

BROCKLEY SOCIETY



Issue 80 May 1997
Charity No: 1004245

Delivered free to 4 000 households

Hilly Fields prepares for 23rd Fayre



Fun for All at the Summer Fayre

If you have not already done so, now is the time to make a date of the Brockley Summer Fayre on Saturday, 21 June. The event, which takes place on Hilly Fields, starts at 12 noon and finishes at 5pm.

Organised by volunteers on behalf of the Brockley Society, the Summer Fayre is visited each year by more than 5,000 people from all over the borough.

Young and young at heart will find plenty to do from tug-of-wars, swings, carousel, helter-skelter and bouncy castle to a children's fancy hat competition.

Tickle your tastebuds with a variety of delicious things to eat from the Brockley Society's homemade cakes to barbeque delights, hot dogs and vegetarian treats.

Stock up the present drawer with an interesting little something from one of the local

craftspeople. Or, just browse, meet your neighbours, make new friends and enjoy this Fayre — whether it's your first or your 23rd.

Cake call

You don't have to be Delia Smith to help out at the Brockley Society tea stall. There are never enough homemade cakes and we're always looking for volunteers to bake. If you can help by baking a cake, let us know, or just come and introduce yourself (and your cake) on the day. We would be grateful if you could bring your cake to the marquee by 11 o'clock.

For further information please contact: Elizabeth Willmott on 0181 694-6838.

One-way traffic

To ease traffic congestion on the day of the Fayre, the police have once again agreed to set

up a one-way system eastbound along Hilly Fields Crescent and westbound along Crescent Way between midday and 5pm.

How green are your fingers?

If you have a sneaking suspicion that your fingers are turning green in the night, then you may be in for a prize! The Brockley Society will be selecting the best front gardens and the best planters or window boxes to become the winners of this year's gardening competition. What do you need to do? Little except make sure your front garden is looking its best for weeks 1st-14th June when the judging will take place. £10 goes to the winner of each category. Prizes will be announced and presented at the Summer Fayre. The competition has kindly been sponsored by The City Gardener in Ladywell — your local garden centre.

BROCKLEY SOCIETY MEETINGS

Venue: St. Peter's Centre, Cranfield Rd. Tel: 0181-693 2030 Time: 8.00pm
dates: June 4th • August 6th • AGM October 22nd

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 0181 691 7234
Vice-Chair 0181 691 0349
Vice-Chair 0181 694 6838
Secretary 0181 691 1767
Fayre 0181 692 8512
Advertising 0181 691 5659
Planning 0181 692 6977
Police Liaison 0181 691 1767



Environmental 0181 691 7234
Editor & Production 0181 469 3975
Press & Publicity 0181 469 3975
Treasurer 0181 691 5659
Distribution 0181 691 1767
Transport 0181 691 1767
Local History 0181 692 6977
Hilly Fields Park Users 0181 691 7234

The Brockley Society welcomes all - regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or physical disability

South-east plagued by low flyers

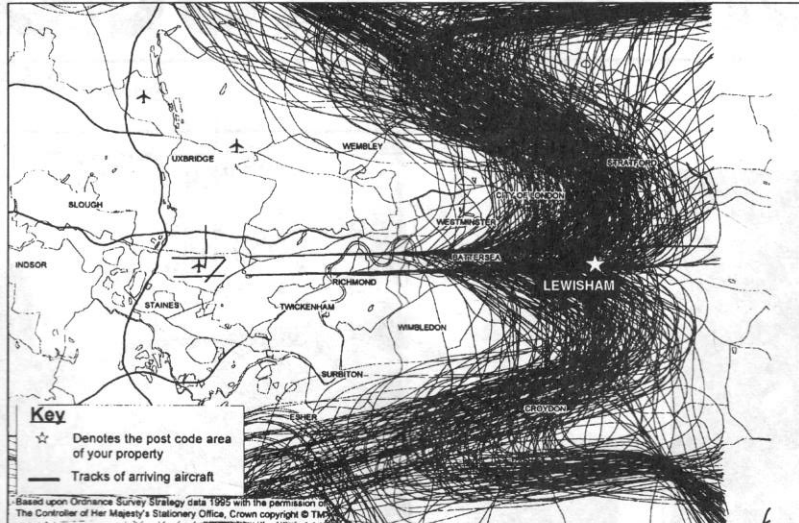
Local residents are being woken up at 4.15am by the sound of aircraft approaching Heathrow every few minutes.

Sadly, Brockley, once mercifully free of aircraft noise, is now suffering the same fate as much of West London. For any of you light sleepers, or those with attic or top-floor bedrooms, you will know that this is hardly a trivial problem.

Residents in west London boroughs have campaigned hard for a reduction in aircraft noise, particularly at night, and it would appear that the Civil Aviation Authority has proposed the clever solution of moving the problem to the east of the capital.

With the planned construction of terminal 5 at Heathrow, there will be a 20% increase in air traffic, so *now* is the time to act.

The British Airport Authority has admitted that it is testing new flight paths in an attempt to vary the nuisance caused near Heathrow. The trials mean that all flights are now turning over the Lewisham area for their final approach into



House shakers: flight paths of aircraft arriving at Heathrow

the airport (see map).

Discussions with the Aviation Environmental Department have shown that making a turn before coming into descent requires the pilot to apply more power to prevent the aircraft from stalling. This makes the turn considerably noisier than the rest of the descent into Heathrow.

Representatives also admitted that the

The Brockley Society would urgently like to hear your views on the subject, and invites all local residents to discuss the issue at one of its open meetings at the St Peter's Centre, on either 4 June or 6 August.

In the meantime, please register your views with the authority on freephone 0800 344 844 or fax 0181 745-6297.

Flytipping

Flytipping, the illegal dumping of rubbish is not only unsightly, but can be dangerous and an environmental hazard. Sadly the mews are often flytipped, especially at night. If you see someone flytipping please ring The Environmental Agency hotline number **0800 807060** with descriptions and vehicle registration numbers. With information the Agency is hoping to track down offenders and take them to court.

Fume-belchers

At last the Department of Transport has set up a regional hotline to allow the public to report heavy goods vehicles, including lorries, buses and dust carts etc. that are belching out fumes. Callers must give the registration number of the vehicle, time, place and date of sighting. If reported the vehicle will be given 10 days in which to obtain a clean emissions certificate from a test centre. **Ring 0181 665 0885.**

Anyone for basketball?

The Hilly Fields Users Group, in conjunction with Lewisham Council, have been successful in raising funds from the English Basketball Association for basketball hoops to be installed on Hilly Fields. The hoops will be installed during the summer on one of the existing tennis courts (with dual lines) and we are sure they will be popular! Our thanks go to the Council for their help and support.

Picnic area opens



Food for all: the Mayor Foqia Hayee opens the picnic area on Hilly Fields

The new picnic area to celebrate the Hilly Fields centenary was opened by the Mayor in February. Local residents, contributors and local school children were then invited to Prendergast School for refreshments. The new picnic area and the daffodils planted last autumn, which have flowered so well this spring, should give pleasure to people in Brockley for another 100 years. Thankyou to everyone who contributed to this achievement.

MAKE BROCKLEY A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE

What is the Brockley Society?

The society is an open association of people who live in the Brockley Conservation area. You don't have to apply to join. If you live here and want to get involved then you automatically belong.

What does it do?

Broc Soc works to protect the environment and character of the area, to promote community activity and improve local facilities. It involves local people in:

- ☆ planning and building conservation
- ☆ traffic proposals
- ☆ public transport
- ☆ Hilly Fields Park
- ☆ police liaison
- ☆ a quarterly newsletter
- ☆ the Summer Fayre on Hilly Fields
- ☆ the Christmas Craft Fair



Want to get involved?

Just come along to any of our meetings on the first Wednesday of February, April, June, August, October and December, at 8pm in St Peter's Centre, Cranfield Road, Brockley.

You are also welcome to ring the chair, Trottie, on 0181 691 7234 or the secretary, Rachel, on 0181 691 1767 and we will put you in touch with the right person.

What is a Conservation Area?



a leafy road in the Brockley Conservation Area

If you receive this newsletter then you probably live in the Brockley Conservation Area. While we all know that Estate Agents wax lyrical about conservation areas, do you know what they really stand for?

A conservation area is "an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance".

Brockley was declared a conservation area in 1974 as it was recognised that it was the largest area of unspoilt Victorian housing in South London. It has a very definite character which can be attributed to the wide roads, front gardens and elegant, yellowbrick buildings. The character of an area is often defined by the little things, such as size and materials of the front garden walls, roofing materials and the shape and type of windows. Even the glazing bars are important as they give the vertical emphasis to our traditional timber windows. The type of brick that was originally used throughout Brockley has now acquired a mature glow and is set off by the large trees, which enhance the setting of all the houses.

There are government planning guidelines to protect the character of the area. This affects all of us living in the conservation area because,

legally, you must obtain planning permission from the council to make changes to your property. Given below is a short list of things that you should not undertake without planning consent. If you undertake works without planning permission from the council, the council is perfectly entitled to force you to re-instate the works you have done at your own expense. This includes removing satellite dishes, or replacing windows.

- Do not demolish anything larger than a small garage.
- Do not alter the roofing of your house, or add any dormers or rooflights on the front.
- Do not clad your house with anything: stone, timber, tiles, pebbledashing.
- Do not install a satellite dish that can be seen from the highway.
- Do not remove traditional timber windows.
- Do not demolish your front garden wall or erect a wall higher than one metre at the front.
- Do not let pipes snake all over the front of the house.
- Do not prune or fell a tree.

If you need help or wish to discuss any of these matters, please contact the society on: 0181 692 6977.

Beware the Tex-cote man

As a rule we have the sense not to let salesmen into the house, but on this occasion we must have let our defences slip and we found ourselves listening to a chap who came to provide a free inspection of our walls.

It was a good two hours before we got rid of him. In that time he poked around, found defects in the brickwork of our back wall and established, to his own satisfaction at least, that what it needed was to be covered with stuff called Tex-Cote, which, on payment of a small (or not so small) fortune, his firm could provide.

No surprises there, then. But the cranies in our brickwork seemed real enough and we were sufficiently rattled to ring a local surveyor. A quick phone call set our minds at rest. For the record, then:

- Any covering of bare brickwork will severely affect the value of your house.
- In the conservation area it would need planning permission, which the council would very probably, and properly, refuse.
- Brick walls are meant to be absorbent. Driving rain will penetrate for a few inches, and then the wall will dry out again, provided that its surface is not covered. It is not true that a new brick wall has a skin, which it loses over time. After all, there are plenty of old brick houses still standing.
- Brick walls do need repointing from time to time, and further work may be needed if the bricks have cracked, but such work can be done by any competent local builder for a fraction of the sort of cost our friend was quoting.

All of this may seem obvious, but salesmen can be persuasive and there must be some gullible people out there to make such sales tactics worthwhile. So, in case Brockley is being targeted by this firm, be warned. No doubt Tex-Cote has legitimate uses, but covering up the brick walls of Brockley is not one of them.

LOCAL NEWS

On the move

Tim Harper, Vicar of St Peter's Church, Brockley, has been appointed Rector of Amersham and Coleshill. We wish him well in his new post. The church is hoping to appoint a new vicar in September.

Brockley Society traffic survey

Following the traffic survey in the last newsletter, we have received 25 responses and would like to thank all of those who took the time to return their questionnaire.

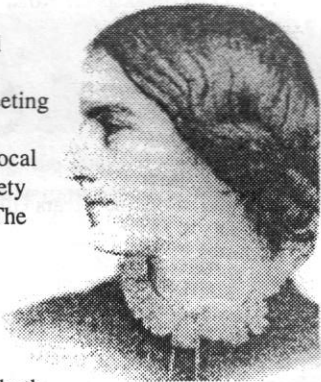
The Brockley Society is trying to create a general transport policy based on residents' views so it can provide a fair representation to the council about traffic problems in the area.

Unfortunately, only 25 responses out of an area the size of Brockley is not going to allow us to do this. Some trends, however, can be gleaned. It would appear that the main problems are rat-runs, speed and parking, especially around Lewisham College.

The Brockley Road/Wickham Road traffic lights also came in for criticism. Residents seemed to support the installation of traffic-calming measures (in conjunction with some parking restrictions) as opposed to road closures.

Octavia Hill

We held our first joint meeting with the Lewisham Local History Society last month. The meeting, in Lewisham College, was well attended by people from both



Societies. Peter Clayton, of the Octavia Hill Society, based in Wisbech, Cambridge, gave a very informative talk, telling us about Octavia Hill, the Victorian philanthropist, and her connections with Deptford and the creation of our open space of Hilly Fields. Thank you to Peter and the Local History Society; may we soon have some more joint meetings.

Day trip to Oxford

Guided tour of the colleges and picnic. The Oxford Civic Society has offered to take the Brockley Society on a guided tour of the city. If there is sufficient interest we will accept their invitation for a date in August, and will organise a coach. If you are interested and would like to come along, please ring 0181 469 3975. Children welcome. We need a minimum of 20 people.

Local crossroads is accident blackspot



The dangers of driving too fast: accident in Manor Avenue/Ashby Road

The junction at Manor Avenue and Ashby Road is a dangerous place, as can be seen from the picture.

This is only the latest of a steady number of accidents at this particular crossroads and it surely cannot be long before somebody is seriously injured or killed as a consequence of reckless driving.

The problem is that many motorists use Manor Avenue to avoid the traffic queues at the junction of Wickham Road and Lewisham Way or the humps on Wickham Road. They

then try to make up their time by tearing down Manor Avenue, hoping that a hoot on the horn as they near the junction with Ashby Road will be enough to deter any motorist trying to cross or turn from there. Sadly, and frequently, this has proved not to be the case.

The solution may be to provide a square hump on the whole of the junction to slow all parties down. This would cost less than the constant visits by the emergency services and might even save a life. Any other ideas would be welcome.

BROCKLEY ARTISTS OPEN STUDIOS 1997



Gillian Golding

Now in its sixth year, the Open Studios is an established local event. Brockley has one of the largest concentrations of resident artists in London, many of whom have studios in their own homes. 25 artists will be opening their homes to the public on:

Sunday 22 June 12-6pm
Monday 23 June 5-8pm
Saturday 28 June 12-6pm
Sunday 29 June 12-6pm

Make a note in your diary now. For further details tel: 0181 692 6981 or 0181 691 2374

WHAT'S ON

St Peter's Centre, Cranfield Road, SE4

Regular events:

Brownies

Tuesdays 6.00pm - 7.30pm

Keep Fit

Tuesdays and Thursdays 7.30pm

Judo

Tuesdays and Fridays 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Thursdays 7.00pm

Akido

Wednesdays 8.00pm - 10.00pm

Dog Training

Wednesdays 7.00pm - 10.00pm

Badminton

Thursdays 8.00pm - 10.00pm

St Peter's Centre is a Main Training Hall for the British Judo Council.

Major Tournaments and Gradings are held there four times a year as well as the regular training evenings. People interested in doing Judo will be welcome:

telephone Theresa Anscombe: 693 8030

The Hall can be hired for events, parties and wedding receptions.

Contact: Theresa Anscombe: 693 8030

Ladywell Society:

contact Sue Gore: 692 4154

Sydenham Society:

contact Ron Locke: 699 4616

Lewisham Art House

140 Lewisham Way SE14 694 9011

Exhibitions

Wed. 4th - Sun. 15th June

Recent paintings — **Emma Carter**

Private view Wed. 4th June 7pm-9pm

Thurs. 19th June - Sun. 6th July

Paintings — **Stephen Palmer**

(to be confirmed)

Private View: Wed. 18th June 7pm-9pm

Opening Times of the Gallery:

Wed. to Sun. 11am- 6pm

Admission to Exhibitions and Private Views:

FREE. All Welcome; Disabled Access.

Workshops for Adults

Tuesdays 7pm-9pm

Sculpture (all abilities): 6 sessions from 27th May

Contact Art House for details

£50 for the course (£30 concessions).

Thursdays 7pm-9 pm Life Drawing (all abilities) till 12th June.

Contact Steve Palmer 0171-639 2914

£6 per session (£3 concessions)

3 Day Weekend Ceramics Workshops

Friday - Sunday 10am-6pm

Contact Shirley Stewart 692 2513 for details.

Throwing workshops

Start 30 May; 27 June, 26 Sept, 31 Oct

Raku workshops

start 4; 11, 18, 25 July and 1, 8, 15, 22 August.

Lewisham Local History Society

Friday 20th June 7.45pm: "*The first Cornish uprising, 1497 — The Battle of Blackheath*" by Ann Trevenan Jenkin

The Studio, Lewisham Theatre, Rushy Green.

Friday 18th July 7.45pm: "*The Deane Brothers — Deptford Inventors of the Diving Bell*" by Dr Bevan, Methodist Church, Albion Way, Lewisham.

contact: John King on 857 1819

Sunday 13th July 2.30pm.

Visit to Nunhead Cemetery. Meet by the gates in Linden Grove, SE15.

Civic Trust Open House Day for London 1997 20/21 September. Free booklets available from the Council or in your local library giving venues and times of visits.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

JANUARY 1997 TO APRIL 1997

156 Upper Brockley Road

Demolition of the existing single storey addition, erection of a part one, part two storey rear addition in connection with conversion of the 2-bed unit on the lower floors to two 2-bed flats.

92 Adelaide Avenue

Retention of the rear boundary wall.

172 Tressillian Road

Demolition and erection of a replacement three storey extension at the rear together with alterations to the elevations.

58 Breakspears Road

Revised application for alterations including a glazed roof lantern and revised details of a conservatory.

Lewisham College, Wickham Building Site

Details of facing materials and landscaping.

9 Crescent Way

Demolition of and rebuilding of the bay windows to the front, with alterations to the front and reroofing.

R/o 25 St Margaret's Road

Erection of a two storey, two bed house, with carport with access onto Tressillian Road.

R/o 69-79 Harefield Road

Erection of a two storey, three bed house with integral garage, facing Garsington Mews.

Lewisham College, Wickham Building Site

Revised details to alter 6 maisonettes to 9 flats.

18 Tressillian Road

Upper flat: alterations to the rear elevation, together with a velux roof light in the rear roof slope.

The Wickham Arms, Upper Brockley Road

Demolition of existing pool room, and erection of a replacement single storey extension. Erection of iron gates and railings in the front.

51-53 Tyrwhitt Road

Conservation Area consent for the demolition of the boundary wall at the front, and erection of a replacement 1 - 1.35 m high wall at the front.

TREE WORKS at:

57, 118, 122b Breakspears Road

9 Crescent Way

41 Adelaide Avenue

75 Tressillian road

11 Tyrwhitt Road

21 Manor Avenue

2a Harefield Road

Hilly Fields, along the Vicars Hill frontage

82 Wickham Road

22, 25 St. Margaret's Road

If you would like to know anything more about these or previous applications please phone Gillian on 0181 692 6977



BROCKLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

BALLOON RACE

to take place at the Midsummer Fayre on 21st June

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TICKETS £1 or 2 for £1.50

Buy your tickets from:

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INSPECTOR JONES

BROCKLEY POLICE STATION

HOMELY PETS

193 BROCKLEY ROAD

JANET

56 GEOFFREY ROAD (basement)

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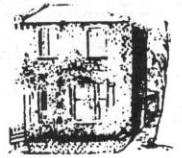


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registered Member of College of Osteopaths

**"Going to the Fayre –
Why not ask me there?"**

(Open Day, Hilly Fields,
Saturday 21st June)

110 Geoffrey Road,
Tel: 0181 691 1051

LOCAL HANDYMAN

**CARPENTRY, DECORATING
GENERAL MAINTENANCE.**

NO JOB TOO SMALL

MARK KILEY

Tel: 0181 692 2432



Natural Health Practitioner

Anthea Hope

B.Sc.(Hons), Dip.HN, ITEC, IFA
at the Sydney Fisher Clinic

81 Tressillian Road, Brockley SE4 1XZ

Tel: 0181 469 0898

Nutrition Counselling / Dietary Therapy
Holistic Aromatherapy / Reflexology
Touch for Health / Swedish Massage (ITEC)

BROCKLEY SOCIETY

BARBECUE



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very large and
splendid
barbecue.



You can hire it for the modest fee of £10 for the
weekend. Contact Bob on 0181 692 2289

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free estimates •
ring Colin

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Suit retired person.

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Send fee to:

Andrew Brown, Treasurer
Brockley Society
117, Tressillian Road, London SE4

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