

AGM

BROCKLEY SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY 23 OCTOBER 8 PM

MUSIC ROOM ST. PETER'S CENTRE

The Brockley Society is unique in that everyone who lives in the area is automatically a member. There is no fee to join or to take part. The annual general meeting is the occasion when the elected officers explain what's happened during the year just past, elections for new officers take place and the future programme and organisation of Broc Soc is discussed.

BROCKLEY SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY 23rd OCTOBER

Everyone is welcome and anyone can have a say in the what, how and where of what Broc Soc's doing. If you would like to learn more about Broc Soc or if you are concerned about any aspect of living in Brockley please come along to St. Peter's Community Centre, Cranfield Road on 23rd October

SUMMARY AGENDA

1. REPORTS ON 1979/80.
2. ELECTIONS FOR OFFICERS 1980/81.
3. NOMINATIONS FOR ROAD REPS.
4. FUTURE PROGRAMME - TALKS, WALKS, SOCIALS, NEWSHEET, TREES, NOISE, ETC.

Wine and cheese will be served

St. Peter's Centre

8pm

autumn 1980

Autumn 1980 Action Programme

The Brockley Society has an increasingly important role as a watchdog on conservation and the protection of our living space. This is particularly so at present when both local and central government spending is being cut — more must be done by voluntary action. The Brockley Conservation area includes over 3,000 households, possibly as many as 7,500 people live in the area. In order to maintain and improve this primarily residential area we wish to recruit more active helpers.

Road representatives are the active ears and eyes of Broc Soc: their main responsibilities are to help distribute this newsheet to an average 25/30 houses in their neighbourhood, to keep an eye out for anything the society can or should be doing in the area, and to attend the monthly meetings. If you would like to be involved please come to the next meeting

We also plan to hold a Christmas Party.

During the autumn we plan to:

1. help clear some neglected gardens and tidy-up some of the mews;
2. help re-paint and tidy-up some of the scruffier corners of the area;
3. plant some flower-beds and erect benches;
4. conduct surveys on your priorities: traffic, noise, architecture, amenities and litter.

● Selling your House or Flat then contact:-
SAXTON & CO.

Estate Agents, Valuers,
Property Managers. Est. 1870
369 BROCKLEY ROAD
CROFTON PARK, SE4 2AG
(Next to Barclay's Bank)
Tel. No. 01-691-1516
● NO SALE - NO FEE ●

FAYRE

The sixth Brockley Midsummer Fayre on June 21st, was again, a great success. Firstly, thank you all, those of you who shared, making and collecting, running stalls on the day, and above all, enjoying yourselves. There is a miraculous quality about the way in which all the disparate elements combine to make such a fun filled day, and we also made some money, over £300 for the society's funds!

The day was remarkably good, considering the sodden quality of the rest of June. The high wind did prevent the promised hot air balloon rides, which was a pity, but some other time

As always, we had splendid support from local people and organisations. The park's attendants were friendly and co-operative in helping us to set the scene. SELTEC ran a 'learning' stall, advertising courses of study. Sybil Phoenix, among many other commitments, cooked us some Jamaica patties for the highly successful ethnic food stall. Two of our councillors braced the elements, and allowed themselves to be pelted with wet sponges, thank you David Townsend and Nicolas Taylor.

The local clergy excelled themselves in the first Brockley all comers ecumenical slow bicycle race.

The deputy mayor, judged the fancy dress parade, which was a riot of imagination and colour. Face painted children wandered round the fair thanks to the efforts of our make-up artistes. The home-made cakes were delicious, the bric-a-brac good value, the sweets toothsome, the plants verdant, the books interesting, the games exciting, the hamburgers scrumptious. All in all, the fayre was an enjoyable and worthy venture. Again to all of you, for all your help, thank you.

No account of the fayre would be complete without a very big thank you to our loyal local traders, who generously helped us with their contributions for prizes. We list them below, with our gratitude.

- Brockley Road**
W. Drummie
Matthews Butcher
Kingstons Butcher
Sewells Newsagents
Turners Stores
Brockley Floral Depot
Post Office
Asik Dry Cleaners
Anglo Irish Stores
Liberman Chemist
- Brockley Cross**
Dewhurst
Spar
- Lewisham Way**
Northwoods Chemist
Spalding & Sparrow
- Tyrwhitt Road**
Taylors
- ALSO thanks for help from Brian Whitty and CWCarpentry and Ian Middleton.



DOGS

I am writing to you about the place in Hillyfields Park that will be used as a dog exercise area.

I thoroughly disagree with this, for starters, the area is far too small to be used for exercising. Another problem is that with such overcrowding, female dogs will be followed around all the time by male dogs. I have a female dog and do not want her to have pups. Not only that, it will become a health hazard — in such a small area there will be an enormous amount of waste.

So please could you extend the area to as far as the end of the golf course near the canteen.

And why not have a pond for fishes or frogs in the part of Hillyfields by the Bowling Ground. It will certainly brighten up the park.

*Yours sincerely,
D. Dass (aged 12)*

P.S. The reason why there are no hedgehogs around is not because of foxes, but because they are knocked down by cars.

WASTE PAPER

We no longer collect waste paper, the returns were simply inadequate. However, the Friends of the Earth are collecting in the Brockley area. They come on the **THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH**. Therefore on the 16 October and 20 November.

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

Traffic

Hilly Fields Traffic Cell Study Public Meeting on 28th July

Following a year's study Lewisham Council circulated a leaflet in July outlining their proposals for tackling traffic conditions around Hilly Fields.

A public meeting was held at St. Peter's Centre on July 28th to test public reaction to the proposed measures which are shown on the map.

The meeting was well conducted and well attended which supposedly reflects the interest and concern that many people have about the effect of traffic on our lives.

It was difficult to summarise or draw any clear conclusions from comments made at the meeting as the views were divided both for and against.

There were clearly identifiable groups of residents who were justifiably biased by their local traffic problem but who did not necessarily take a wider view of the effect that such traffic management schemes have on both this and adjoining areas.

The measures which aroused most HEAT were the road closures and one-way schemes.

The Brockley Society is very concerned that any trial scheme introduced should be exposed to the widest possible consensus view of local residents.

Public meetings are attended by a small vocal minority of residents (i.e. approximately 300-400 at the above meeting out of possibly 7,500 residents).

The Brockley Society proposes to hold a door to door survey, in the near future, throughout the conservation area asking whether you are for or against the more radical proposals i.e.:—

ROAD CLOSURES

- Bexhill Road
- Harefield Road
- Hilly Fields Crescent
- St. Margarets Road

ONE-WAY ROUTES

- Tyrwhitt Road to Darling Road
- Chudleigh Road

WIDTH RESTRICTIONS

- Algernon Road

We do hope that you can help us with this survey, without which we cannot present a case — either for or against — to the Council.

Views put currently by member of the Brockley Society range from one end of the spectrum to the other as illustrated by the following letters from two road representatives:—

Road closures ■■■■
Boxhill Road under the railway bridge.
Harefield Road between Breakspears Road and Tressillian Road.
Hilly Fields Crescent between Tyrwhitt Road and Brookbank Road.
St Margaret's Road at its junction with Adelaide Avenue.
(The first closure would divert traffic to the Crofton Park Road/Brockley Grove junction; whilst the other three closures would encourage traffic to use the Adelaide Avenue/Brockley Road junction).

One-way routes →
Tyrwhitt Road from Loampit Hill to Darling Road.
Chudleigh Road from Phoebeth Road to Ladywell Road and from Elsiemaud Road to Brockley Grove.

Dear Editors,

I attended the public meeting at St. Peter's Centre on July 28th to discuss the Hillyfields Traffic Study and was impressed to see how many people had turned up, about 200 I should guess.

However, I was annoyed at the selfish attitude of some of the people there, who were complaining that the various road closures and width restrictions would add ONE or TWO minutes to their car journeys inside and through the area.

I am also a motorist and agree that my journeys to and from schools, the shops, libraries and to see friends will be a little less convenient. However as the parent of young children I am prepared to put up with this if the volume and speed of traffic along our residential roads can be reduced. I think the Council's scheme is worth a try, at least for a few months, to see how we can all adapt to it.

Other people argued that the Harefield Road closure would divide the Conservation area into two and that communications would break down.

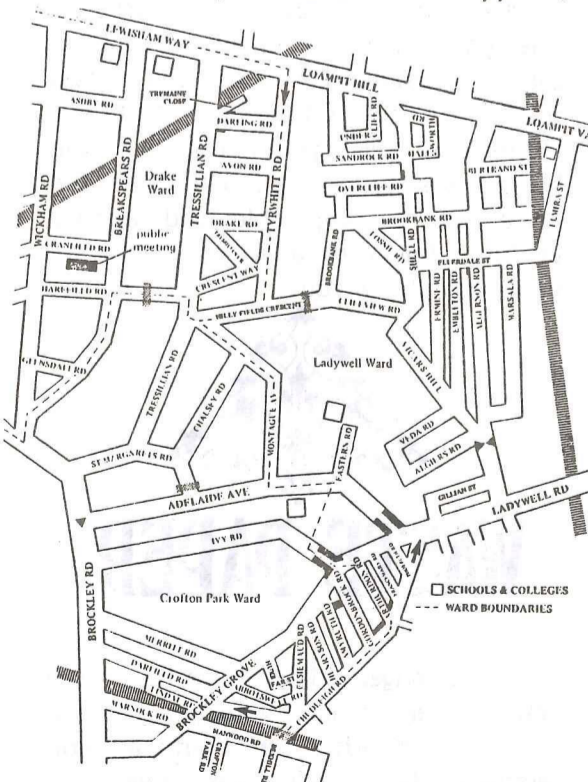
Well, it will still be possible to walk along Harefield Road or even to cycle along it to visit friends or local shops! — both of which are healthier and cleaner methods of transport anyway.

Apparently Harefield Road has the heaviest traffic flow in the entire area as the traffic using all the short cuts (Cliffview, Hillyfields Crescent, Montague Avenue, Tressillian Road) all funnels into it on the way to Geoffrey Road and Brockley Cross.

No one actually lives on this piece of Harefield Road or has an entrance on to it so no residents will be inconvenienced and those of us who live near Hillyfield Park will benefit from losing the 2½ hours continuous stream of fast traffic each morning and evening.

So please, Brockley Society, add your support to the Council's Traffic Scheme.

Yours faithfully,
(Name and address supplied)



Hilly Fields

Dear Sir,

I object to your scheme of traffic management, for Hilly Fields as for other areas, in general and in particular. These schemes are totally misconceived and based on false premises.

In particular, as a resident of Breakspears Road, slap in the centre of the area, I object to every detail in the scheme, since it will restrict, not only the movement of 'commuters' (by which, I assume, is meant 'other people') but also of myself and other residents going to and from the local shops, in Brockley and Lewisham, and to work. In particular the effect of your measures will funnel even more traffic along Breakspears Road and Wickham Road — both of which, I predict, you will eventually want to make one-way, with a further traffic-light at the intersection of Wickham, Breakspears, Brockley and Foxberry. You will make a right turn out of Ivy Road into Brockley Grove — which many a parent of children at Gordonbrook School will wish to do, as I once did — even more dangerous than it now is. There is, at this point, plenty of room for a roundabout, which would slow and regulate, without restricting the traffic there. That you have chosen such a restriction is indicative of your attitudes about more than traffic. It seems that your whole attitude to the public is: restrict, control, constrict, constrain in a word, suffocate; force everyone into the same, overcrowded lorry-polluted stream until the congestion is such as to cause complete seizure. And you evidently don't want anyone to live in Breakspears Road, OR Wickham; they haven't been given the distinction of 'residential' status by being restricted. Further, your choice of closure of Harefield Road will create a play-street' or lorry-park; a gathering place for hooligans, vandals and rubbish, hence also a centre for crime.

Since when is the remedy for congestion and overcrowding, to create further restrictions upon movement, so leading to further congestion? For this is what the Hilly Fields scheme (like those before it) consists of; further blockage of traffic: atherosclerosis added to already hardening arteries must eventually lead to the socioeconomic equivalent of a coronary thrombosis or a stroke. You don't need me to tell you either of these is often fatal.

There will not be free and safe movement for pedestrians or for private OR PUBLIC transport (I deny that there IS such a thing at present) of PEOPLE until BULK FREIGHT is put back where it belongs, safely on the railways, the rivers, canals and round the coast — also in the air. The thought that of the order of 80% of our freight traffic now goes by road, sharing the same space as ordinary, vulnerable people, especially old folk and children, instead of safely regulated on tracks, would be ridiculous if it were not frightening, and tragic.

Yours faithfully,
Donald Harris

Traffic signals ▼ could be installed at the junction of Adelaide Avenue and Brockley Road.

(We would not require a traffic order for traffic signals, but the GLC has to give the go-ahead and find the cash for this work all the same).

Improvements ■■■ with footpaths being built out — could be made at a number of junctions like Adelaide Avenue/Ladywell Road, Algernon Road/Ellerdale Street, Brockley Grove/Ivy Road, Chudleigh Road/Arthurton Road, Tressillian Road/Darling Road and Tressillian Road/Tremaine Close.

Width restriction ►
Algernon Road where it meets Vicars Hill.

Dear Sir,

Ref: Traffic — Hillyfields

May I suggest in addition to the proposals outlined in the newsheet that:—

- 1) Tressillian Road be restricted to one side parking, as far as Darling or Avon Roads, up from Lewisham Way. This would allow service vehicles and builders lorries to have easier access and reduce traffic jams.
- 2) In addition to Tressillian Road that Tyrwhitt, Breakspears and Wickham Roads are considered for this suggestion.

This would prevent drivers parking halfway on the pavement to the danger of blind and elderly persons or mothers with prams some of whom have seen to be made to walk in the road.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs. B.M. White

ADS

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 SE4.

WICKERS WORLD

31 Lewisham Way
B opposite Goldsmiths College

Phone: 01-691-1221

CANE & BAMBOO FURNITURE ETC.

also large variety of boxes, china & giftware
59 Lee High Road, SE13
Phone: 01-852-7338

For all your book requirements

BOOKS PLUS Socialist/Feminist Bookstore

23, Lewisham Way S.E.14.
692 - 2833

Conferences catered for
OPEN MON -SAT

Greenwich & Lewisham Ecology Party Social (disco & band) at Lee Centre

1 Aislilie Road, Lee
1st November at 7.30 pm
75p — Bar and Refreshment

Stop Press

HELP

St. Peters Church has dry rot.
£20,000 urgently needed.
Come to A.G.M. with ideas to help!