


BROCKLEY SOCIETY



Issue 71 October 1994
Charity No: 1004245

Delivered free to 3,750 households
in the Brockley Conservation Area

A GOOD YEAR FOR BROCKLEY AND THE SOCIETY



The past year has been one of feverish activity in Brockley, with many projects coming to fruition, benefitting the area as a whole.

The new foot bridge over the railway at Brockley station will be in place by early autumn, and it will be opened by the Home Secretary. Plans are currently being finalised for the landscaping of the area in front of the station and the Brockley Society is planning to plant a tree in celebration.

TRANSPORT TEAM

The team have been working all year in close liaison with the Council on traffic calming measures, and are still discussing measures for Geoffrey Rd. Currently, plans are being finalised with the Council, in close liaison with our transport team and a meeting will be held in the Autumn, to allow everyone to see and comment on the proposed management plan.

Recent meetings with the Council's maintenance team, who are primarily responsible for installing and maintaining street lighting, furniture and signage has resulted in a trip being organised to the Council's depot to allow us to see the variety of equipment on offer and draw up a list of acceptable materials and styles complementary to the area.

We hope to see a uniformity of style developing over the next few years as items come up for renewal whilst ensuring that items made of recycled materials are used whenever possible.

Together with the Brockley Police, a team will be visiting Peterborough to look at a discount card scheme which has been piloted successfully amongst local traders, and we are hoping to be the first London area to try the scheme.

ART GALLERY

A new Art Gallery opened in our Deptford Library in July, the building having been retained for the use of the community, as a result of the determined efforts of The Friends of Deptford Library, to stop the Council selling the building. The building is being slowly refurbished by the team of 38 resident local artists and a planning application for a cafe has been made, which will become the central meeting place for all of us in Brockley.

This will be a long term project which needs major funding and the Art House as well as providing studio space for 38 artists, will be running art education workshops for both adults and children, starting soon. It is intended that the Gallery will be re-named in the autumn and that it will soon provide space and activities for local school children.

The Brockley Society has been closely involved in all the projects mentioned above, and we have during the course of the year seen many new, younger faces attend the meetings and offering to help or get involved. New friendships have been made and it is encouraging to see that people are beginning to see again the value of an area that has a sense of identity and community spirit, to the benefit of all.

The Brockley Society has once again a clear focus and direction, and its value to the community is being increasingly recognised both by local residents and by the Council and other official bodies. We would like to continue to see more people become actively involved and welcome everyone to the AGM on October 25th when the committee for 1995 will be elected and ideas, plans and projects for the coming year will be discussed.

If there is something you would like to see improved or changed in the area, or you would like to get involved, come to the AGM and make your opinions heard.

As this is the last newsletter before the AGM, I would like to thank everyone who has in what ever way helped the Brockley Society during the last year. Without you it would never have been possible.

Nicole Livingstone-Smith
Chairman of the Brockley Society

BROCKLEY SOCIETY MEETINGS

Venue: ST PETERS CENTRE, CRANFIELD ROAD, BROCKLEY. Time: 8.00pm

WEDNESDAY 5TH OCTOBER 1994

TUESDAY 25TH OCTOBER 1994

WEDNESDAY 7TH DECEMBER 1994

WEDNESDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 1995

Please contact an officer from the list below if there is an issue which you would like to be raised, or come to one of the meetings which are open to everyone!

CHAIRMAN	081 469 3975
VICE-CHAIRMAN	081 692 7869
SECRETARY	081 469 3374
TREASURER	081 691 3548
TRANSPORT	081 692 7869
PLANNING	081 692 6977

NEWSLETTER EDITOR	081 691 2751
PRESS & PUBLICITY	081 691 2751
SOCIAL EVENTS	081 469 3374
FAYRE	081 469 3374
ADVERTISING	081 691 3548
SUBSCRIPTIONS	081 691 2751

AGM - Tuesday 25th October 1994

The Brockley Society AGM is to be held on Tuesday 25th October at 8.00pm at St Peter's Centre, Cranfield Road. The election of officers for the posts of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary for the year 1994/95 will take place. Should you wish to be nominated for any of these positions, please contact 081-469 3975 prior to the meeting. The AGM is open to any resident of Brockley, and new members are always welcome. Come along and see what it's all about.

The BROCKLEY SOCIETY wish to give their grateful acknowledgements to the following for their generous donations.

Loampit Hill

SELGUN GUNS & KNIVES
NEW OCEAN FISH BAR
HARVEY'S IRONMONGERS
D. MITCHELL PICTURE FRAMER
FREDAIRE HAIRDRESSERS
K.J. BUILDING SUPPLIES
NORTHWOODS CHEMIST
SPALDING & SPARROW
ST. JOHN'S POST OFFICE

Tyrwhitt Road

TAYLOR'S GROCERS
THE TALBOT PUBLIC HOUSE

Tanners Hill

CAFE NINUCCI

Manor Avenue

MIKIPRINT

Upper Brockley Road

THE WICKHAM ARMS
THE LORD WOLSELEY

Ashby Mews

K.C. ENGINEERING

Brockley Road

ASHIK DRY CLEANERS
THE POST OFFICE, (no 254)
AMIN CHEMIST
T.W.BARNES OFF LICENCE
P.J'S HAIR DESIGN
BOMBOLINO PIZZERIA
BROCKLEY AQUARIA
BRIAN MORRIS MACE STORES
TURNER'S HARDWARE
SEWELL'S NEWSAGENT
MAGNOLIA FLORIST
NAZ BRASSERIE RESTAURANT
A & B CARPETS
MR. LAWRENCE WINE BAR

Deptford High St.

LAURIES CARIBBEAN FOODS

To anyone we have forgotten to list - our sincere thanks and apologies!

**FAREWELL
AND THANK YOU!**

Sheila Job, who for so many years has done such a wonderful job as Editor of the Brockley Society Newsletter, is off to sunnier climes in North London.

Sheila has played an important role in the success of the Brockley Society over the years, not only working as Editor and on the distribution of the newsletter, but also campaigning on our behalf about issues of concern in the Conservation Area.

We all wish Sheila and Christopher much success and happiness in their new life over the river!

Jacqui now takes over as Editor of the Brockley Society Newsletter.

20th ANNIVERSARY FAYRE

The 20th Midsummer Fayre, held on 18th June, was opened by Alan Till, the Deputy Mayor of Lewisham.

The Fayre was held as usual on Hilly Fields and was our most successful yet. Around 6,000 people attended, many of whom said it was one of the most enjoyable events they had been to, no doubt helped by the day being hot and sunny.

From stalls, arts and crafts, face painting, bouncy castle and competitions to find Miss Brockley 1994 and the person with the knobbliest knees in Brockley, there was something for everyone. And lots of food and drink to keep everybody refreshed.

The Fayre team did an excellent job and raised a record amount for the Brockley Society, which will allow us to fund the newsletter next year and also support a variety of other projects including Hal-

lowe'en and a Christmas Craft Fayre in early December.

There isn't enough room to thank everyone involved with the Fayre personally, but a big "thank you" to all those who helped, not only on the day, but behind the scenes as well. Your efforts are very much appreciated.

Planning for next year's Fayre is already under way. If anyone would like to help, in whatever way possible, please telephone 081-469 3374.



Winner of the Window Box Competition



Winner of the Front Garden Competition



Cloe Hayes - Miss Brockley 1994

COMMUNITY VICTORY OVER BREAKSPEAR ARMS

The infamous Breakspear Public House will re-open in December 1995 with a new identity. The building will be completely redesigned and refurbished and will include a childrens' room, a real ale brewery and a new bar.

The new design will also take into account crime prevention features including closed circuit T.V and improved external lighting. Application to the courts for a new licence will take place in September on the basis of agreement with the local police and the community. There is every confidence that there will be no objections.

Since January '94 there has been much apprehension that the pub would re-open and that the ensuing drug problem would escalate. Residents not only had to contend with rowdy behaviour from the "clients" of the pub, but also the onslaught of pushers that descended into the area. Crime, especially mugging, escalated.

The campaign to close the pub and keep it closed showed how a community can achieve positive results when united. The police were wholeheartedly behind the residents of Brockley and did everything in

their power to persuade the Council that it was not in the interest of the community that the pub be re-opened.

Since the Breakspear Arms closed, the drug related street crime has been eliminated - an outstanding result!

David Bruce, former Head of Design of the Fox & Firkin chain will head the team which will revamp the Breakspear Arms. There is much hope that the brewery representatives and Mr Bruce will take public consultation in planning the new future of the pub. This will include a change of name to symbolically break the link with the past. The new name will reflect the history of the area and community input will be sought.

The revamping of the Breakspear Arms will, hopefully, lead to a revitalisation of the area and will have a beneficial effect on local businesses.

Everyone is delighted as to the outcome of this campaign, and full praise must go to the residents of Brockley, Grand Metropolitan, Grosvenor Inns, Brockley Sector Working Party, the Metropolitan Police, the Foxwell Residents Association and the Brockley Society.

LUXMORE GARDENS

- The forgotten gardens

Isn't a shame that Luxmore Gardens has been allowed to deteriorate?

This small and abandoned park in Brockley behind Rokeby Road used to be a haven for small children to play in, safely away from the dangers of fast cars careering down the main road, and for adults who sought quiet contemplation.

The Gardens, though small, were quiet and well kept with a variety of shrubs surrounding its perimeter. It was cleaned regularly. The sand in the sandpit was changed often AND it was locked at night. It was a nice place to be for children and adults alike.

Today it is a different story. Luxmore is a major health hazard. The children have nowhere to play safely now. The adults have nowhere to contemplate.

If the dog mess does not make you slip then the broken glass and dumped

garbage will get you in the end. Steps leading down to the gardens become an assault course with bags of rotting rubbish, stacks of newspapers and mounds of wine bottles making their presence felt. At night, it becomes a high contender for a hideaway for muggers or pushers lurking on the steps by the library or church - just waiting to pounce on an unsuspecting victim.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.

No-one uses Luxmore any more. The Council sweeps every street and collects rubbish from every corner but mysteriously seem to 'forget' about Luxmore.

If you feel that this haven has been taken away from you, send letters to the Editor and we will print them as part of the campaign to clean up Luxmore Gardens and give it back to the community.

It was a nice place to be for children and adults alike.



BE AT ONE WITH NATURE

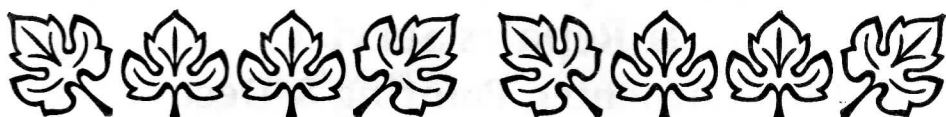
People often ask 'What is Permaculture?'

Permaculture or permanent agriculture or culture simply asks people to put as much into life as they demand from it. It is based on a successful approach to designing sustainable environments, a co-operation with nature and caring for earth and people.

The ethics, principles and practice of permaculture can be used anywhere from city flats, window boxes, and allotments through to industrial and education

premises. Bill Mollison's book 'Introduction to Permaculture' (ISBN 0908228058) gives a fascinating insight into this new way of life.

Permaculture in practice empowers you to be resourceful and to become a part of the solution to many of our problems locally and globally. If you would like to know more about Permaculture and for introductory courses, contact Lesley, at the South East London Permaculture office on 081-699 4189.



THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STORY...

They've been labelled rebels without a clue, dole-scrounger radicals and hopeless idealists. Much of the media has given the new generation of environmental activists and social campaigners a very lukewarm reception.

But that's only one side of the story. You've probably seen television coverage of these hippy types lying down in front of bulldozers to protect our communities and countryside from the government's £20 billion road building scheme or chaining themselves to the railings of the Houses Of Parliament to alert people to the imminent Criminal Justice Act.

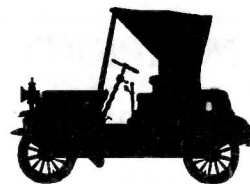
They may look strange but many are being won over by the deeds and words of this new twenty-something generation. Local journalist Camilla Berens has spent the last year travelling around the country getting to know many of the groups at the heart of this movement.

In the latest issue of her alternative

magazine POD, Camilla talks about her experiences with anti-roads campaigners including the Twyford Downs Dongas Tribe and the No M11 Link Campaign in Wanstead, East London; discusses the real issues behind the Criminal Justice Bill and the growing number of groups who have come together to oppose it and highlights alternative community projects including Brockley's own South East London Permaculture group and Brixton's Local Exchange Trading System.

Seeing the commitment and positive spirit coming from these people has really given me hope that we can rekindle the community spirit and work towards a greener future, says Camilla. By writing about what these groups are doing - from their point of view - I'm aiming to pass on that hope to other people.

POD is available, price £2.50 (inc. p+p) from POD Magazine, PO Box 23, London SE4 1SW.



TRAFFIC SURVEY

The survey of traffic using rat runs through the Conservation Area finally took place on 8 July; moved to a Friday because of the disruptive effect of rail strikes, which changed road traffic patterns. Enough volunteers turned up to enable us to get fairly comprehensive coverage of traffic movements through the area in the morning rush hour. It's amazing just how much traffic there is at that time of the morning.

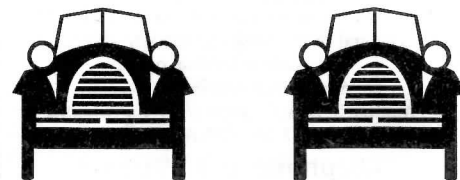
Usually at this time, I'm too busy trying to get from A to B myself. Standing still and watching was a real eye opener! The frantic scribbles of the volunteers trying to keep up with the flow of traffic are, as we go to press, being analysed for us by Liam Johnston in the Traffic Services branch of Lewisham Council, who will process the numbers through a computer. In the meantime, many thanks to our group of volunteers: Alan, Gavin, Gill, Jack, Karen, Liz, Neil and Rachel, and to Liam, who will be doing the really difficult bit!

Geoffrey Road/Manor Avenue proposals

The Council is still working on its proposals for traffic calming measures for this end of the Conservation Area, but expects to put firm proposals out for consultation in the autumn. The new proposals will include measures to reduce traffic in Harefield and Cranfield Roads as well as Geoffrey Road and Manor Avenue.

The Council will be sending questionnaires to all homes that are directly affected as well as surrounding roads asking for their views and will provide the Brockley Society with a display of the proposed scheme so that we can hold our own public meeting to discuss the proposals. Look out for posters advertising the meeting in local shops. We will also be seeing road improvement schemes on the edge of the Conservation Area along Brockley Road, as the increasing number of accidents on the stretch of road from the Wickham Road junction to the Honor Oak lights, means the Council has been given the money to spend on more safety features.

The Brockley Society has been assured by the Council that as they introduce measures to improve safety on the main roads (e.g. more traffic lights) they will make sure that they also prevent any knock-on effect in the Conservation Area and other residential roads by closing off potential rat-runs.



POLICE AND THE COMMUNITY

BUSINESS WATCH

With support and advice of local shopkeepers, PC Tony Briggs is spearheading the Business Watch Scheme around Brockley. The commercial equivalent of Neighbourhood Watch, Business Watch provides a structure for different businesses and even rival businesses to work together to beat crime.

Realising that crimes were being repeated around the shopping areas in Brockley, PC Briggs saw that there was a need to increase awareness, observation and commitment to action of the shopkeepers towards helping other traders, and in turn themselves, to keep crime down. In effect, people at work becoming the extra 'eyes and ears' for the police.

Crime prevention is the main theme and seminars are being organised to help redesign shop layouts as regards counters and displays. This, it is hoped, will deter any attempts to steal.

The Metropolitan Police invites YOU to join them in taking the first step towards greater co-operation within the business community - co-operation which could significantly improve your working environment.

Preventing crime is everybody's business. Please start to solve your crime problems NOW, by contacting PC Tony Briggs at Brockley Police Station. (Business Watch - Business Protecting Business)
Tel: 081-697 9212.

VEHICLE WATCH

Here's a chance for you to sleep soundly in your bed, day or night, knowing that your vehicle is being protected.

The Police have devised a scheme called 'Vehicle Watch' which helps safeguard your vehicle from thieves when you are not usually using it. Membership is free and all you have to do is register with your local police station where you will be issued with two Vehicle Watch stickers which you then display on the rear of your car or van.

The stickers are colour coded depending on what time of the day or night you don't usually use your car, and if a police officer sees your car or van in use outside the time indicated on the sticker, then he or she will stop the vehicle and question the occupant. Need to know more? Contact Brockley Police Station.

GARDENS, SHEDS AND GARAGES

An often overlooked aspect of security is the garden. Securing the garden makes it more difficult for an intruder to enter the house, a first line deterrent in itself.

GRAFFITI

The Council graffiti clean up which was scheduled for the 21/22 July has been cancelled due to insufficient funds.

If you are unfortunate enough to suffer from graffiti on your premises, an application of anti-graffiti paint could help solve the problem.

The Brockley Society has contacted 2 manufacturers and purchased several tins of the paint to be applied to the mural and other areas. We are currently attempting to negotiate a discount with the manufac-

urers for anyone living in the Brockley area. To apply for the discount just mention the Brockley Society and give your address.

The paint may be ordered and purchased from:

Sheds

Garden sheds are often easy to break into and some thought should be given when fitting padlocks and bolts to ensure that the timber to which the item is being fitted is strong and substantial. The use of at least one coach bolt in addition to the screws is suggested.

Padlocks should be conducive with the risk and a hardened close shackle type will give maximum protection. Hasps, when closed, cover and protect the screws used to attach them.

Ladders

All ladders should be stored horizontally in locked purpose-made brackets, secured to brick work or internally under lock and key and chained to prevent use.

Garages

Wooden garages secured with a rim cylinder can be 'sprung' or if the door has windows in it, they can be broken and the lock opened easily. A five lever mortice lock can be fitted, removing this weakness but maintaining convenience.

In up and over doors, a 'T' handle mechanism is easily overcome and one answer is to fit good quality padlocks and hasps externally to the door. The two disadvantages of this method are that the door can only be locked from outside and the padlocks and hasps are open to attack. An alternative method is to equip the door with two five lever mortice locks, each operating sideways. These locks are now readily available in packs of two.

Where the garage has an internal door giving access to the house, extra care must be taken to ensure that this door is equipped with a five lever mortice lock top and bottom, and is kept locked when not in use.

If you need further advice on home security please contact Brockley Police Station
PC Tony Briggs

TRIMITE LTD - Arundel Road, Uxbridge, Mddx UB8 2SD (TEL: 0895 251 234)

DACRYLATE PIANTS LTD - Lime Street, Kirby in Ashfield, Nottingham NG17 8AL

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

June - July 1994.

9th June

Lewisham College. Erection of 6, 6m. high flag poles.

4 Tressillian Crescent. Erection of a garage fronting onto Tressillian Crescent.

7a The Parade. Revised details for shop front and entrance to upper floors.

Upper Brockley Road. Brockley Station. Erection of steel footbridge over the railway.

23rd June

9 Vulcan Road. Display of site development sign board on the side.

193 Brockley Road. Conversion of rear part of ground floor to a 1-bed flat.

Deptford Library. Listed building consent for internal alterations, together with the provision of an access ramp to the front.

129 Upper Brockley Road. Erection of a garage at the rear.

54 Adelaide Avenue. Erection of a garage at the rear.

122 Tressillian Road. Conversion to 3 1-bed flats with new external staircase to the first floor at the rear.

Lewisham College. Floodlighting the Tressillian building.

Hilly Fields School Annexe. Erection of a gymnasium block adjacent, 108 - 120 Adelaide Avenue. r/o 100 Manor Avenue. Revised drawings for 2-storey garage & office building at the rear.

100 Adelaide Avenue. Retention of a garage at the rear.

52 Manor Avenue. Erection of a garage fronting onto Ashby Road.

Brockley Nursery Land. Details of street lighting.

16a Hilly Fields Crescent. Retention of a velux light and a window at the rear.

TREES

88 Wickham Road.

22 Cranfield Road.

38, 70 Tyrwhitt Road.

198 Tressillian Road.

20 Montague Avenue.

61 Upper Brockley Road.

Wadcroft Court, Geoffrey Road.

1 Garsington Mews.

Development Control Sub-Committee decisions

83 Upper Brockley Road - granted.

Land adjoining 1 Drake Road - granted.

Lewisham College

(13m x 5m Banner) - refused.

40 Cranfield Road - granted.

84 Manor Avenue - granted.

1 Avon Road - refused.

Gillian

Work, Rest and Play

WHAT'S ON

BROCKLEY SOCIETY

Walking Tour of Brockley.

Sunday 11th September.

11.00am to 1.00pm. Start at The Talbot on Tyrwhitt Road and finish at the Wickham Arms on Upper Brockley Road.

Hallowe'en Party.

Saturday 29th October.

Hilly Fields, 7.30pm - 10.00pm.

(Awaiting approval from the Council)

Christmas Craft Fayre.

Venue and date to be confirmed.

ST PETER'S CENTRE, Cranfield Road

Monday 7.00 - 8.00pm. **Step Class** - first time and beginners.

Monday 8.00 - 9.00pm. **Step Class** - for experienced steppers.

Tuesday and Thursday 7.00 - 8.00pm

Body toning. Tone bums, tums, legs.

Burn fat and increase fitness.

Wednesday 7.00 - 9.00pm. **Dog training.**

Wednesday 8.00 - 10.00pm. **Ki Aikido Class** (side entrance).

Thursday 4.00 - 5.00pm. **Art Club** for 6 - 10 years (Committee room).

Thursday 7.30 - 9.30pm. **Badminton.**

Saturday 2.00 - 4.00pm. **Yoga** (main hall).

SOUTH EAST LONDON PERMACULTURE

Meets on the first Thursday of each month at the Lord Wolseley, Upper Brockley Road at 7.45pm.

LEWISHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

081-857 1819

30th September - **Music from the Horniman** at 7.45pm. Methodist Church, Albion Way, Lewisham.

Speaker: Dr Frances Palmer.

28th October - **Talk on Kidbrooke.**

Starts 7.45pm. Venue as above.

Speaker: Michael Egan.

25th November - **Hackney Memories.**

Speaker: Jean Wait. Starts 7.45pm. Venue as above.

SYDENHAM SOCIETY

081 699 4491

14th September - "**Paris under the German Occupation**". Starts at 7.45pm.

Speaker: Evelyn Jaulmes.

Venner Road Hall, Sydenham.

4th October - "**Great Houses of Sydenham**". Starts at 7.45pm. Venue as above.

FOR YOUR DIARY

The next Summer Fayre will be on 24th June 1995 on Hillyfields. If you would like to book a stall, please contact 081-469 3975. We particularly would like to hear from Craft stallholders.

LEWISHAM PEOPLE'S DAY

The 10th Lewisham People's Day took place on Saturday 16th July at Mountsfield Park, Catford. As usual the event was very successful and well attended. The Brockley Society had a stand there to let everyone know of our presence and the work we do. For further information contact Lewisham Council.

LEWISHAM ART HOUSE

Lewisham Art House held their first exhibition, entitled *Move*, at their new home in the old Deptford Library on Lewisham Way on Wednesday 6th July.

The exhibition was opened by the Mayor of Lewisham. There was a wide variety of interesting works on display, including paintings, ceramics and prints, all produced by local artists.

Although the evening was well attended, the Art House still needs your support. There is still much to be done in the way of getting the building in order; there is still no heating and hot water!

Why not do your bit to support the Art House by becoming a Friend of Lewisham Art House, for a very modest fee. For information please contact 081-694 9011.

CRAFT WORKSHOPS

- LEWISHAM ART HOUSE

A Programme of craft workshops is available from the old Deptford Library now Lewisham Art House.

Starting on the 10th September, it will include workshops on Silk Painting, Paper Making, Textiles, Patchwork, Quilting, Drawing with a Sewing Machine, Batik, Painting, Collage and much more!

For further information, contact Sian on 081-694 9011 or write to: Lewisham Art House, 140 Lewisham Way, Lewisham, London SE14.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

We hope you enjoy reading our restaurant review enclosed with this issue. We have certainly had many a good evening eating for Brockley!

LOCAL DIRECTORY REVIEW

We are slowly but surely getting all our information together for our local services directory. If you have not already put your entry in, there is still time. Please send your entry c/o 26a Chalsey Road.

FROM THE EDITOR.....

Although we know that you like hearing about what's happening in the Conservation Area and how it affects you, we will be forging closer links with other local Societies and reporting on events that affect all residents generally. So, if there's anything that you feel that other areas know about that would benefit the community as a whole and we don't know about it or do it - let us know!! Letters to be sent c/o

The Editor,
Brockley Society Newsletter,
30 Rokeby Rd, Brockley SE4.



HELP!!

We urgently need people to help us with the Brockley Society. You don't need experience, just a willingness to give some of your time to the conservation and protection of the area. We particularly need help in the following areas:

Local History Committee

- We need people to hold talks, document what's happening in the area, archiving and collecting local history information from our senior residents.

If you can help please contact the Editor on 691 2751.

Environmental Committee

- Volunteers to step up campaigns on cleaner parks, litter, dog mess and graffiti. Contact the Editor on 691 2751.

Events/Fayre Committee

- Help needed in all areas. Contact the Chairman 469 3975.

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BROCKLEY SOCIETY

Barbecue

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Next Copy Deadline 21st November 1994



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ARCHITECT

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Experience in gaining
planning permission in
Brockley Conservation Area

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