

# BROCKLEY SOCIETY



Issue 119 May 2010  
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 19 June, 12 noon to 5pm*

### **Brockley Barbecue**

*Friday 2 July, 7.30pm*

Stone Circle, Hilly Fields

Bring your picnic, friends and family.  
Meet other locals.

Some refreshments provided – and bring  
your own to cook on our large barbecue

**All welcome**

### **Brockley Mews Walkabout**

*Sunday 4 July, 11am-12.30pm*

Meet outside the Wickham Arms,

69 Upper Brockley Rd, SE4 1TF

Guided walk and historical explanation by  
Gillian Heywood MBE

### **Brockley Society Open Meeting**

*Tuesday 13 July, 8pm*

Brockley Social Club

**The built environment:**

*good design and conservation*

Speaker invited from a national  
conservation organisation (tbc)

### **Brockley Society AGM**

*Tuesday 9 November 8pm*

Brockley Social Club

### **Copy deadlines for newsletter:**

**1 February, 1 May, 1 October**

*If you have ideas about the newsletter or  
would like to contribute, please email*

**brocsocnews@yahoo.co.uk**

### **Farmers' Markets on Hilly Fields**

*Second Saturday of each month 10am-3pm*

## BROCKLEY SOCIETY

[www.brockley.com/brocsoc/](http://www.brockley.com/brocsoc/)

Chair .....020 8692 3829  
[chair@brockleysociety.org.uk](mailto:chair@brockleysociety.org.uk)

Fayre .....[www.brockley.com/brocsoc/](http://www.brockley.com/brocsoc/)

Newsletter .....  
[news@brockleysociety.org.uk](mailto:news@brockleysociety.org.uk)

Newsletter advertising ...020 8692 3829  
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Local history .....07903 150 099  
[fonemefirst@talktalk.net](mailto:fonemefirst@talktalk.net)

Planning & conservation .07904 508 678  
[planning@brockleysociety.org.uk](mailto:planning@brockleysociety.org.uk)

To join an occasional email circulation about  
Brockley Society events and activities, email  
Clare on [clare@sumner-type.co.uk](mailto:clare@sumner-type.co.uk)

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

## BROCKLEY SOCIETY

# HILLY FIELDS MIDSUMMER FAYRE

**SATURDAY 19th JUNE, 2010**  
12noon-5pm, Hilly Fields, Brockley SE4 1QA

**ATTRACTIONS:** Dog Show, Shotokan Karate,  
Xtreme Falconry Birds of Prey, Salsa Vida, Tug o'war,  
Farm Animals, Land Train, Bouncy Slide & Dome,  
Children's Rides, Rodeo Sheep, Craft & Bric-a-brac,  
Tea Tent with Homemade Cakes, Coconut Shy,  
Barbecue and lots of other refreshments

### **COMPETITIONS: Bring your entries on the day**

**CAKE DECORATING** - Theme: 'Bugs & Minibeasts'  
- U12's and 12 & over

**VEGETABLE MODELLING** (any theme) - U12's

**PHOTOGRAPHY** - Theme: 'Wheels in the Park' - All Ages

**ART** (any medium) A4 size only - Theme: 'Summer Sundaes'  
- U12's and 12 & over

[www.brockleysociety.org.uk](http://www.brockleysociety.org.uk)

Please see the website for information about the Fayre and stall application forms.

## Hilly Fields Fayre preview

Come and enjoy all the fun of this year's fayre! We are pleased to have farm animals from **Surrey Docks Farm**. Try your skill on a **Bucking Sheep** (not part of the farm), marvel at a display from **Lewisham Shotokan Karate Club**, be impressed by **Xtreme Falconry Birds of Prey**, and add your strength in the **Tug of war**.

**Salsa Vida**, one of the most popular events at the fayre for many years, will rally all comers to try salsa dancing in the arena. – see details on page 3.

We will also have a **Community Sing** with inspirational singer **Brenda Rattray** – details also on page 3.

All our usual attractions and many new ones will be there to make it a fun day for all ages.

## How you can help

On the day, we need stewards, car marshalls, programme sellers, litter collectors, and helpers on the tea stall and elsewhere. To volunteer please ring Clare on 020 8692 3829 or email [fayre@brockleysociety.org.uk](mailto:fayre@brockleysociety.org.uk).

**CAKES:** Everybody please bring cake donations! The tea and cake stall is one of our main attractions and depends on donations from large numbers of Brockley residents and fayre supporters – so, please, get baking and bring your cakes on the day!

**Competitions:** see details above

**Stalls:** Application forms are on our website, [www.brockleysociety.org.uk](http://www.brockleysociety.org.uk). – if there are any spaces left.

# Brockley Society and Gordonbrock School

As reported in our Spring Newsletter, Brockley Society has supported a local campaign to prevent the demolition of two Edwardian teaching blocks at Gordonbrock School. We made a successful legal challenge against the lawfulness of Lewisham's Planning Consent for the development, and have commissioned an architect to draw up alternative proposals for the school to demonstrate the feasibility of an alternative approach which retains more of the original architecture. As we go to press, we are in negotiations with senior officers at the council about incorporating some of our ideas into a revised planning submission.

On 4 May we held a public meeting to discuss our involvement in the campaign, supported by a petition of over 350 local residents and parents. But it was clear at the meeting that many people, including parents of children in the school, have been greatly upset by our actions and turned up in some numbers specifically to demonstrate their frustration towards us. We intended to answer some of the important questions raised at the meeting, but were prevented from doing so, and would therefore like to answer them here.

*Q. Is it the intention of the Brockley Society to hold up the build in order to jeopardise the future funding of the project?*

A. Absolutely not. We are committed to the redevelopment of the school in order to improve facilities for children and staff, enable the school to increase student numbers, and provide a sound base for its future as a strong community school.

*Q. Will a planning proposal for a revised scheme based on Brockley Society's feasibility proposals be granted consent?*

A. All planning proposals are reviewed by Lewisham's planning officers under strict criteria. It will be the job of their design team, and Lewisham's project managers to ensure that a future application meets these criteria. There may be objections to these proposals, but despite many objections to the last planning application, including a petition with over 50 names, it was still passed by Committee.

*Q. As your proposals are at an early stage, and have yet to be costed, how can you be sure that they will be viable and affordable?*

A. We have been very careful to develop our proposals to make them realistically achievable given existing constraints, requiring some compromises on our initial proposal – which retained all of the Edwardian teaching blocks. We incorporated as much of Lewisham's original planning scheme as possible into our second proposal, without significantly jeopardising design quality and the integrity of the original buildings. Our second option includes demolition of one Edwardian block, solely to make the scheme a realistic, viable and affordable option. If Lewisham decide to investigate this route, their own appointed design team will develop the feasibility proposals to a point where they can be more accurately costed.

*Q. Why did you make the legal challenge, and will you now withdraw your challenge?*

A. We made a legal challenge on the lawfulness of December's Planning Consent. No screening decision had been obtained on the requirement to fulfil an Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposals. This was a serious error. Without our challenge, the buildings at Gordonbrock would be undergoing demolition and we would not be in a position to put forward realistic alternatives. Lewisham consented to our legal action; we have agreed to their consent; the action should be signed off in the courts shortly. Lewisham will then have to make a revised Planning Application. We hope to persuade the council to adopt significant changes to the design for this new application.

*Q. Is your action likely to result in loss of funding for the project?*

A. We have been given assurances by Lewisham Council that the money to develop the school, £11.7m, has been secured and is in this year's council budget. Therefore, if works can commence on site before the end of this financial year (March 2011), the funding will be safe. It is also feasible that funding can be moved from this year's budget to next – though this would have to be put forward in next year's budget

proposals, a risk that we would prefer to avoid. We understand that contracts have been signed with development partners, Bougyes (UK). This gives some level of protection to the funding.

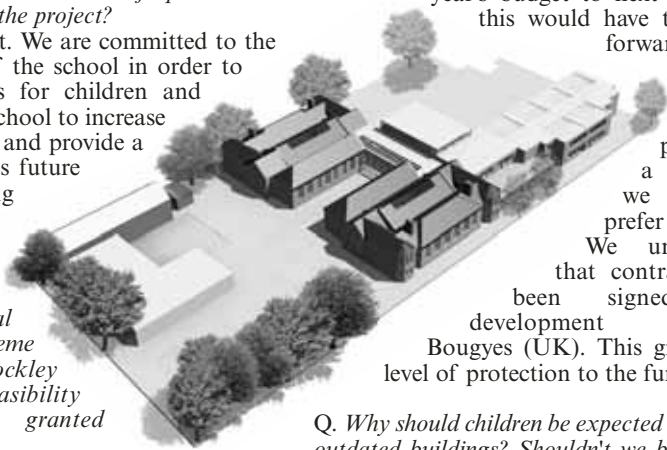
*Q. Why should children be expected to learn in outdated buildings? Shouldn't we be building learning environments fit for the future?*

A. We agree entirely. But we strongly disagree that creating a good quality, contemporary working environment for adults or children necessitates the destruction of historic building stock, especially those that are valued and loved by the community. Conservation is not the enemy of progress, but an essential ingredient of it. Without fully understanding what is of value, and learning how to adapt and reuse it, we are destined to live in a future built environment of diminishing aesthetic value. Not every contemporary architectural intervention results in a positive and progressive step forward.

We believe that Lewisham's existing proposals for the redevelopment of Gordonbrock School are particularly misguided. It is never appropriate to spend so much public money on destroying something beautiful and then replacing it with something that is far less so. The end result should be a school building that is still standing in 50 years time, a building that the conservation groups of the future will still be motivated to champion.

For further information on this campaign please contact: [planning@brockleysociety.org.uk](mailto:planning@brockleysociety.org.uk)

**Pictured above: Brockley Society's alternative proposal for Gordonbrock School: aerial perspective**



# Leaseholders lobby against excessive charges and sub-standard work

Brockley PFI Leaseholders' Association (BLA) was set up to fight for the rights of leaseholders when Lewisham Council transferred the management of its housing stock in the Brockley and Ladywell area to Regenter B3. Regenter B3 entered into a 20-year Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contract with Lewisham in response to the Government's Decent Homes policy. This policy made funds available for work to social housing on the proviso that local authorities transferred the management of their housing stock to PFIs or ALMOs (Arms Length Management Organisations) or the freehold to other bodies, such as housing associations.

Leaseholders have been in constant battle with Regenter B3 since they took over the management and servicing of our homes in the autumn of 2007. Many leaseholders are experiencing similar problems: excessive and inaccurate service charge bills, unnecessary and/or sub-standard major works, lack of transparent information, lip-service consultation and the replacement of wooden windows and doors with uVPC against leaseholders' wishes. Regenter B3 plans to rip out wooden sash windows and leaded lights from many Victorian street properties in Ladywell had to be shelved after leaseholders and the Ladywell Society led a successful campaign for a new conservation area.

In the last few months, leaseholders have started to receive bills for £10,000 for major works done under Decent Homes. Leaseholders are furious about this bills because at least 50% of the bill comprises professional fees, management fees and scaffolding, much of the work is sub-standard, and until recently, B3 were demanding repayment within 10 months (The council have now agreed to extend repayment to 2013). 27 leaseholders are currently challenging these bills through the Leasehold Valuation Tribunal. If they are successful, it is hoped that this will set a precedent for other leaseholders in the Brockley PFI.

The scale of the complaints prompted the Council to investigate the service it is providing to leaseholders via the Public Accounts Committee. The final report backed leaseholders' experiences and proposed a series of recommendations, which the Mayor and Cabinet have now accepted. While this is good news, BLA believes there is still a long way to go before leaseholders receive a decent standard of service from Regenter B3.

Further details of BLA can be found at <http://www.brockleypfileaseholdersassoc.org/index.htm>

## Friends of Brockley and Ladywell Cemeteries (FOBLC)

### Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 15 June

7.30pm-9.30pm

Brockley Grove depot, opposite Hubear Street/Crofton Park Baptist Church

### Workday

Sunday 20th June

10am-1pm

Meet at the chapel

near the Ivy Road/Ladywell Road gate



## Brockley Mews

By Jenny Varney

Some of us love them, some of us loathe them and some of us hardly notice they exist. But the Mews in the Brockley Conservation Area have been a contentious issue since before the early 1970s when Lewisham Council wanted to develop them and were opposed by residents. Each is different and has its own character.

Brockley Society has recently been approached by people whose homes back on to one of the Mews and who are worried by the noise, pollution and fire risks caused by the uses to which some garages are put. Following our open meeting on 20 April we have set up a working group to gather more information. We want to hear the views of people living in the Mews, people working in the Mews, people whose homes back on to the Mews, and people who cherish them as a rather sorry relic of the days when many of the houses had a coach-house at the bottom of the garden. We are pleased to report that there are still some horses!

We have developed a questionnaire and would welcome the views of as many interested people as possible. It is available on our website, [www.brockleysociety.org.uk](http://www.brockleysociety.org.uk), under Planning.

We are also organising a guided walk around some of the Mews on Sunday 4 July, led by local historian and Brockley Society founder member, Gillian Heywood MBE, who will explain the historic background. (See page 1).

For more information about the Mews Working Group, contact [planning@brockley.society.org.uk](mailto:planning@brockley.society.org.uk)

## Community Sing at the Fayre

Come and participate in a singing workshop with inspirational singer **Brenda Rattray** and then share what is achieved in the arena with everyone else at the fayre.

All welcome! Mums and dads – bring your children along – we'll sing some Gospel and other styles, we'll sing in unison and in harmony.

And there will certainly be songs that the whole community at the fayre can sing with us when we share what we have achieved.

Anyone who wants to get involved, email [Brenda@nicepeople.co.uk](mailto:Brenda@nicepeople.co.uk).



## Salsa Vida

Jacqui and Jaime teach salsa every Thursday at the Sahara Club, 100 Lewisham High Street, Lewisham, SE13. Their classes are friendly and fun. Beginners and improvers 7.30pm, intermediate 8.30pm, salsa club 9.30pm. cost for class and club £6. Details on their website, [www.salsavida.biz](http://www.salsavida.biz). We would like to thank them for leading dance at the fayre for ten years!



## "Transition Brockley" at the Fayre

By Fran

Come and taste ice-cream made in Brockley with fresh eggs from Brockley chickens at the Transition Brockley/Lewisham stall at Hilly Fields Fayre.

At our own stall you will find activities for children, information about our initiatives, and promotion of the planned autumn fruit harvesting and planting of a fruit orchard in the park (scheduled for October).

Other related stalls at the Fayre will focus on recycling and energy saving. Friendsbury Gardens will also have information about the gardens, the free gardening/growing courses it offers, and activities for children. If you would like to join us with a stall having a "green" theme, please email Fran at [fr2rogers@gmail.com](mailto:fr2rogers@gmail.com).

If you've got a fruit tree in your back garden but never get around to picking the fruit, then the harvesting project will do the picking for you and share the produce with others in the neighbourhood. If you're interested in this project, email [brockleyharvest@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:brockleyharvest@yahoo.co.uk).

**DRAMA CLASSES FOR CHILDREN**  
Every Tuesday  
St Hilda's Church Hall, Courtraal Road,  
Crofton Park, London SE4  
For further information contact Yvonne Scott  
Tel: 020 8694 9520  
[www.scott-wiseman.org.uk](http://www.scott-wiseman.org.uk)

## Geddes Girls Race for Life on 4th July

A team from Geddes Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy in Ladywell have not only set themselves the challenge of running 10 kilometers in Race for Life, to be held on Blackheath Common on July 4th, but to raise £2000 for Cancer Research UK in the lead up to the event.

Training around Hilly Fields has begun in the early hours before the salon opening, and with varying levels of fitness, the girls are supporting and encouraging each other to complete the run.

Anyone wishing to sponsor Ina, Naomi, Adele, Samantha, Ramute and Olivia to reach their target can drop into the salon. As an extra thank-you to members of the Brockley Society, anyone who sponsors £5 towards the

race and mentions this newsletter will be given a complimentary £5 voucher to be redeemed against a treatment or service in the salon.



From left: Ramute Normantaite, Olivia Cartlidge, Adele Smith, Ina Mula and Samantha Cloono. Not pictured Naomi Clariolla.

**G**  
**GEDDES**  
Geddes Hair and Beauty  
Open 5 late nights and Sunday:  
Monday to Friday: 10am – 9pm  
Saturday: 9am – 6pm  
Sunday: 10am – 5pm  
42 Ladywell Road, London SE13 7UZ  
Tel: 0208 690 0509  
[info@geddeshairandbeauty.co.uk](mailto:info@geddeshairandbeauty.co.uk)  
[www.geddeshairandbeauty.co.uk](http://www.geddeshairandbeauty.co.uk)

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(using our facilities)  
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(I walk & groom your dog)  
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Side Gate, 61 Adelaide Av Ladywell SE4 1JY  
By appointment  
Odile Blanchet 020 8150 6666  
[www.mutterlygorgeous.com](http://www.mutterlygorgeous.com)

## BROCKLEY SOCIETY

### Beautiful Brockley Competition



Best Window Box



Best Balcony



Best Front Garden

### Help make Brockley beautiful!

Judging: Saturday 12 June to Friday 18 June – we tour Brockley looking for the best of each.

Prize-giving at the Hilly Fields Fayre, Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June

### Portuguese teacher wanted

I really need to learn Portuguese (Brasil) and I am unable to travel very far. If you know of somewhere I can learn, or know of a tutor, please contact me:

Jason Halliwell  
frenchtko@hotmail.com  
07971 748 971

## brockleymax

Ten days of fantastic performances and activities took place across Brockley from 28 May to 5 June, ending with a packed line-up of events on Hilly Fields.

The focus for this year's Brockley Max festival was REACH OUT - EXPRESS YOUR ARTS

The festival celebrates the unique spirit of the local community and draws on the considerable locally and nationally recognised artistic talent that Brockley is renowned for.

Moira Tait, festival organiser, enthused, 'We had some really exciting performers such as Billy Jenkins, Sarah Gillespie and Montage Theatre, as well as an open-air film night and the ever-popular children's Art in the Park on Hilly Fields.

Our thanks go out to the performers and volunteers who all made a great festival possible.'

Check out the website for loads of photos: [www.brockleymax.co.uk](http://www.brockleymax.co.uk)

We REACHED OUT...and the artists EXPRESSED THEIR ARTS!

**Brockley Max will be back in 2011...**

## Assault on trees called into question

By Leo S.

Brockley is being struck by a blitz on trees; with far too many being cut down unnecessarily, pollarded drastically, or trimmed back without good reason. Arguably, street trees need to be kept in order, but not all the trees receiving this treatment on Hilly Fields or in Wickham Gardens (shown here) seem to be a risk, and thus, this work seems a waste of council resources.

In the case of recent work around Wickham Gardens, the council sent letters saying that the proposed work was to "remove basal and epicormic growth, remove dead, diseased and dangerous branches, and reduce and reshape by up to 30% crowns of ten Lime trees; crown lift to 3m two Sorbus and a Cherry tree, pollard a further five lime trees at Wickham Gardens, SE4".

The above brief has been vastly exceeded. For example, the pollarding in Wickham Gardens has consisted of hacking all the branches off several trees and cutting the remainder back far beyond a mere re-

shaping of "30%" (as can be seen in accompanying photographs).

The Council's Tree Officer referred inquiries regarding this work to Pinnacle Housing, who had made the application, even though the majority of residents of Wickham Gardens do not live in the council flats and many of trees are situated outside the estate boundaries. Pinnacle has not responded to emails or phone calls.

Several homeowners have had discussions with the tree people doing the work for Arbortech, and the workers themselves indicated that there wasn't much wrong with the trees. Apparently Pinnacle plans to do this sort of work every two years as a "favour" to Lewisham Council.

The objections to this work are not just aesthetic, financial, and environmental, but also legal, as it is not clear what authority Pinnacle have over trees that do not form part of the estate or any nearby council houses, and the published proposal for work appears to have been vastly exceeded.



Before



After

## Brockley Open Studios

3-5 July 2010

Brockley Open Studios is a fabulous free day's entertainment, with studios within walking distance of each other in leafy Brockley's Victorian Conservation Area. Join hundreds of local people out on the streets of Brockley to meet and buy directly from the artists that live and work in their midst. This year 43 artists will open their studios and homes for the public to browse a wide variety of art in a friendly atmosphere, in interesting workspaces and houses.

Pop-up galleries and restaurants in people's own homes have hit the news during this recession, but the Brockley Open Studios is a well-established local institution, now in its 18th year.

You can discover a range of artists, from successful established ones to recent graduates of Goldsmiths and Camberwell, working in a huge range of media, with prices to suit all pockets. There will be painting, prints, paper, ceramics, wooden animals, drawing, glass, textiles and graffiti art.

Open Studios will be held Saturday, 3rd July, 2.00-8.00 pm; Sunday, 4th July, 2.00-8.00 pm; and Monday, 5th July, 5.00-8.00 pm.

Maps and details are available from venues around Brockley, or you can download a

map from [www.brockleyopenstudios.co.uk](http://www.brockleyopenstudios.co.uk) You can leave your car at home and enjoy the friendly atmosphere on the streets of Brockley. Everyone is welcome, and many artists provide refreshments.

Further information and images, contact Victoria Scott, 020 8692 8784 or 07749 779005.

### Brockley design architecture

Thomas Evans BA (hons)

Dip Arch MIH RIBA Associate Member

Architectural Design.

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[www.brockleydesign.co.uk](http://www.brockleydesign.co.uk)



## Brockley Foxes Spring Update

After the cold winter, a beautiful Brockley spring has encouraged the Foxes out into the warm evening air to forage for culinary delights of our area and to share their thoughts with you.

February 2010: We were delighted to note that the **Talbot** re-opened last Autumn with the appearance and style of a gastro pub. The Foxes slipped into their upstairs dining room for a spot of supper. It has a fine view of Loampit Vale and serves a variety of real ales, which seemed rather expensive. The menu looked very interesting, though not cheap. We all agreed that the starters were very good, the duck rilette being especially praised, well presented and with real duck fat. The hot mackerel was described as a "fine starter" and fish cake was deliciously fishy and crunchy.

The main course of Cumberland sausage was good but not special. The sweet onion gravy and mash were nice, but an additional vegetable would have improved the meal. However the rabbit with prunes and baby onions was agreed to be superb and attractively well presented on a wooden platter with mash and mangetouts. The Foxes sent their compliments to the chef. A meagre cheese board of supermarket standard cheese was a disappointing finish to our meal. Overall, the food was well cooked and interesting if a little pricey for a suburban pub and midweek. (We see that they now have a modest set menu Monday evening menu). It is cheering to have an attractive gastro pub on the corner of a major road into Brockley (a corner that had been an embarrassment to the residents for some time).

March 2010 We made our first visit to "**The Orchard**" on Harefield Road since it re-opened under new management. We found it to be busy and friendly. The décor is different. The furniture is much more comfortable than previously, but on rather close observation the Foxes were sure the fish in the aquarium were the same!

Food is ordered at the bar and brought to the table. Service is jolly with mistakes corrected speedily and with good humour.

The shared starter of charcuterie was impressive – roasted capers were a very tasty addition, and the chicken pate was excellent. The main course chicken dish was good, as was the hot mackerel but had the problem of dealing with fish on the bone in a dimly lit restaurant! The beef stew was well flavoured but not the best meat, and sadly, the much anticipated dumplings were undercooked but were swiftly exchanged for a potato dish.

Wine is reasonably priced; the Montepulciano was much preferred to the Merlot. Altogether, this was a decent meal in a lively place and very good value for money.

April 2010: For their next visit the Foxes dropped into the **Ladywell Tavern** for a weekday supper. The tavern is another establishment with a fairly new menu and we presume a new chef since our last visit. We had two platters of mixed starters with quality ingredients that were more than ample. Very reasonable "pub grub;" ham, eggs and chips, sausage and mash and steaks were then ordered. The steaks were cooked as ordered, rare and medium rare. However, we complained that the food was chilled by being served on icy cold plates and we were told that the kitchen was too small to have a

plate warmer. With the meal we had both well kept real ale and a couple of bottles of house red. The ambience was rather dark, but busy, cheerful service was just what you would expect from a local – no loud music when we were there (foxes have delicate hearing).

Brockley has benefitted from a few more unpretentious but comfortable eating places giving reasonable value for money.

These reviews are written by the Foxes anonymously. We pay for our meals as regular customers who are simply looking for good quality and value locally. If your opinion differs, please feel free to write your own reviews or suggest places you think we should try.

**The Talbot, 2 Tyrwhitt Road, SE4 1QG.  
Tel: 020 8692 2665.**

**The Orchard Bar + Kitchen, 5 Harefield Road, SE4 1LW. Tel: 020 8692 4756.**

**Ladywell Tavern, Ladywell Village.  
Tel: 020 8690 7184**

## Still Wild About Play

By Rachel

The Friends of Hilly Fields have spent the last 7 years, planning a re-design for the playground and chasing funding. We finally obtained funding from 3 separate sources. Following lots of hard work, including a petition, parents putting together power point presentations and giving up their Saturday morning to present our case to the Mayor, we secured funding from the central government's playbuilder pot. The Lottery Funding was a long process with lots of form filling and information gathering. We heard we had been successful with stage 1 of our application, but had a few conditions to meet. A new constitution had to be written, a community event organized, numerous letters confirming the council's commitment to maintaining the finished playground and permissions to carry out the work. We had volunteers bringing their gazebos for the community engagement, helping with questionnaires during the community engagement event, the subsequent analyzing of results, writing a new constitution, filling in the initial grant application, the subsequent development grant application, commissioning a survey, doing the sketch design and initial costings, not to mention the meetings... then finally submitting our stage 2 application.

Thankfully, all the hard work paid off, and we were successful with securing the grant money. The final tranche of money came directly from Lewisham. The scheme had to be handed over to be developed up to tender stage and for site administration.

Our Lottery Grant Application "Wild About Play" explained the thrust of the scheme. We thought it was just wrong that such a beautiful park should have an ugly fenced off piece of tarmac for children to play in. We wanted to bring the wild part of the park into the playground. So you'll find trees and shrubs and some of the meadow species in the playground. We tried to create some areas that are sheltered from the winds and retain some for the thrill of experiencing those exhilarating windy days. Let's hope it has worked!

Whilst retaining and incorporating traditional equipment, we have set them in a natural environment; the new design complements the old equipment and

# MASONS

BAR ■ RESTAURANT

Masons is under new management and has a new chef. The review in our March newsletter was written before this change and was out of date. We apologise for our mistake and encourage all readers to try Masons' locally sourced British Modern food, at affordable prices, and their international range of beers and wines

**MASONS BAR RESTAURANT**  
31 Ladywell Road, SE13 7UZ.  
Tel: 020 8314 0314.  
[www.masonsladywell.co.uk](http://www.masonsladywell.co.uk)



**Even our spider is smiling now - I think she likes her new coat.**

encourages play beyond the apparatus. We want children to be able to choose and experience a wide range of play opportunities and give them the chance to explore and interact with the physical world around them. By creating a natural environment within the playground, we will provide the setting for a free play experience that is constantly changing.

We feel that it also of great importance to local children to offer this type of play environment, as many of the local schools have extensive tarmac playgrounds with very little provision for, or engagement with, the natural environment.

As part of the process, we organised a design workshop with Gordonbrock School. We had a sketching expedition to the park and then worked with the drawings to make positive and negative shapes, which were taken by artist Sally Adams and used for the gate design. Artist/blacksmith Heather Burrell, who had previously made the gates on Eastern Road with Prendergast's School, arranged a follow up art workshop with APT studios in Deptford. They kindly applied for a grant for the school to run the day which culminated with their own exhibition in the studio. There are pictures on the website: [www.hilly.org.uk](http://www.hilly.org.uk)

Thanks to everyone who has supported the project over the years.

## 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:

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/Environment/Planning/ConservationAndUrbanDesign/ConservationAreas/Brockley/AlteringBuildingsBrockley.htm>

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!

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 Danny on 07904 508 678.

### Applications Granted

The change of use of the upper floors at **179 Brockley Road** to a hotel (Use Class C1) together with the construction of a part one/part two storey extension at the rear to provide additional restaurant area, a new extraction flue, additional hotel accommodation and a self-contained 2 bedroom flat accessed from Harefield Mews, alterations to the front and rear elevations, including the retention of a dormer window to the front roof slope, replacement windows and a new shopfront. The construction of a single storey extension to the rear with a terrace and railings at first floor level, together with alterations to the rear and side elevations of **17 St Margaret's Road**.

The construction of an extension at first floor level to the rear of **39 Manor Avenue**.

The construction of a conservatory to the rear of **16 Hilly Fields Crescent**.

Lawful Development Certificate in respect of the use of

the ground floor room in connection with the residential use of **Flat 1, 17 Breakspears Road**.

The construction of a single storey detached garage, fronting the private access road at the rear of **53 Wickham Road**.

The construction of an extension to the existing conservatory at the rear of **125 Tressillian Road**. The formation of vehicular access and a hard standing area at **Henna House, 12 Ashby Road**.

The installation of a skylight to the flat area of the existing roof of **91d Manor Avenue**.

Certificate of Lawfulness in respect of the retention of a roof terrace at the first floor level to the rear of **109B Tyrwhitt Road**.

Internal alterations, involving the sub-division of the garage to create a separate rear entrance to the residential accommodation above **309 Brockley Road** and to provide refuse/recycle storage.

The construction of a single storey extension to the rear of **Flat B, 95 Tressillian Road**.

The replacement of the existing roof with Marley Eternit Rivendale blue/black fibre cement slates at **102 Manor Avenue**.

The construction of a roof extension in the rear roof slope at **7, & 10 Tack Mews**.

Certificate of Lawfulness in respect of the continued use of **36A Wickham Road**, (Lower Ground Floor) as 3 self-contained flats.

The installation of PVCu double glazed replacement windows at **Flat 6, Leigh Court, 213 Lewisham Way**.

The replacement of the roof covering with natural Spanish slate at **53 Tyrwhitt Road**.

The installation of railings to enclose the flat roof at first floor level to the rear of **109B Tyrwhitt Road**.

### Trees

Repollard a small Lime tree back to main knuckle; crown lift to 6m cutting back from street lamp, crown reduce by 30% and crown thin by 20% two larger Lime trees to the front of **51 Tressillian Road**.

Repollard a Sycamore, an Elder and a Thorn tree at the front and a Willow and an Acacia tree in the rear garden at **1 Glensdale Road**.

Remove basal and epicormic growth, remove dead, diseased and dangerous branches and reduce and reshape by up to 30% crowns of ten Lime trees; crown lift to 3m two Sorbus and a Cherry tree, pollard a further five Lime trees at **Wickham Gardens**.

Fell an Elm tree and crown reduce by 30% a second Elm, three Elders and a Conifer tree; crown reduce by 20% and crown lift to 4m a further Elderberry, crown reduce by 20% and crown lift to 5m a Holly and crown reduce by 10% Walnut tree all to the rear of **14 Tressillian Crescent**.

Pollard six Lime trees at the rear of **40 Wickham Road**.

Fell a Pear tree to the rear of **19 Eastern Road**.

Crown reduce by 30% an Ash tree in the rear garden at **24 Harefield Road**.

Crown reduce by 1m an Apple tree and a Plum tree by 2m, both to the rear of **6 Breakspears Road**.

Crown reduce by 25% and cut back lower branches from a Silver Birch tree to the rear of **6 Darling Road**.

Fell a Willow tree in the rear garden at **22 St Margaret's Road**.

Carry out minor remedial and maintenance work as detailed in the schedule to a Prunus tree in the front garden, two Plum trees, a Sycamore and a Cherry tree at the rear of **121 Upper Brockley Road**.

Crown reduce by 20% a Box Elder in the rear garden at **35 Breakspears Road**.

Remove two lowest limbs from a Eucalyptus tree at the rear of **5A Tyrwhitt Road**.

Crown reduce by 30% and crown thin by 20% a Sycamore, crown lift to 3m and remove dead wood from

two Elder trees all in the front garden; crown lift to 3m and crown thin by 20% a Hawthorn and repollard to previous reduction points a Poplar tree in the rear garden at **88 Tressillian Road**.

Fell a multi-stemmed Sycamore tree and crown reduce by 20% a Pear tree in the rear garden at **58 Wickham Road**.

Fell a Cypress tree in the rear garden at **87 Cranfield Road**.

Crown reduce by 40% a Eucalyptus tree in the rear garden at **9 Wickham Road**.

Fell a Cherry tree at **74 Tressillian Road**.

Cut back to boundary at **78 Tyrwhitt Road**, branches of a Sycamore tree overhanging adjacent property.

Fell an Ash tree and five Sycamore trees at the rear of **80 Tyrwhitt Road**.

Crown lift to 10m and thin remaining crown by up to 30% a London Plane tree to the rear of **51 Tressillian Road**.

### Applications Refused

The construction of a timber garden building for use as an office in the rear garden of **86 Breakspears Road**.

The installation of replacement PVCu, double-glazed

windows and doors to the rear of **232 Lewisham Way**.

The construction of a single storey building comprising 6 work units (Use Class B1c and B8) on the vacant site

at Breakspears Mews, to the rear of **38 Breakspears Road**, together with associated parking and a cycle store within the mews.

### Pending

The retention of a two storey extension to the rear, together with the conversion of **20 Cranfield Road**, to a 2 bedroom self contained flat and a 4 bedroom self contained maisonette.

The retention of the single storey extension as built at the rear of **104 Tressillian Road**.

Change of use of **295 Brockley Road** to a care home with ancillary office, together with the construction of single storey rear extension, basement lightwell at rear, roof extension at rear with 2 rooflights on front roof slope and a single storey hobby room in rear garden. The construction of a two storey plus basement, two bedroom house on the land adjoining **81 Foxberry Road**, with the provision of cycle store.

The construction of two single storey extensions to the side and rear of **39 Wickham Road**, to provide additional

living accommodation.

The change of use, alteration and conversion of the basement and ground floor of **81 Upper Brockley Road**, to provide 1 one bedroom self contained flat and 1 two bedroom self contained maisonette, together with the formation of a lightwell to the front with velux windows over and alterations to the elevations.

The construction of a single storey building comprising 5 work units (Use Class B1c and B8) on the vacant site at Breakspears Mews, to the rear of **38 Breakspears Road**, together with associated parking and a cycle store within the mews.

The replacement of the existing front path at **21 Crescent Way**.

The construction of a two storey temporary building to provide additional classrooms and staff accommodation

at **Prendergast Hilly Fields, Adelaide Avenue**.

The construction of a two storey rear extension at **142 Breakspears Road**, together with flat bio-diverse green roof, external terrace area, pond and vertical living wall. The installation of PVCu double glazed replacement windows to the ground floor flat at **134 Tressillian Road**.

The construction of two semi-detached two bedroom houses at land to the rear of **186 Lewisham Way**, together with the installation of associated boundary fencing within the curtilage of the listed building.

The re-tiling of the main pitched roof at **3 Drake Road** with Rivendale Fibre Cement Slate.

The construction of a single-storey extension to the rear of **14 Foxberry Road**.

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