROCKLEY SOCIETY



Issue 128 June 2013

Charity No: 1004245

Delivered free to 4000 households in Brockley Conservation Area
three times a year: March, June and November

BROCKLEY SOCIETY

Hilly Fields Midsummer Fayre
Saturday 22 June (see right)

Brockley Barbecue

Friday 5 July, 7.30pm

Hilly Fields Stone Circle

Bring friends and family - meet others from the Brockley area. Some food and refreshments provided - and bring your own to cook on BrocSoc's large barbecue.

All welcome

Brockley Society Open Meeting - see p2

Wednesday 24 July, 8pm

Brockley Social Club,

240 Brockley Road, SE4 2SU

(cnr Foxberry Rd., opp. Esso garage)

Who cares about trees?

Brockley Society's Tree Wardens will describe our campaign to protect and plant street trees and to encourage appreciation, appropriate planting and management in all gardens (see p2)

Breakspears Mews Community Garden GRAND OPENING

Saturday 13 July, 12-3pm (see right)

Brockley Society AGM

Wednesday 13 November

Brockley Market

Local farmers, producers & traders

Every Saturday, 10am-2pm

Lewisham College Car Park, Lewisham Way,
SE4. www.brockleymarket.com

Farmers' Markets on Hilly Fields

Second Saturday of each month 10am-3pm

Copy deadlines for newsletter:

1 February, 1 May, 1 October

To contribute, please email

news@brockleysociety.org.uk

BROCKLEY SOCIETY

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Trees . . . trees@brockleysociety.org.uk
brockleystreettrees.blogspot.co.uk

Mews . . . mews@brockleysociety.org.uk

To join an occasional email circulation about Brockley Society events and activities, email chair@brockleysociety.org.uk.

Planners, architects and others with conservation knowledge or interest: Contact Rob to join our planning and conservation group. See planning contact details above.

Everyone living in the Brockley Conservation area is automatically a member of the Brockley Society. The Brockley Society welcomes all.

BROCKLEY SOCIETY

The 37th Annual Hilly Fields
**MIDSUMMER
FAYRE**

Saturday 22nd June 12 noon - 5pm
Hilly Fields, Brockley SE4 1QA

with stalls, crafts, music, animals, birds of prey, children's rides
dancers, dog show, BBQ, tea & cakes, tug o'war...and more

Great PRIZES to be won in the competitions

PHOTOGRAPHY - Theme: 'Patterns in Nature' Under 12s and 12 & over

CAKE DECORATING - Theme: 'Hippie Chic' Under 12s / 12 - 18 / Adult

VEGETABLE OR FRUIT MODELLING - Any Theme - Under 12s only

ART (any medium) A4 size only - Theme: 'Rise & Shine' - Under 12s and 12 & over

BRING YOUR ENTRIES ON THE DAY

For more information and stall application forms visit
www.brockleysociety.org.uk
follow us @broc_soc

Save Lewisham Hospital!

Lewisham People's Commission of Inquiry on Saturday 29 June 2013 into government plans to downgrade Lewisham Hospital is at the Broadway Theatre, Catford. The Inquiry will be chaired by barrister Michael Mansfield QC who, together with other lawyers and an independent panel, will hear the evidence from a range of expert witnesses - evidence which was ignored by the Trust Special Administrator and Health Minister Jeremy Hunt.

Book a free place on the website www.savelewishamhospital.com.

The campaign continues with fundraising for the judicial review on 2 July.

- Visit the Save Lewisham Hospital! stall at the Hilly Fields Midsummer Fayre.

Breakspears Mews Community Garden

GRAND OPENING

Saturday 13 July, 12-3pm

**Access: Ashby Road, SE4 1PY or
r/o St Peter's Court,**

29-31 Wickham Road, SE4 1NE

12 noon Garden opens: Healthy food for sale, displays, raffle, plant sale

1.30pm Ribbon cutting by
Cllr Vicky Foxcroft

1.30 - 2.30pm Children's craft activities

2.30pm Raffle draw

How the garden was created: see pictures p3

Letter from the Chair

The sad death of Dave Hunter, reported in the previous newsletter, marks the end of an era for Brockley. Dave's shop, **Sounds Around**, has been a fixture for over 40 years, starting in Harefield Road before moving to 195 Brockley Road, selling everything to do with sound recording: cassettes, VHS tapes, mini discs and latterly stocking every imaginable item.

We need to recognise and value the long-standing businesses in Brockley: **Turner's Hardware** at 309 Brockley Road has been run by Amir Issaji for 40 years. **Starbuck Upholstery**, 327 Brockley Road is also a family business, run by Steve and Robert Starbuck since 1979. **Sid's Plumbing and Heating**, 297-301 Brockley Road was started 30 years ago by the father of the present owner, Paul Moodie. **Asik Dry Cleaners**, 250 Brockley Road, was taken over by Mehmet and Yeshim Chobanoglou 20 years ago from their uncle who ran it for 15 years before that. **Speedicars**, run by Peter Waterhouse, has been serving passengers from Brockley Station for about 40 years.

Other long-standing, if more recent businesses include Raj of **Mira Off-Licence and Grocers**, 199 Brockley Road (20 years). Mr Patel's family have run Costcutter (No.189) for 15 years. Dawn Stoddart has served Caribbean food at **Nu-Spice**, 8-9 Coulgate Street, for 15 years, and has lived locally for 37 years.

William Dunphy Funeral Director has been run by father William, daughter Nicki and grandson Will for 17 years.

Other valued businesses have come to the area. Recent new enterprises have added vibrancy to the area. But let us salute the long-established businesses who are an integral part of the local community.

- **Brockley Social Club**, 240 Brockley Road, marked its 100th anniversary on 12 January this year. We are very short of community facilities in the Brockley area. The club should be cherished as a family-friendly place with its lively social programme. While not to everyone's taste, I would encourage people to join it to ensure it has a future.

- **Pistachio's café on Hilly Fields** has been open a year as we go to press. It is hard to remember what it was like before that as the café is now an integral part of the park and its community.

Clare Cowen

Strategy for Hilly Fields

Back in 2006 a group of the friends of Hilly Fields sat down to put together a Vision for Hilly Fields.

Our first point was to "Build on the high level of satisfaction with the general character of the park".

We set out to maintain the heritage of the area - historical/social and environmental and to improve access and encourage more and varied users.

We then looked at specific areas for improvement and how we could achieve them.

Our plan is now looking rather out of date, including a refurbished playground, the not so new Eastern Road gate and an up and running cafe (although we can't claim credit for that one).

We have now re-assessed how to work towards the remaining goals and will have our plan to view and contribute to at our stall on at the midsummer fayre.

Whilst we have always had a sketch idea for the tree strategy, a visit from Jon Stokes of the Tree Council has given us renewed vigour. Standing on top of the hill on an icy March morning, he declared that what he saw was a treeless park in 50 years time. If that isn't alarming enough, when we started to look at our tree stock and new positions for trees, we discover that a vast majority of our newer trees have been ring barked at the base by grass mowing machinery. We're of the opinion Jon was a little apocalyptic and



Keith Seabrook

Keith Seabrook - our fondly remembered park keeper passed away in February. His sister said at his funeral how he loved his job in Hilly Fields and we treasured his work and fondness for the park. During a visit from the Green Flag judges, it came out that Keith used to buy plants for the park with the loose change he found on his rounds. We know many of you wanted to contribute to the flowers which we took to the funeral, but as a lasting testament to a man who made a difference to the park, we thought we'd like to plant a tree. We'll leave envelopes in the cafe and you can make a contribution or you can see us on our stall at the fayre.

we'd give the planes, oaks and limes a few more hundred years, but we decided to finalise our tree plan and set up our own tree wardens.

Other pressing items on our list are the ongoing Kyrle Society/Octavia Hill memorial garden and the strategy for park furniture. We've had numerous pre-applications given the go ahead, but haven't had enough time to fill in final grant applications.

Jubilee Tree planting

As we went to press, Brockley Society Tree Wardens, Friends of Hilly Fields and Prendergast School students were preparing to plant a Jubilee Tree on the large, grassy space beyond the café on Hilly Fields.

Students from Prendergast-Hilly Fields College were scheduled to join Seniors from the Brockley 50+ Club and others to share some memories of the 1953 Coronation before planting the tree. The event was scheduled for Wednesday 22 May.

The tree donated by the Tree Council is a prestigious gift for Brockley as only 60 trees will be planted throughout the country to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. A digital record of all the plantings will be

presented to Her Majesty in June. The tree itself will have a smart plaque which will be readable from smartphones.

• **Leo Stevenson writes:**

If anyone's interested in all matters royal and the Jubilee etc., then this is a reminder that my 'Jubilee' painting is still available in two limited-edition print editions; one edition signed by me and one special edition that's also been signed by all the pilots who flew the Red Arrows and Concorde in the Jubilee of 2002 that's depicted in the painting, (only fifty of these in this edition!). Details on my website below right.

www.leostevenson.com
www.leojubilee.co.uk

Brocsoc Tree Wardens' report, May 2013

I'm pleased to report it's generally good news in this edition! Following our article in the last newsletter about the worrying loss of trees through felling applications, the tree wardens had a very constructive and positive meeting with Green Scene and the Planning Department. We discussed ways to increase public awareness of the importance of reducing felling applications to the absolute minimum, and we also discussed how the public can be better informed about Planning applications generally and how to put in objections. It is now possible to access all applications on the Planning Department website: (details of how to do this can be found at brockleystreettrees.blogspot.co.uk).

Turning to the more cheerful story of tree plantings, we can report that since we formed the Brocsoc tree wardens' group in late 2010, we have acquired funding for a total of 38 street trees from the Local Assemblies Fund, the Mayor's Fund, the Big Tree Plant, the Tree Council and Lewisham's Green Scene, who were able to offer 6 new street plantings this

year. In an exciting initiative, these 6 trees have become 12, thanks to the generous part-funding of 12 households, who have agreed to care for a street tree near them either in memorium of someone or simply to improve their own street view! In this age of austerity, Lewisham's budget for new plantings is so small that they are particularly grateful that residents are taking the positive step of part funding street trees themselves. Given good care and watering for the first 2 years, these trees will survive and thrive for many years to come. Many thanks to those residents who have already supported this scheme. If you would like to apply for street trees in your road, you will find more information on the blogspot at www.brockleystreettrees.blogspot.co.uk/p/treesponsorship.html.

In another exciting initiative, we have furthered our relationship with the Tree Council, as Lewisham has now signed up to the Tree Council's Tree Warden scheme. This will give many benefits borough wide and access to funding that would not otherwise be available.

It will also encourage all those with any interest in trees to become tree wardens, learn how to identify diseased or decaying trees and so generally increase public care for the tree stock. The Tree Council also offered us 40 metres of fruit hedge to complement the orchard in Hilly Fields that was organised and planted by Transition Brockley and the Friends of Hilly Fields under the auspices of the London Orchard Project. A band of valiant souls from these groups Brocsoc volunteers, the head of Green Scene, John Thompson and Tree Council programme directors Jon Stokes and Margaret Lipscombe braved the truly atrocious weather in March to plant the fruit hedge. The hedge still should provide many berries and nuts for passers-by to pick. If you are walking in Hilly Fields, do walk over to the orchard (beyond the Stone circle) and take a look for yourselves.

In the meantime, don't forget you can find out what's happening on the tree front at brockleystreettrees.blogspot.co.uk

Nicola Ferguson

Breakspears Mews Community Garden



7 March 2013, 8am



8 March 2013, 11am



8 March 2013, 2pm



8 March 2013, 11am



9 March 2013, 11.30am



9 March 2013, 4.30pm



20 March 2013, 9.30am



13 April 201, 4pm



20 April 2013



20 April 2013



20 April 2013



30 April 2013

Breakspears Mews Community Garden has been created through the effort of many people, particularly over the last three years after local residents came to the Brockley Society AGM wanting some action on mews. Dumped rubbish and anti-social businesses in the mews had been a problem for nearly 20 years, but determined action by volunteers and the assistance of many agencies in the council and elsewhere mean we now have a resource for community enjoyment.

Caribbean Community Choir

Last summer the Caribbean Community Choir provided some entertainment at the Brockley Barbecue.

The Caribbean Community Choir is planning to run four FREE singing workshop, time a place to be decided. subject to funding.

The workshop is open to everyone. If you think you may be interested in attending or want more information then contact Jacqueline Grant on jackiemusicgrant@hotmail.com

Classes at the Lewisham Arthouse



The Lewisham Arthouse runs an exciting programme of Classes and workshops for budding artists in variety of media and are open to everyone of all ages. All of the classes are taught by artists with studio space in the Arthouse, and so students are able to benefit from studying in a working artistic environments well as learn a craft and skill from practicing experts in their fields. We have an informative web site where all the current details of classes can seen www.lewishamarthouse.org.uk.

Unexpected activity on Hilly Fields



PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Before you start making decisions on any changes to your property, we strongly advise that you look at the Council's guidelines for preserving the Brockley Conservation Area. These will give you a good idea of what is acceptable development:

www.lewisham.gov.uk. Click through Environment, Planning, Conservation and urban design, Conservation Areas, Brockley
If you would like to object to plans for unsympathetic or inappropriate development, please advise the Brockley Society. The more objections the council receives, the more likely the development is to be questioned. If you would like to support something, again, let us know – community pressure does actually work!

Applications Granted

The construction of a single storey extension to the rear of **10 Darling Road**.

The construction of a single storey extension to the rear of **7 Rokeby Road**.

The installation of a replacement front door and door frame at **96 Adelaide Avenue**.

Raised decking to rear garden of **20 Breakspears Mews**.

Retrospective application for the replacement of 5 single glazed wooden sash windows and 1 single glazed casement window at the first floor flat, **111 Upper Brockley Road**, with wooden double glazed windows.

The construction of a single storey extension at lower ground floor level to the rear of **58 Geoffrey Road**, together with the construction of a dormer window in the rear roof slope and the installation of replacement double glazed windows in front, side and rear elevations.

The installation of telecommunication equipment comprising one Future 600mm dish on existing antenna pole and three replacement jaybeam antennas on the roof of **Lewisham College, Breakspears Road**.

The installation of timber doubled-glazed sliding sash replacement windows to the front of **52 Geoffrey Road**.

The conversion of the existing garage at **24 Garsington Mews**, together with the installation of a window to provide habitable accommodation.

The construction of a lightwell to the front elevation to provide larger casement windows to the basement, **87a Upper Brockley Road**.

The demolition of the existing buildings on the site of **180 Brockley Road** and the construction of a part two/ part three/ part four storey block, comprising 482 sqm commercial floor space (Use Classes A1 (Shops), A2 (Financial and Professional), A3 (Restaurants and Cafes), B1 (Business), 3 studio flats, 11 one bedroom, 9 two bedroom and 2 three bedroom self-contained flats, together with refuse and cycle storage, associated highway and public realm works. Alterations to the rear of **243a-245 Lewisham Way**, including the construction of a single storey extension, the installation of replacement fire exit door, metal hand railings and staircase at ground floor level.

Applications Refused

The construction of a two-bedroom house on the site of an existing shed and garage adjacent to the existing house at **25 Wickham Road**, together with modifications to the existing building at **25 Wickham Road** which includes the construction of a dormer window to the rear roof slope, a raised section of flat roof at the side, rooflights to rear facing roof slopes, together with a new window and door in the front elevation to provide a new entrance to **25 Wickham Road**.

The alteration and conversion of the existing maisonette at **56B Wickham Road** to provide 2 two bedroom self-contained flats together with provision

Every other week, the Brockley Society joins the other local conservation societies at the Council's Amenity Panel Meeting. Here we raise formal objections, ask questions, and give our input on local development. These meetings help to determine whether planning applications are approved or go on to be raised at the public planning meetings. The public meetings give applicants and objectors a chance to have their say to enable the Council to reach a decision. If you would like to get involved in preserving the character of Brockley or for further guidance on planning issues, including making an application, raising an objection, or the processes involved, contact Rob on 07813 120 773 or planning@brockleysociety.org.uk

of bin and bicycle stores.

Alterations to the rear of **243a-245 Lewisham Way**, including the construction of a single storey extension, the installation of replacement fire exit door, metal hand railings and staircase at ground floor level.

Trees

Rear Garden - ONE Ash FELL, **5 Tressillian Crescent**.

Rear Garden - ONE Eucalyptus, ONE Cherry, ONE Birch & ONE Holly 30% Crown Reduction and 10% Crown Thin, **64 Tressillian Road**.

Front Garden - ONE Silver Birch FELL, **12 Tressillian Crescent**.

Rear Garden - ONE Ash Crown Thin 20% and Five Lime Crown Lift to 5 meters, **103 Manor Avenue**.

Front Garden - ONE London Plane Reduce Crown by up to 1.5 meters, **86 Wickham Road**.

Rear Garden - ONE Lime Re-Pollard, **82 Wickham Road**.

Rear Garden - ONE London Plane Re-Pollard, **86 Wickham Road**.

Rear Garden - ONE Eucalyptus Crown Reduce by 5 meters in Height and 3 meters On All Lateral Branches, ONE Leylandii Crown Reduce by 4 meters in Height and 2 meters On All Lateral Branches & ONE Sycamore Crown Reduce by 4 meters in Height and 2 meters ON All Lateral Branches, **4B Glensdale Road**.

Rear Garden - ONE Conifer Prune Back Fence Line, and ONE Conifer Prune Back From House to Create 2 meter Clarence Between the Crown of the Tree and the Building. Front Garden - ONE Conifer Pull in The Branches and Secure with a Racket Strap to Give Support, **70 Upper Brockley Road**.

Rear Garden - ONE Sycamore FELL, **4 Brockley Gardens**.

Front Garden - ONE Yew Crown Lift 3 Lowest Branches and Crown Lift to 2.5 meters from Ground Level over Footpath, **97 Breakspears Road**.

Rear Garden - ONE Eucalyptus FELL and ONE Fir FELL, **5A Tyrwhitt Road**.

Rear Garden - ONE Sycamore FELL, **3 Tyrwhitt Road**.

Rear Garden - ONE Copper Beech Crown Thin by up to 20%, ONE Sycamore Crown Lift to 5 meters Above Ground Level and Crown Thin by up to 15% & ONE Yew FELL, **99 Tyrwhitt Road**.

Fell to ground level and treat stumps of Elder T2, Ash T3, and Elder T4 at **79 Tressillian Road** & fell to ground level and treat stumps of Weeping Ash T8 at **The Coach House, 33 Crescent Way** & fell to ground level and treat stumps of Sycamore T11, Sycamore T12, Leyland Cypress T13, and Mixed Species (Sycamore/Cherry/Elder) G1 at **77 Tressillian Road**.

Pending

The installation of replacement timber double-glazed windows to the rear elevation of **66 Upper Brockley Road**.

The construction of a part single/part two storey extension to the side and rear of **52 Geoffrey Road**.

The construction of a single storey extension to the rear, a dormer window in the rear roof slope and rooflights in the side and rear roof slopes of **22 Cranfield Road**.

The construction of single storey studio and garden room located in the rear garden of **12 Wickham Road**.

The installation of 7 replacement double-glazed timber sash windows to the front and rear elevations of **22 Cranfield Road**, including the replacement of the french window at first floor level at the rear to a timber sliding sash window.

The demolition of front boundary wall and gates at **15 Harefield Road**, and the construction of a replacement front boundary wall and gates with metal railings together with re-tiling of the front pathway/porch area and installation of secure bicycle storage unit.

Alterations to the front elevation to provide access to the basement flat at **40 Manor Avenue**, together with the construction of a single storey rear extension.

The installation of replacement, double-glazed, timber framed windows in the front elevation and double-glazed, aluminium windows and door in the rear elevation of **Flats A-C, 5 Drake Road**.

The construction of a single storey and part two storey extension to the rear of **30 Rokeby Road**.

The construction of a single storey extension to the side rear of **2 Hilly Fields Crescent**.

The construction of a roof extension to the rear roof slope of **33 Chalsey Road**, together with the installation of a roof light to the front roof slope.

The construction of a single storey replacement extension at ground floor level and a conservatory at first floor level to the rear of **1 Hillyfields Crescent**, together with the installation of two heritage rooflights in the front roof slope and restoration of the original Edwardian facades.

The installation of bifolding aluminium patio doors in the rear elevation of **Ground Floor Flat, 131 Tressillian Road**.

The alteration and change of use of **1-3 Ashby Road**, from Offices (Use Class B1) to Nursery (Use Class D1) together with the construction of two skylights on the single storey roof, alterations to the north and west elevations, installation of boundary fence and gates to the front, associated landscaping and provision of bicycle stores and four car park spaces.

Conversion of a rear kitchen window into a set of french doors leading onto a decked access terrace with steps to the rear garden at **55B Manor Avenue**.

The demolition of garages to the rear of **19 Wickham Road** and the construction of a two bedroom bungalow with green roof, together with the provision of a courtyard.

The construction of an additional storey above the existing studio and workshop space at **1 Ashby Mews** to provide a 3 bedroom residential unit together with alterations to the front elevation.

The construction of a two storey building to provide a live work unit at **Unit 5 Ashby Mews**, with studio on the ground floor and a two bedroom self-contained flat on the upper floor.

The demolition of the existing buildings at **Unit 4 Ashby Mews**, and the construction of a two storey building to provide a live work unit comprising three bedroom residential unit and Ceramacist studio space.

(up to 19th May 2013).

BBC moves into Brockley and brews up a storm!

Hello, we're the folk who set up the Brockley Brewing Company (BBC) in a disused builder's workshop in Harcourt Road. Our aim is to brew premium quality ales with a strong south-east identity. We're proud to be Brockley dwellers and south Londoners. On 22nd March we launched our first batch of Pale Ale at the Talbot Pub, which went down exceedingly well with ale lovers both with and without beards.

As a small brewery right in the heart of Brockley, we've been warmly welcomed by our lovely neighbours, who have made it easy for us to integrate and gain the benefits of being part of the local community. We've hooked up with the Barriedale Allotment

Society, who will use our spent grain and hops for composting. As our beer production increases we'll be offering local residents the opportunity to use the spent grain for garden compost or for other interesting uses such as growing mushrooms, or as an extra cooking ingredient!

Open days are planned for people to have a look around and sample our ales, as well as the chance to spend a day brewing, as we've had so many requests to get involved and lend a hand.

We've started off with two delicious brews, Pale Ale and Golden Ale. So far we have received glowing compliments about the freshness and taste of the beer. We're flattered,

but really it's the quality of the malts and hops that should be taking the praise.

We're passionate about supporting our local pubs and bars, both as suppliers and as customers, and delighted that we're getting regular orders from so many. Have a look at our facebook page to find out where you can raise a glass of our ale or order some direct from your very own local brewery! ([facebook.com/brockleybrewery](https://www.facebook.com/brockleybrewery)) or via twitter [@brockleybrewery](https://twitter.com/brockleybrewery).

Cheers! Andy, Pete, Rachel, Mike A, Mike B and Debbie.



Brockley phone boxes

Now that the sun's been shining, volunteers from the neighbourhood have taken the first step towards looking after the two BT phone boxes adopted for the community. They've both had a good sweep-out and a scrub of all the years of collected grime.

Now that they're more welcoming, we'd like suggestions from the community as to what they'd like to see inside the boxes. A lending library? Performances?

Please send us a message on our Facebook Page: Brockley Box Collective with your ideas of what you'd like to see in them, and what you might like to do. We're starting a schedule for the use of the boxes. If you are not on Facebook, come and see us at the Hilly Fields Summer Fayre. Look out for the large Telephone Box cut out.

We are also seeking anyone who has a memory of using the phone boxes in the area to share with us their story. It can be a short anecdote, funny, personal, or even something you recall seeing there. We would like to record these as an oral history project that would be played back later in the boxes.



Please do get in touch if you can spare us five minutes to tell us your story! And if your story is a naughty one - amnesty and anonymity promised...

Mel Mason, mel.p@uwclub.net

Conservation of Communities – Brockley Society meeting

Nicholas Taylor, architectural historian and former chair of Lewisham Planning Committee, spoke at the Brockley Society meeting on 10 April about 'The Conservation of Communities'. A Lewisham Labour Councillor for many years, with a prodigious memory, he spoke without notes.

His knowledge of people in each of his wards - Deptford, Blackheath, and Ladywell - all underpin the principles he wrote about in his book, 'Village in the City'.

Conservation of buildings is valuable, but that of groups of people is so much more. 'We are all from elsewhere', he said. In districts of Britain, for instance Brockley, Deptford, Ladywell, we need to value these local villages, with all of us from a wide diversity of backgrounds. Be wary of some developer decisions.

His tales reminded us of people, political

decisions and improvements to homes since those unrepaired, unpainted days of the 1950s, when materials and good plumbing and heating were hard to find. In areas like Telegraph Hill and Brockley, Lewisham council bought up all available houses, often in poor repair, to ensure the areas retained their mixed housing character, which remains a special feature of what later became conservation areas.

Nicholas Taylor has worked in the worlds of Self Build, of Walter Segal Homes - for which Lewisham was a pioneer - writing for the Architectural Press, and for The Buildings of England books by Pevsner and on housing, politics and much more: a polymath with a social conscience.

His book 'Village in the City' is available at £5 + postage. Contact njwtaylor@hotmail.co.uk. It is well worth enjoying.

Juliet Johnson

Tyrwhitt Road junction with Lewisham Way

The bottom of Tyrwhitt Road has changed substantially. W P Stone has gone, to be replaced by Pretoria Court (building second from the right). The long-derelict corner shop is nearing completion. There is great interest locally in what it will become. The Welsh church, of Arts and Crafts design, is diagonally opposite Tyrwhitt

Road on Lewisham Way. It is reported to have been sold. The house is one of the oldest buildings on Lewisham Way after the nearby Stone House. Lewisham planners confirm that it will be retained as a building in public use and that its features will be protected. We have heard that it will become a nursery.



Brockley Open Studios

Saturday 6th July, 2-8pm

Sunday 7th July, 2-8pm

Monday 8th July, 5-8pm

Explore the rich variety of art on show in 42 artists' homes and studios, including sculpture, prints and paintings - collectable work from local artists, at reasonable prices. Meet your neighbours in a friendly atmosphere and explore some beautiful homes and fascinating studios. Download a map from www.brockleyopenstudios.co.uk.



Bilingüebabies

I am a mum of two who founded Bilingüebabies, Spanish toddler learning classes through music, fun, puppets, stories and craft. I teach at local nurseries, primary schools, in the community and as a freelance teacher at the Horniman Museum for their bilingual Spanish Amazon exhibition. I have a new-found purpose and am raising my children to speak Spanish too. Bilingualism is a gift I hope to impart to my kids and I hope to help and inspire others too.

Classes are Mondays, 10.30am, at St Hilda's, Brockley Road; Wednesdays, 1.15pm, at Lewisham Opportunity Pre-school behind Ladywell Pool; Saturdays, 9.30am, at All Fired Up, East Dulwich Road.

I also tutor GCSE and A level Spanish.

The benefits of learning a language early, during pre school, are numerous: social, linguistic and cognitive, improving first language skills, multitasking, memory mental agility, flexibility and creativity and confidence, connecting with other cultures and giving your child a global competitive advantage. Learning a language together develops a common goal and bond. It's never too early to start!

www.bilinguebabies.com

Front garden sale

Clear out your cupboards for a coordinated Brockley front garden sale on Saturday 7 September.

We've never tried it before, but IF enough people are interested, we'll put a list on the Brockley Society website so people can wander from one front garden to the next.

Send an expression of interest to gardensale@brockleysociety.org.uk.

Station stories

Short Stories Inspired by the Overground Line available post free from www.arachnepress.com

A truly local production: Arachne Press is based at Honor Oak and eight Stations authors are Brockley residents, with another seven nearby.

Twenty-four stories, one for every station from West Croydon to Highbury & Islington. Stations takes a sideways look at life as it might be lived beside the rails: quirky, humorous and sometimes horrifying.

Local stories include a love triangle at New Cross Gate, a coffee based affair in Brockley, homelessness and home baking at Honor Oak Park, and a seemingly ageless eccentric at Forest Hill.

Bag it - Bin it

'It's upsetting to find dog's mess outside your gate,' one caller told us.

The problem seems particularly bad on the roads leading up to Hilly Fields and unfortunately on Hilly Fields itself.

It is every dog owner's duty to clean up after their dog. There are no excuses - fouling is unacceptable and it is an offence for a dog owner not to clean up after their dog. Failure to comply can result in a prosecution and fine up to £1,000. It is no defence to claim ignorance of the dog's actions.

Lewisham Council website has information on how to get animal fouling removed: go to www.lewisham.gov.uk and put 'dog mess' in the search box.



Free Manure

We have a pony at 34 Geoffrey Road. She produces manure which we are happy to make available free to anyone who wishes to come and collect it.

Please phone first to ensure we are in.

**Mrs Rich,
020 3581 3399**

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