

# BROCKLEY SOCIETY



Issue 156 November 2022  
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Delivered free to 4000 households in Brockley Conservation Area  
three times a year: March, June and November [www.brockleysociety.org.uk](http://www.brockleysociety.org.uk)

## BROCKLEY SOCIETY

### Brockley Society Open Meeting and AGM

Wednesday 9 November 2022, 7-8:30pm  
Lucas Vale School SE8 4QF  
(access Tanner's Hill or Lucas Street)  
The meeting is free and open to all

**Part 1: Open Meeting, 7pm**  
Speaker: **Jack Cornish.**

*Brockley as England's best walking  
neighbourhood*



It's no surprise that Brockley was awarded best walking neighbourhood in England in 2018, mainly down to the efforts of Lewisham resident Jack Cornish. He is the lead on historical paths at the Ramblers ([www.ramblers.org.uk](http://www.ramblers.org.uk)) and works tirelessly to raise awareness of our beautiful cities and rural areas. Some will know him as author of his forthcoming book *The Lost Paths* or from broadcasts, podcasts or beautiful photographs on his twitter feed. Come and hear about his work and his walks, with stunning photographs of his expeditions.

### Part 2: Annual General Meeting. 8pm

#### A G E N D A

- 1 Attendance and apologies
- 2 Minutes of AGM, 10 November 2021
- 3 Matters arising
- 4 Chair's Report
- 5 Treasurer's Report
- 6 Planning Report / other reports
- 7 Election: Officers and Committee
- 8 Election of Planning Group
- 9 Nominations for volunteers to projects
- 10 A.O.B.

**Hilly Fields Midsummer Fayre**  
Saturday 24 June 2023

### Brockley Xmas Market 2022

*The Brockley Cross Action Group is  
once again hosting the annual Brockley  
Christmas Market!*

**Saturday 10 December 2022,**  
noon until 6.00pm

Coulgate Street, next to Brockley Station.  
The street will be closed for the whole day.  
Stall application form: <https://forms.gle/VCgXVup6eEw1J9Gv9>



Brockley Society's summer p.3



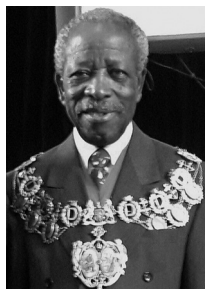
Sybil Phoenix in 1985 p.5



Hilly Fields Fayre p.5



Ladywell's  
sculptor  
Fowokan p.4



Farewell  
Jimi p.2



Brockley  
Literary  
Festival p.4



## Green Lewisham: Our Treasured Open Spaces

When Covid-19 arrived in spring 2020 my spirits sank ever lower until I realised that I could still walk in the parks. I ventured out cautiously.

I began to appreciate the complex relationships in my surroundings and to wonder about lessons for urban living and the benefits of natural open spaces. I was surprised that this understanding had been applied in the past. To share the enjoyment and peace I decided to write a book. I consulted the London Gardens Trust Inventory and started amassing a reference library.

Two centuries ago Lewisham was in the Kent countryside. London's expansion from the mid-19th century was driven by increasing housing needs, the industrial revolution, new roads and railway networks, political changes, changes in land ownership, and social needs, particularly after WWI. So how are any green spaces left in Lewisham?

Some philanthropic landowners sold below market value or donated land; others lobbied to preserve green spaces. Today, Lewisham residents convert derelict land into community gardens; there are 36 allotments, with long waiting lists; beekeepers abound. The Quaggy Waterways Action Group has changed the management of a river in an urban environment, enhancing parks and benefiting wildlife.

The Addison Act after WWI addressed inner London's appalling living conditions. The London County Council and local councils built new housing estates on farmland, influenced by Ebenezer Howard's Garden City concept of 1898, with tree-lined roads, recreation grounds, communal green spaces and other community facilities.

Today's developers are less generous, creating 'pocket parks' or 'green architecture' rather than the recreation grounds or public parks of the past. Is this good enough?

Caring for the parks and nature reserves is expensive and time-consuming. Lewisham Council and the management company Glendale do a tremendous job, greatly helped by the Friends' groups in parks. This relationship between professionals and amateurs has potential for practical learning and training in horticulture.

Restrictions during the pandemic reminded us of the importance of green spaces, particularly in urban areas. Parks were well used. Volunteering for community gardens, parks and nature reserves increased. People felt a need to be closer to living plants, birds and wildlife in the city, and to eat food they had grown.

It is for us individually and as a community to ensure our green spaces continue enhancing our living conditions. Natural spaces are too easily set aside in favour of profit. Let us pay heed to those who watched with sadness as their countryside disappeared under London's urban growth.

*Candy Blackham*

**Candy Blackham,**  
2022 ISBN  
9781914498510  
Available on the  
internet  
Published by Clink  
Street Publishing

Brockley Open Studios present their  
annual **CHRISTMAS FAIR.**

Pick up a special gift for this year's  
Christmas from local **artists and makers.**  
With refreshments and festive live music...

1.30-5.30pm  
**Saturday 19 November 2022**  
St. Peter's Church  
Wickham Road, SE4 1LT

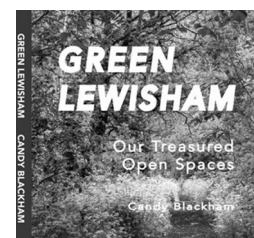
[www.brockleyopenstudios.co.uk](http://www.brockleyopenstudios.co.uk)

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[hestias.co.uk](http://hestias.co.uk) 0203 976 6180

**BROCKLEY  
OPEN  
STUDIOS**




## ESOL courses at Lewisham College

For anyone whose first language is not English and is looking to improve their speaking, listening, and reading skills, Lewisham College offers a range of accredited ESOL courses.

We take pride in embracing the many different cultures within our community of learners, who speak over 90 languages. On this course they have the opportunity to improve their knowledge of the English language and learn about British culture and citizenship, as well as gaining vital employability skills.

For more information and to apply visit [lewisham.ac.uk/esol](http://lewisham.ac.uk/esol) or contact Monique on 020 3757 3484 or [Monique.virgin@lscollge.ac.uk](mailto:Monique.virgin@lscollge.ac.uk).

## Adult volunteers needed

 Golden Hind Explorer Scout Unit is for local young people aged 14-18, meeting on Thursday evenings 7.30-9pm at the Scout Hut on Breakspears Road. We go on adventures, trips and camps and offer the Duke of Edinburgh's award.

From canoeing, hiking and indoor skydiving to debating, cooking and bike maintenance, we offer a varied programme to give young people skills for life.

We are looking for adult volunteers to get involved, for as little or as much time as you can spare. All training and DBS checks are provided. If you are interested to hear more about volunteering or membership, please email Katie at [Goldenhindsu@1stnewcross.co.uk](mailto:Goldenhindsu@1stnewcross.co.uk).



## BROCKLEY SOCIETY

President: Gillian Heywood, MBE

[www.brockleysociety.org.uk](http://www.brockleysociety.org.uk) @broc\_soc

Chair 020 8692 3829

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

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

Planners, architects and others with conservation knowledge or interest are welcome to join our planning and conservation group. See planning email above.

Breakspears Mews Community Garden..... [breakspearsmews@brockleysociety.org.uk](mailto:breakspearsmews@brockleysociety.org.uk)

Join our occasional email circulation about Brockley Society and local events: [email\\_chair@brockleysociety.org.uk](mailto:email_chair@brockleysociety.org.uk)

Everyone in the Brockley Conservation Area and its surrounds is a member of the Brockley Society.

**Brockley Society welcomes all.**

Newsletter copy deadlines:

1 February, 1 May, 1 October

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

Advertising rates - back page

## Breakspears Mews Community Garden



This summer has been busy in the garden. The season was much better in 2022 than 2021. Our tomatoes produced in quantity and avoided the blight thanks to long hot days. We thank Andy for rigging up a pump to maintain water pressure at the far end to keep everything green during the drought.

We hosted a number of popular events. At the end of May we welcomed ten four-year-olds with their parents from Myatt Garden Nursery. Emma Gray kept them busy with her quiz.

A Junk Sculpture workshop and Open Mic night were held as part of Brockley Max Festival, finishing with a Jubilee Tea on 5 June.

At the Hilly Fields Fayre on 25 June our stall made £120 selling plants.

For Brockley Open Studios on 2 and 3 July we greatly enjoyed hosting artists and craftspeople in the garden

On 16 September we provided refreshments at the end of the Historic Mews Walk.

From March to the end of June we had a succession of students from Lewisham College on work placement with their work coach Helen Tate and also a group of young adults from a group home led by Marite Micule-Pena. The students participated in a number of tasks in the garden – washing pots, preparing seed beds, sieving the compost, planting seeds and seedlings in their own bed, harvesting spinach, radishes and beans, repotting our Blueberry bushes in large pots and potting-on plants for sale at the Hilly

Fields Fayre.

We successfully applied for small grants from Lewisham: £300 for replacing worn out tools and funding for two foraging workshops at the end of October. These grants are useful as we have no external funding and rely on donations generated at events to sustain our small oasis of peace and quiet in the heart of Brockley.

### Winter closure

The garden will close to the public from November until the beginning of March, but if we hold some winter events we will send out information and post them on our Instagram page, so do follow us if you haven't already.

Entrance via Breakspears Mews, accessed from 18 Ashby Road SE4 1PX or behind St Peter's Court 29-31 Wickham Road, SE4 1NE **Contact us** [breakspearsmews@brockleysociety.org.uk](mailto:breakspearsmews@brockleysociety.org.uk)



## Cllr Obajimi Adefiraniye

After more than 30 years as a councillor, Cllr Adefiraniye has retired after the May 2022 council elections. Jimi was first elected in 1990.

Obajimi - Jimi - and Sandra have been neighbours and friends of ours in Brockley for over 45 years. Jimi knows his Brockley Ward really well.

He was elected Chair of the Council – the Civic Mayor – three successive times from 2011 until 2017. Among many other duties he has also been Chair of the Community Affairs Committee, covering Voluntary Service Grants, and Chair of the Equalities Committee. He was a school governor for 40 years.

Lewisham was among the first of the 32 London Boroughs to adopt Black History Month to mark the rich history in this borough and the world. Jimi was one of the initiators. The 1995 photograph shows Jimi with the Queen, then aged 69, and the Duke of Edinburgh, for Outreach Africa.



Back in 1990, he was the first Nigerian councillor, and has also been a prime mover in the National Association of Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority Councillors – NABAEMC. So Jimi's pioneering will continue.

**Happy involvement in retirement.**

*Juliet Johnson*

## St. Peter's welcomes the community

St Peter's Church on Wickham Road, SE4 1LT, has many activities for anyone in the community. Visit [stpetersbrockley.org.uk](http://stpetersbrockley.org.uk) to find out more

### Pop-Up Cafe

On the final Friday of the month come and enjoy a nutritious, hot meal with others from the community in the Pop-Up Cafe, which runs from 12-2 pm. Sit in the warm for a while and pay what you can.



Some of the 21 guests on Friday 30 September at our second ever Pop-Up Cafe

Volunteer-led, this is foremost a training and confidence building project for those interested in health and well-being and is a Spin-off from the Social Supermarket each Wednesday. The café was started by Veg Advocate Anne McBride in August

*"We are all eating a cooked lunch which I would not usually do."*

*"We are also building up confidence and communication skills."*

### Friendship Café

On the first and third Fridays of the month, 10:30 am -12:00 pm, come and meet your neighbours for conversation over hot drinks and homemade cake. All are welcome!

## Brockley Society's summer

After a successful and enjoyable Midsummer Fayre, late summer and early autumn were busy for Brockley Society.

**Breakspears Mew Community Garden** hosted artists and craft stalls on 2 and 3 July as part of Brockley Open Studios.

**Our July BBQ** at the Stone Circle on 8 July was enjoyed by about 50 people. All comers were welcome, including the basketball players on the adjacent court, who joined later.



**Open Meeting** on 13 July: Poets, Painters and Pirates (*see right*)

**The Coordinated Front Garden Sale** marked its tenth year on 10 and 11 September, coordinated with Ladywell and St John's Societies. Over 90 addresses participated; people wandered round chatting to sellers and seeking bargains.

For **London Open House** on 17 September we ran guided walks through **Brockley's Historic Mews**: Ashby, Wickham and Breakspears. Participants heard about Brockley's 19th century High Victorian development and careful street layout and the battle to protect the mews and gardens from subsequent developments. Several stunning modern developments were showcased and the walk ended with refreshments at Breakspears Mews. Our thanks to the volunteer guides and garden hosts

**OPEN HOUSE  
FESTIVAL**

## Brockley Historical Walk

On Sunday 18 September, **Gillian Heywood MBE** led a Historical Walk starting at Hilly Fields, and going through some of Brockley Conservation Area's unusually well preserved enclave of architectural and environmental history that has survived into the 21st century almost intact. The walk took in several mews, ending at the Wickham Arms.

**Gillian Heywood received her MBE for Service to our Community.** She has been a particularly tireless and formidably well-informed defender and campaigner. As always, her thorough knowledge of Brockley Conservation Area's history made her guided walk very interesting.

It was also part of **London Open House: 21** of the 32 participants learned of the walk from the Open House website.



## Brockley Society meeting - Poets, Painters and Pirates in Brockley and Ladywell Cemeteries

Mike Guilfoyle spoke, without notes of some of those buried in Brockley and Ladywell Cemeteries: medics, engineers and murderers. He tracked people's connections around the world - jobs, geography, social history and clothes. *Many died in the Princess Alice disaster* in 1878 on the Thames at Woolwich. Many women drowned because of their long, heavy dresses.

Mike told of pirates killed in the South China sea in 1885 and of the poet Ernest Dowson who wrote 'the days of wine and roses'. Poet David Jones is buried nearby, just west of the Dissenters' Chapel, which comfortably seats 50.

Around 200,000 people are buried in the two cemeteries, some in 'grouped' graves of 70 people together, as graves were expensive.

The Brockley Society meeting was on a hot 13 July evening at the Francis Drake Bowls Club on Hilly Fields. It was a delight to be in the new 'log cabin' building, with the breeze blowing in through sets of double doors. It is an asset in the community.

Mike was warmly applauded. His talk replaced the advertised talk by Gillian Heywood MBE, who was unexpectedly unable to attend.

- See report of Gillian's Open House Historic Walk above in September.

### Friends of Brockley and Ladywell Cemeteries

The Friends of Brockley and Ladywell Cemeteries was formed 12 years ago. It has a clear, bright website, lists 12 podcasts to date, and three small white books, written by our speaker Mike Guilfoyle and filled with lively stories. Mike's fourth guide to Illustrious Deceased in the Cemeteries has been recently published: (60 pages inc. covers) £4.50 (special launch price); Vols 1, 2 and 3 (approx 40 pages each) are £3.50 each or £10 for all three. These may be ordered through the website: click on the PayPal Donation button and add the order details. Or a cheque, made out to FoBLC, can be sent to the Treasurer, 13 Amyruth Road, SE4 1HQ. Please add 80p per copy towards the cost of packing and delivery.

Tours of the Cemeteries on Bird-life or people buried there are always rewarding. Visit [www.foblc.org.uk](http://www.foblc.org.uk)

### Francis Drake Bowling Club

The large 'Log Cabin' stands next to the 1950s flat-roofed club Building designed by the young Leonard Manasseh - an excellent architect who worked on the 1951 South Bank Buildings and who has died recently aged c 100. We only realised in recent years that his building was here - a Jewel when built, but in need of structural repair now.

## Francis Drake Bowls Club - We will be back next year!

Our summer outdoor season is drawing to a close. And what a season! It was certainly pleasant to bowl normally again without the Covid restrictions.

As well as the "roll-ups" when everyone who turns up is picked for a team whatever their experience, there were also internal and external competitions and "event days". For our Francis Chappell Open Day 15 teams came from other clubs for a day's knock-out competition.

Less serious, but just as competitive, 15 teams of members played for a the annual Frances Ward Trophy (Frances was a very active member who died during Covid). We kept active in the local leagues, unlike others who could not put teams up and had to cancel games. Our new phone app helped when teams were short of players.

Our recently refurbished greens now have Bowls England accreditation. When we



**Francis Chappell Open Day Competition line up with (front left in blue blazer) Francis Drake Captain Ron Phillips, Jill Bonner (front right in blazer) Francis Drake president and Emma Sparre-Slater, (front dress) from sponsor Francis Chappell and Sons with the competitors in the Open Day competition.**

hosted the Hospitals Charity Finals, members pulled together, set up rinks, organised teams, cooked food and served drinks, ensuring the day went without a hitch and successfully

raised over £300-plus. Our own finals day was also a hit with plenty of nail-biting matches.

For the winter season members are signing up at Lewisham Indoor Bowls Hub at Lower Sydenham, recently joined in partnership with Crystal Palace Indoor. For information on three free coaching lessons, ring our head coach Ron Phillips on 07957 227962.

We lost about 10 members who live outside the Ultra Low Emissions Zone but gained others who live locally. We will be back next year for another successful season.

We welcome newcomers. To try your hand at bowls, mark your diary for early April 2023. Our two England-accredited coaches teach new bowlers the basics in only a few hours. New players quickly improve with encouragement of existing members, and enjoy new friendships at the same time.



# Brockley Literary Festival



The first Brockley Literary Festival was jointly hosted by Crofton Books (in central Brockley) and Brockley Society on 28 May 2022 on two floors of the Victorian Grade II-listed St. John's Church.

We wanted this festival to pave the way for future

years. We had no sponsorship, but were partly funded by We Are Lewisham, linked with Goldsmiths College and Lewisham as the 2022 Borough of Culture, and Brockley Society's contribution. We did it ourselves with pure determination! The festival was held within the Brockley Max timetable and they provided some volunteers on the day.

After much planning, thinking and references to literary festivals that we considered successful, we achieved vibrant success. Thanks to all the bookshop staff, St John's Church, and the Brockley Society team and volunteers for fantastic feedback and contributions.

The turnout was large. Some events advertised on Eventbrite were crammed. The stained glass aesthetics in the upper floor were adorable. Laughing, smiling and thinking faces made me say, 'At last this is happening — and it will happen again.'

Our vision was to embrace differences and make a festival for all, with high level works of literature, readings and talks for adults and kids. Crofton Books aims to break class and cultural barriers and provide

greater accessibility to literature and the arts for all. We pushed this approach into the festival, making it unique in the context of preconceived ideas about literary festivals!

### What did we do?

Within Brockley's streets there is a host of talented people willing to support and share their talents on a local literary playing field. We achieved a superb balance of both plain-speaking and academic-hosted talks and conversations with such authors as Otto English of celebrated *Fake History*, in fun and serious conversation with art historian Charlotte Mullins, author of feminist *A Little History of Art*.

We worked with Penguin Books to bring fiction authors for question and answer sessions and to read from their books. Highlights were Natasha Brown, author of Foyles bookshop debut of 2021, *Assembly*; Lara Williams and her absurd, *The Odyssey*, as well as Bibi Berki with *The Watch*; Gemma Seltzer with *Ways of Living*; and Claire Powell with *At The Table*. Richie Demox read fast fiction from his Brockley-inspired *After Plutonium*.

Notable and popular talks were Helena Lee and Sharlene Lee in conversation on *Eastside Voices* on Asian identity in Britain; Guy Atkins and Ella Risbridger discussing the psychology of food, grief and mental health; and Rene Germain with Dela Hini discussing Rene's *Black and Great*, a practical toolkit on being black in the workplace.

There were also local history talks, poetry readings with Poetry London, workshops for kids with author Ian Brown and the increasingly famous tortoise *Albert Upside Down*. We were joined by Dr Clare Stanhope, author of Brockley-written kids' picture book, semi surreal, Londoncentric,

*Brenda's Bottom and Her Birds*, in its 10th anniversary. There was an art workshop for adults with cartoonist Martin Rowson, and a writing workshop generously provided by Brockley crime writer, Rosalind Stopps.

All of us, myself and Brockley Society, were immensely proud to begin what will be an annual literary festival celebrating our collective identity, a creative display of intellectual community, providing a platform of optimism in this space in south London. Committed to the community!

Jason Shelley Crofton Books, 315 Brockley Road, SE4 2QZ



Rapt audience under stained glass window

## Ladywell's Jamaican-born sculptor - Self-taught Sculptor, photographer, videographer, poet, writer

Fowokan George Kelly's sculptures have been exhibited in community and national galleries, including the National Portrait Gallery and Royal Academy of Arts, as well as overseas. Fowokan's poetry and prose have been published and his work has featured on the front cover of books. His works are in private and public collections in the UK, Europe and the US and thousands view his website ([www.fowokan.com](http://www.fowokan.com)) weekly, which has had more than 9 million hits (June 2022).

Having spent his first 14 years in a former slave colony, he has sustained over 50 years of artistic practice. The book, *Becoming Fowokan: The Life and Works of Fowokan George Kelly* (2022) describes what inspired George to become the artist 'Fowokan', which in Yoruba means 'one who works with his hands'. It tells of his journey from East Queen Street Baptist Elementary School in Downtown Kingston, Jamaica, to Geneva Road, Brixton in London, touring with 'Cymande' in the US and Jimmy Cliff in Nigeria, exhibiting with Ronald Moody. Yoruba philosophy has underpinned his adult life to become Fowokan, the sculptor, 'settler', not 'immigrant'.

With over 100 images of his artworks, *Becoming Fowokan* offers perceptions of the artist's character and works through the lens of family members, childhood friends, eminent artists, curators, patrons and the late Professor Stuart Hall, his school teacher.

His life story covers significant historical periods in the lives of black people in Africa,

the Caribbean and in the West; 'the central one being the artistic as well as the literal journeys taken by this most loved and respected of sculptors' (Eddie Chambers 2021).

The book was launched on 23 June 2022 at the V&A in collaboration with the Jamaican High Commission. A poetry performance by Courtney Conrad and an audience with Fowokan engaged the audience at the sold-out event. Crowds waited outside the

Museum to meet him and the book's author at the end of the event.

The book is Fowokan's legacy for new generations – scholars young and old, artists, black and white.

*Becoming Fowokan: The Life and Works of Fowokan George Kelly* by Dr Margaret Andrews

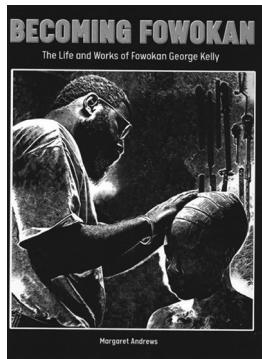
### Available online:

[www.drmtandrews84.com](http://www.drmtandrews84.com)

Bookshops: Black Cultural Archives in Brixton and Crofton Books in Brockley

Price: £25.00 (Excl. P&P)

Margaret Andrews October 2022 ©



## ! TRASH ! aka Trashy Happy Times



St John's Society organised an imaginative event at July's Lewisham People's Day in Mountsfield's Park.

In line with their aim to improve their local environment, which has included litter picks in Friendly

Gardens and local streets, they asked neighbours to collect clean household plastic waste.

At People's Day passers-by were invited to help build a large sculpture of plastic waste on a simple triangular base on wheels. It became a 'social sculpture' with an organic form. Children had a good sense of where to add something without it collapsing.

In keeping with its provisional nature, the materials were simple. Fluorescent coloured gaffa tape, wire and string held everything together: plastic bottles, fruit bonnets, drink cartons, and lids.

Afterwards the sculpture was displayed in the small St John's Park SE8 behind the church.

Alma TW, Claire Hallam and LauraX Carle said: 'We decided to do something tangible and to raise awareness with this playful art project, to dive deeper into the issue of sustainability and to focus on the pressing issues of general waste ecology and climate change.'



## Sybil Phoenix in 1985

An exhibition about Sybil Phoenix, probably Brockley's most famous resident, took place in July at the We Are Lewisham Hub in Lewisham Shopping Centre. Entitled *Making Things Happen: Sybil Phoenix in 1985*, the exhibition consisted of a stunning collection of photos by Brockley resident Geraldine Walsh, chronicling Sybil's work as a local community activist, the first Black woman to receive an MBE. Geraldine describes how it came about.

The exhibition was initiated by Lucia Tambini and jointly curated with Sybil's son, Woodrow Phoenix, who also worked on all the graphics for the exhibition. All the photographs in this exhibition were taken during the in-house arts project at Marsha Phoenix Memorial Trust both here and in Guyana between 1985-86.

I first encountered the Trust on applying for a job as an assistant photography worker in 1985. That's where I first met Lucia Tambini, who became one of the managers at the project, Leticea Phoenix, who ran the pottery workshops, and also Mr Phoenix and later the rest of the Phoenix family, including Woodrow.

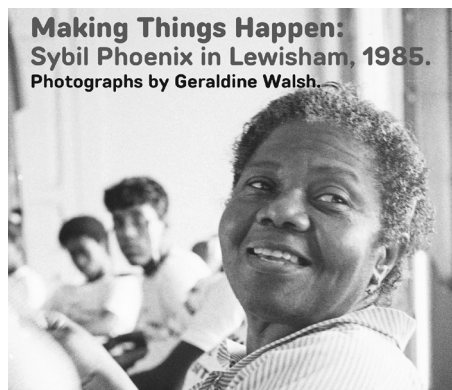
I ended up with the job as the photography worker. My role alongside all the other arts tutors employed in the project (art/pottery/music/drama/dance) was to document the project and assist in teaching basic photography skills. I went on to run visual art workshops there too.

The project was unusual in that it was an in-house project, occupying the ground floor of the home within the communal areas of the house. We also fund-raised to have a studio built in the garden for dance, drama and music.

Sybil Phoenix initiated the project. She and most if not all of the staff lived in Brockley, which became the centre of the universe under the umbrella of Sybil's warmth. It made working there feel very much like home

The photos are full of people from Sybil Phoenix's life, the care home and the arts project that are full of people within our community. These creative threads allow our communities to build relationships extending beyond immediate family blood ties. Sybil Phoenix's sense of family extended beyond her home and in this instance across the road to the Marsha Phoenix care home which she set up. The creative arts project housed in it, which Sybil initiated, opened its arms to the broader community. Sybil's love of family didn't stop at her own door step.

Community arts played a significant role in opening up the project to the local community



and more broadly, enabling relationships to develop that would live way past the time span of the project.



l to r: Geraldine Walsh, Lucia Tambini and Woodrow Phoenix setting up the exhibition



The Arts Project in Marsha Phoenix project in Tressillian Road

Extracts from the photo exhibition were displayed in Downham Library until 13 October and then at Deptford Green School launching on the 20 October. In January 2023 it will go to Crofton park library, dates to be confirmed.

Geraldine Walsh



## Hilly Fields Midsummer Fare 25 June 2022



Crowds near the catering stalls nestling against the hill

FoBLC enjoyed the day: The Friends of Brockley & Ladywell Cemeteries was pleased to take part in this year's Hilly Fields Fayre. The main attraction on our stall was the selection of walking sticks handcrafted by member Bob from sycamore saplings cut down as part of our work sessions in the Cemeteries.

Our 15th Anniversary Open Day in July was well attended and included a selection of short guided walks during the day as well as information and refreshments.

Further guided walks took place at the end of August, when Mike attempted a marathon number of graves to visit. For the September London Open House Festival, Julie led a walk looking at the graves of women and Jeff led a general tour. Throughout the summer, Katie has been conducting weekly butterfly counts as part of the Big City Butterfly project,



Mr Glazz Campbell, comedian, compered the music Mini-stage

noting that the number of species and quantity has declined this year.

Updates on activities and blogs about people buried in the Cemeteries can be found on the website: [www.foblc.org.uk](http://www.foblc.org.uk).

THANKS to ... the organising committee, all our volunteers, advertisers, prize donors, performers, stallholders, everyone who baked cakes for our tea stall, sponsors Riverford Organic Farmers, Conran, Partner Lewisham College, and Glendale Ground Management!

## Supporting Ukraine



Ladywell and Brockley councillors joined forces with local MP Vicky Foxcroft to raise money to support people in Ukraine. Thank you to everyone who donated bottles or bought tickets at the stall. You raised over £500.

Below: Khrystyna said goodbye to her husband at the Polish/Ukraine border and brought their daughter Diana to safety in the UK in May. She has been overwhelmed by the kindness she has been shown. They had a fantastic day at the Fayre. Diana loved the face-painting, riding on the train and visiting the fundraiser stall.



## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Before you start making decisions on any changes to your property, we strongly advise you to look at the Council's guidelines at: [www.lewisham.gov.uk](http://www.lewisham.gov.uk). Click through myservices / Planning / Conservation and urban design / Conservation areas / Brockley. The Brockley Conservation Area Supplementary Planning Document describes what building modifications will be allowed. Under the Article 4 direction external changes visible from public viewpoints require

planning permission (doors, windows, roof, driveways, gates, walls, fences, painting the exterior).

You can view planning applications in the Planning section of the website, and then select 'Search and comment ...' You must log in to make a comment supporting or objecting to an application.

To get involved in preserving the character of Brockley or for further guidance on planning issues, contact [planning@brockleysociety.org.uk](mailto:planning@brockleysociety.org.uk)

### Pending

**Flat 3, 33 Wickham Road, SE4:** Replace timber windows with double glazed timber units to rear  
**148B Tanners Hill, SE8:** single storey rear extension and outbuilding  
**7 Cliff Terrace SE8:** Demolish side rear extension and replace; replace roof balcony, with pitched dormer  
**22 Geoffrey Road, SE4:** Replace front windows with timber and uPVC double-glazed windows  
**133 Upper Brockley Road SE4:** single-storey building for art and design studio  
**61 Cranbrook Road, SE8:** Replace timber single glazed front door and doorset with timber double glazed unit  
**130A Lewisham Way, SE14:** single storey rear extension to basement flat  
**196 Brockley Road, SE4:** Extend first floor balcony; relocate privacy screen  
**16 Rokeby Road, SE4:** single storey infill extension to rear  
**152-154 Lewisham Way SE14:** Mansard roof extension  
**5 Manor Avenue:** Replace timber single glazed windows and doors with timber and aluminium double glazed units, bike storage unit to front r/o  
**108 Manor Avenue SE4:** demolish existing brick walls and storage shed; construct two-storey, plus basement live/work unit  
**5a Lewisham Way, SE14:** Mansard roof extension r/o  
**4 Wickham Road SE4:** Single storey office/studio on site of 3 demolished garages  
**64A Lewisham Way:** Install existing timber sash windows with uPVC units  
**90B Upper Brockley Road, SE4:** Replace timber single glazed window with double glazed window at rear

### Granted:

**24 Wickham Road, SE14:** Replacement timber front door  
**107 Tyrwhitt Road, SE4:** Construct two outbuildings to rear  
**36 Tyrwhitt Road, SE4:** single storey extension and first floor extension to rear  
**8 Sylva Cottages, SE8:** Replace slate tiles with Spanish slate tiles and associated guttering and

eaves work

**74 Tressillian Road, SE4:** outbuilding to rear  
**52 Breakspears Road, SE4:** Change of use from an HMO to single house  
**144B Breakspears Road:** vehicle crossover  
**21 Beverley Court, SE4:** ground floor rear extension  
**85 Albyn Road, SE8:** replacement timber windows, door  
**257A-D Lewisham Way, SE4:** replace timber sash windows front, PVC windows, rear  
**10 Rokeby Road, SE4:** single storey rear infill extension; extend existing roof terrace, privacy screens  
**118 Breakspears Road, SE4:** single storey rear extension, replace rear stairs with decking; demolish existing canopy  
**16 Beverley Court, SE4:** 2.5m single storey extension  
**Brockley Barge, 184 Brockley Road, SE4:** exterior signs  
**9 Ashmead Road, SE8:** Demolish existing single storey rear extension; construct single storey rear extension  
**1 St John's Vale, SE8:** Construct two storey bay window, porch extension, dormer replacement windows; install bin/bike storage, front rooflight, replacement rear windows  
**152 Albyn Road, SE8:** Single-storey rear infill extension  
**90C Upper Brockley Road SE4:** Alterations to front garden wall  
**27 Cranfield Road, SE4:** Demolish rear extension, construct full width rear extension  
**52 Breakspears Road, SE4:** single storey rear extension  
**1-32 St Peters Court, Wickham Road SE4:** Replace existing external flat entrance door screens and doors with timber units  
**47 St John Vale SE8:** Construct outbuilding in rear garden  
**12 Cliff Terrace, SE8:** Replace existing front and rear garden doors with timber units  
**53 Wickham Road, SE4:** (retrospective) reconstruct north elevation (Harefield Road) boundary wall; install access gate  
**8 Avon Road, SE4:** Demolish existing rear

extension; construct new extension

**25 Cranfield Road, SE4:** Install rooflight to rear roof slope  
**116A Upper Brockley Road SE4:** Construct garden office  
**48 St John's Vale, SE8:** single storey rear extension; remodel front garden, replace existing uPVC doors and windows with matching timber units; bin and bike storage  
**44 Breakspears Road:** single storey rear extension; rooflight to northern slope; replace side extension roof with black slate tiles, insert four rooflights into roof of existing side extension; four photovoltaic solar panels to side extension roof; new pedestrian gate and vehicle gate at the front garden boundary, and works to the front garden  
**Flat 3, 55 Breakspears Road, SE4:** Replacement timber windows  
**79 Manor Avenue, SE4:** Conversion into single residence of two self-contained flats, rear extension; remove existing spiral staircase; rear dormer roof extension, two rooflights to front roof slope; replace timber sash windows  
**85 Wickham Road, SE4:** Alterations to front garden, wall

### Refused:

**45 Breakspears Road, SE4:** driveway in front garden, crossover  
**194 Malpas Road, SE4:** Raise roof ridge; construct an L-shaped roof extension  
**114 Albyn Road, SE8:** Replace existing aluminium PPC windows to the front with aluminium PPC units

### Trees:

**113 Tyrwhitt Road SE4:** front lime tree, prune  
**34 Garsington Mews:** fell one pear tree r/o  
**50A Wickham Road/Wickham Mews SE4:** pruning works to six trees  
**162 Lewisham Way SE4:** Fell 6 large sycamores, plant 3 alders, maple, plum  
**80 Breakspears Road SE4:** Fell group of sycamores  
**7 Tack Mews, SE4:** Prune sycamore  
**28 Tressillian Road:** lime, height reduction, radius reduction

## Ladywell Playtower



Redevelopment was approved on October 6 for Ladywell Playtower. The Grade-II listed Victorian baths — famous for its distinctive water tower — will become a four-screen cinema and 33 homes, with no affordable homes.

The Playtower dates back to 1884 but the public baths closed in 1965 and the building ceased to be a community centre in 2004. It is currently derelict and is on Historic England's at-risk buildings list.

One of the pool tanks would be converted into the main cinema with three other screens for up to 300. Two new blocks — one five

storeys high and the other three storeys — would create 33 homes.

The redevelopment will include a cafe and local community space. Progress on the stalled redevelopment owes much to local community involvement.

Robert Smith, chair of Ladywell Society, said: 'We made detailed comments and would have preferred no additional building, but are very keen that the building does not deteriorate any further. We have held meetings with the developer and the new cinema operator and are broadly enthusiastic for the project.

'It is good to know that the community working together can get things like this done!'

### Art at Crofton Park Library

#### Exhibition:

17 November - 10 December.  
 375 Brockley Road, SE4 2AG  
[www.croftonparklibrary.org.uk](http://www.croftonparklibrary.org.uk)

#### Zine workshop

Saturday 26 November,  
 1.30 to 3.50pm Ages 13-17  
 Free - Drop-in - Limited places

### Celebrate the history of Lewisham Way Youth & Community Centre

- Our project to preserve this powerful part of Lewisham's history continues.
- Please send your photos, memories or quick voice notes to .... Instagram @LWYCC
- Keep in touch for further announcements as the project develops over time

*I want people to remember about Lewisham Way Youth & Community Centre that we all became a community. we inspired each other, supported each other*  
 — Maureen Allen

*They made me realise that black people did something of importance in life*  
 — Ben Odeje

*The dances, it was all about the dances! It was always about Lovers' Rock*  
 — Dawn Johnson

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**BROCKLEY SOCIETY**  
**Secretary needed**

Brockley Society seeks to strengthen its management committee with a new Secretary.  
Are you interested in supporting the success of Brockley Society? Is one of your skills helping organise people and processes? Do you get satisfaction from ensuring that ideas become reality? Then you could be just who we are looking for! The role of the secretary is to support the Chair in ensuring the smooth functioning of the management committee.

• Full details: [brockleysociety.org.uk](http://brockleysociety.org.uk)

**Data protection officer / GDPR implementation**

Brockley Society is currently working on implementing all aspects of Data Protection / GDPR legislation. To this end, we are looking for a Data Protection / GDPR officer to strengthen our team. This includes setting our policy based on legal requirements and best practice, and also implementation of this policy in our current procedures and systems.

• Full details: [brockleysociety.org.uk](http://brockleysociety.org.uk)

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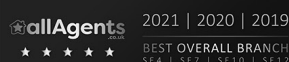
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