

BROCKLEY



SOCIETY

NEWS SHEET No. 22

DELIVERED FREE TO OVER 3,000 HOUSEHOLDS IN THE BROCKLEY CONSERVATION AREA

February 1980

TRAFFIC

Following a series of meetings and the article in issue 13 of the Newsheet this letter was sent to the Chairman of the Lewisham Highways Committee and the Borough Surveyor in January.

The Brockley Society welcomes the concern shown by Lewisham Borough Council for the amount of traffic passing through the essentially residential streets of the Brockley Conservation area and the recreational area of Hilly Fields. We believe that the residents are bearing more than their fair share of the noise and danger of traffic which neither originates in nor has a destination in the area. The Brockley Society has therefore held a number of meetings when various proposals have been discussed. The Society has discussed the problems and possible solutions with members of the Borough Surveyors and Engineers Department. We appreciate the time, effort and evidence that they have given us. We have studied the traffic flow figures kindly shown to us by the Surveyors Department. As a result of these exercises carried out during the past year we propose the following:

(1) install traffic lights at junction of Adelaide Avenue and Brockley Road;

- (2) ensure that Brockley Road traffic has greater priority at the double roundabouts at Brockley Cross;
- (3) close Harefield Road between Breakspears Road and Tressillian Road;
- (4) install no-right-turn signs (possibly to operate only between 7 and 10 am) at junctions of Adelaide Avenue with Montague Avenue and St. Margarets Road, Brockley Road and Wickham Road, and Ladywell Road and Vicars Hill;
- (5) make Cliffview Road a cul-de-sac.

We suggest that these proposals be introduced as soon as possible for an experimental period of six months after which they could be reviewed and final measures adopted.

We appreciate that these suggestions almost certainly do not represent everyone's view point.

The Borough propose, eventually, to hold a public meeting on this subject. In the meantime we would welcome your views on the above ideas which we hope stimulates plenty of written response in order that we may finally support a safety traffic control experiment (or none as the case may be) which receives the widest possible consensus of opinion. Please reply to the Editors c/o 114 Tressillian Road, SE4.

Road representatives

Road reps are the main contact between the residents of Brockley and the Brockley Society. They usually live in the streets they represent and are responsible for delivering this Newsheet and any other circulars

Adelaide Avenue 34-60	Mr.G.Cridlan at 7 Montague Ave
Avon Road	Mrs.Bullen at 'Homestead' Hilly Fields Cres.
	Mrs Izard No.8
	Cristine Holloway No.2 C
Beverley Court	Mrs Alleway No.2
	Beverley Court Residents Asscn.
	Mrs Sharon Felton No.8
Breakspears Road	Mrs Ridgley No.53
	Mr. D.Harris No.90
	Mrs Foreman-Medland No.94
	Mrs.Margaret Fulcher No.53
Cranfield Road	Mr.Harding No.25
	Mrs.C.Collett No.38
Crescent Way	Mrs.Rita Bennett at 5 Tressillian Cres.
Darling Road	Mr. & Mrs.Huthwaite No.9
	Mr. & Mrs.Heywood No.14
Geoffrey Road	Val Humphreys No.36
Glensdale Road	Mr.J.W.Park No.3
	Vice Chairman
Harefield Road	Mr.R.Goodenday No.59
	Mrs Irene Reynolds No.75
Hilly Fields Crescent	John & Juliet House No.23
	Treasurer
Manor Avenue	Mr.Rob Goodbody No.77C
	Helen & Michael Allen No.49
Montague Avenue	Mr.&Mrs.Geoff Cridlan No7
	Mrs. Mary Warman No.12A
Lewisham Way	Linda Brassington at 17 Upper Brockley Road
160-186 and 228-238	

from the Broc Soc as well as helping with local surveys of trees, empty houses etc., and acting as your personal contact with the Society. If you would like to volunteer as a road rep please contact your local rep or any of the office bearers listed elsewhere in this issue.

Rokeby Road	Juliet & Chris Johnson No.25
	Secretary
St.Margarets Road	Mr.D.Chamberlain No.31
	Mrs.D.Pond at 14 Montague Avenue
Tressillian Road	Mr.Webb & Diana Warren No.70
	Mr & Mrs Fisher No.81
	Mr.&Mrs.Turner No.104
	Julian & Clare Oliver No.114
	Chairman
	Keith & Maureen Mayers No.118
Tressillian Crescent	Mr.R.Crawford No.9
Tremaine Close	Mr.&Mrs.Conway No.5
Tyrwhitt Road	Mrs. P.Armstrong No.76
	Mr.I. Middleton No.91
Upper Brockley Road	Linda Brassington No.17
	Mr.Glen Bennett No.99
	Mr.Stanbury No.129
	Mr.Ian Poskett No.103
Vulcan Terrace	Linda & Michael Sharples 140B
Wickham Road	Mrs.Margherita Colombo 1a
	Mrs.Bush No.44A
	Mrs.Mabel Walls No.72
	Mrs.Porter, 48 Poplar House
	Mary & Bob Kays No.89
Wickham Gardens	Mr.S.Thorpe No.11

FAIR

SUMMER FAYRE

It may seem premature to be thinking of the midsummer fayre, but June 21 is only 4 months away. Help with stalls, making and manning, events, happenings, your Brockley Society needs your help, all of you. Some work is needed, your return being a great deal of fun. Contact us with your offers.

Anyone know where to hire a dancing bear?

Meetings

Brockley Society Spring Meetings - to appeal to a wider interest:

March 4th - FREE FILM NIGHT 8.00 pm double feature at Baptist Church small hall, Upper Brockley Road - walk through Church to room at back:

"A Better Britain" - groups of young people have been filmed working on projects to improve their surroundings in practical ways.

"Portrait of a Property Developer" - not office blocks but houses converted in London by a Housing Association.

"If you want a better environment you have to care about it".

Everyone welcome - refreshments provided.

April 2nd - BROCKLEY SOCIETY ROAD REPRESENTATIVE MEETING + anyone interested at 39 Wickham Road.

Discussion about Hilly Fields - nature belts.

Talk led by Raymond Crawford following newsheet article in this issue.

May - QUIZ on buildings, old photos and local history (details to follow).

June - SUMMER FAIR (details to follow).

ADS

WICKERS WORLD 31 Lewisham Way opposite Goldsmiths College CANE & BAMBOO FURNITURE ETC. also large variety of boxes, bags, mugs, plant hangers and oriental gift ware. Phone: 691 1221

Well done Lewisham again....



The latest example of the London Borough of Lewisham's campaign to develop council housing in traditional styles is a virtual replica in modern materials of Victorian terrace houses, complete with bay windows, arched brick lintels and classical cornices. The house on the right (above), was built in 1880; the one on the left is at present under construction on a vacant site in Deptford.

Three such two-storey blocks containing a total of 16 flatlets for elderly people are being built in the Brookmill Road Conservation Area, Deptford. The housing is funded through standard DOE subsidies, with the extra conservationist features adding little more than six per cent to the contract price of £350,000.

As might be expected, the historical features rely heavily on prefabricated grp components. Each bay window is to be delivered on site as a single ready-glazed grp unit, and once in position will serve as permanent shuttering for the concrete columns.

The cornices involve even more sleight of hand. As the detail shows, these are not the parapets they appear to be but ingeniously designed grp fascias which conceal standard plastic rainwater gutters and timber fillets supporting a simple pitched roof.

Endre Hevezi, the project architect in the council's architect's department, has taken pains not to distort the proportions, which is so often the give-away in repro designs.

Reproduced from 'The Builder' January 1980

ANTIQUES WANTED

I wish to purchase any of the following pre 1930 items: Wardrobes, Sideboards, Bookcases Display Cabinets, Dining Tables, China, Brass, Tiles, Bric-a-Brac ANYTHING OLD AND INTERESTING

Phone Ian Middleton 01 - 692 - 2845 or write 91 Tyrwhitt Road, London SE 4

Flat Wanted: From April 1st. 1980 by nice Australian couple with one year old baby boy, for a period of two years. Please contact Judi Williams on 691-0206

BROC SOC JOINS CIVIC TRUST

The Brockley Society has recently become registered with the Civic Trust. The Civic Trust is an independent charity which encourages the protection and improvement of the environment particularly of towns, cities and villages. Founded in 1957, it is supported by contributions from industry and commerce. It is not an 'official' body funded by central government.

Amenity societies, federations and buildings preservation trusts are actively saving our heritage and improving our surroundings. There are over 1,250 such groups on the Trust's three registers; they remain completely independent and do not pay a registration fee. The total membership of these groups is more than 300,000.

The Trust helps to voice societies' concerns on environmental problems and to increase national awareness of the local amenity movement.

Civic Trust Awards are given to buildings, developments and restorations of outstanding merit which enhance our environment. They stimulate interest in the appearance of our cities, towns, villages and countryside. Sponsored by Bass Charrington, the 1979 Awards covered city schemes.

The Civic Trust acts as a reservoir of ideas and practical help for conservation and environmental work. They can provide guest speakers, the use of a specialised library and the hire of films, slides and photographs. They also publish a free newsletter and a wide range of leaflets, guides and books on our national heritage. Broc Soc Secretary can lend these to anyone interested.



BROCKLEY WINS AWARD



Published with the permission of the Civic Trust News.

BEFORE Hilly Fields

Have you ever noticed how, from almost everywhere in Hilly Fields you can see that boundary? You are never 'lost in the forest'. Of course, the views from the hill-top are marvellous, but wouldn't it be interesting if some of the slopes and hollows were broken up into clearings by dense thicket, designed to become oak-forest in our grandchildren's time?

Thousands of people clearly enjoy the park in its present form, but a slight change in management would not affect them, and could increase its value to future generations enormously. A start already exists with the old hawthorn thickets on the slopes along Cliffview Road and Eastern Road; instead of allowing the hawthorns to become old and rotten amidst tidily mown grass, why not enclose a few patches of chestnut-paling and underplant with oak, rowan, hazel, dog-rose and other beautiful native plants and let them go wild. The idea could be extended around the park in linked belts, and the park would contribute to the encouraging event of nature rather than suppressing it — after all nature belongs to the city as much as to the country.

The belts might look untidy to gardeners and park-keepers, but they would be located in the remoter hinterland of the park, so as not to attract rubbish-dumping, and planned to avoid all occupation of games-spaces; rather to enclose spaces where now there is formless distance, and to increase privacy, variety of scale and capacity. As they grew they would become a haven for insects, birds and small mammals. Dead trees, instead of standing out like sore thumbs, would be absorbed in the thicket and form a habitat for insects and fungi; a missing link in the food-chain on which man depends would be re-established in SE4.

If you think this is a good idea — or even if you don't — would you like a say in the management of Hilly Fields Park? If everyone who uses and cares about the Park joined together and formed "The Friends of Hilly Fields Park", the Council might be glad to listen to what they say, instead of trying to cope with the present barrage of conflicting demands. If you are interested, write to or telephone the Editors and you will be kept in touch.

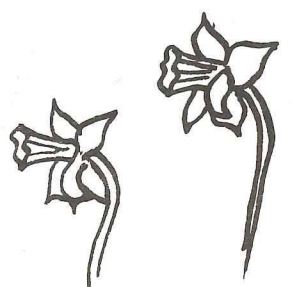
PLANNING APPLICATIONS December 1979 and January 1980

- 34 Tressillian Road — conversion to 2 maisonettes by Lewisham Borough.
- 143 Breakspears Rd — conversion to 2 maisonettes.
- 16A Tressillian Road — rehabilitation and two and land at the rear new 3 storey students' blocks and a childrens' criche/nursery with 13 car parking spaces and vehicular access from Tressillian Road. *A good scheme.*
- South East London — College Lewisham — prefabricated single storey classroom building in courtyard. *Not seen by general public.*
- Trees: 103 Upper Brockley Road — to fell two lime trees in front garden. *These were the only mature trees in this part of the road, before they were recently mutilated.*
- 49 Manor Avenue — Pruning cherry in front garden.

AFTER

A Civic Trust Commendation was given in the autumn (1979) for the terrace by the Wickham Arms shops.

John Morland founder Chairman of Broc Soc initiated this scheme and Lewisham Borough Planning Department designed and organised it in detail. John Marchant, the Borough Conservation Officer, R.W.Saunders the Borough Engineer and Councillor Nicholas Taylor, the Chairman of the Planning Committee all worked hard on this project.



ADS

Friendly Choir
Is there interest in a choir to sing partsongs maybe later this year, with practices before a performance (not every week). Tenors more than welcome!

Contact Steven Tyrell at 39 Wickham Road, SE4, Tel. 692-5453

Advertisements are always welcome — Personal column or trade. Please contact the Editors c/o Clare Oliver at 114 Tressillian Road, SE4 on 01-692-4894

children...

We have great pleasure in inaugurating our children's corner. Contributions from young readers are essential for its success. Jokes, cartoons, stories, articles, we welcome them all.

To start off the children's section, here is the first competition.

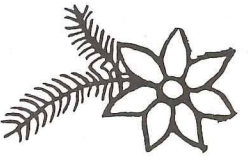
Aged under 6 — colour in the Brocsoc griffin on the title page.

6 — 10 years. Draw a picture of the view from your bedroom.

10+. Write an article, not more than 250 words, on what changes you would like to see in your area. More importantly, how you can help with these changes.

Winning articles will be published in this paper.

Send your entries to the Editors c/o 114 Tressillian Road.



Upper Brockley Parent Baby and Toddlers Clubs. Contact Juliet Johnson on 692-1553. Mondays 2-4.30 Babies and Toddlers meet in Baptist Church Hall, Upper Brockley Rd. Tuesdays 11-12.30 Babies and Toddlers meet at Brockley Project, 126 Upper Brockley Rd. New Mums/ Dads welcome.

Shell Better Britain Competition.

Organised by the Nature Conservancy, Civic Trust and Shell. 'Young people are increasingly conscious of the problems of derelict urban land and buildings'.

Entries by 30th April 1980 and Projects in by July 31st. Details from Brocsoc Secretary or Nature Conservancy Council, P.O. Box 6, Godwin House, George Street, Huntingdon PE18 6BU.

Nature Notes — Wildlife in Brockley

Owls and foxes live on Hilly Fields and in the railway cuttings running through Brockley.

Children, more observant than adults, have noticed squirrels on Hilly Fields, and there was even one seen in Lewisham Way, near the Second Hand shop!, who had come from Luxmore Gardens in the rush hour.