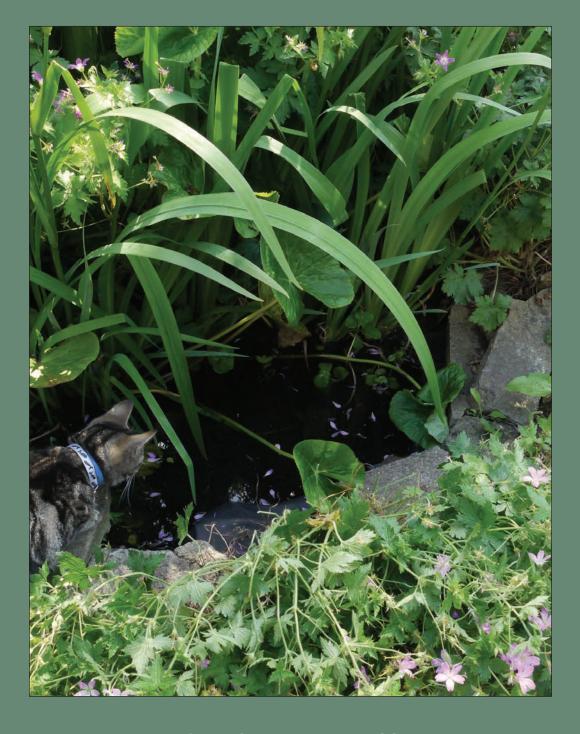
CAMBERWELL QUARTERLY

The magazine of the Camberwell Society
No 185 Summer 2015 £1.50 (free to members)

www.camberwellsociety.org.uk



Open Gardens Day - p14

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THE CAMBERWELL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP & EVENTS

Membership is open to anyone who lives, works or is interested in Camberwell.

The Executive Committee is elected annually at the Society's AGM. Meetings of the Executive Committee are usually held on the first Thursday of the month – please contact the Secretary for details. Members are welcome to attend as observers with prior notice to the Secretary, Robert Wainwright (see inside back cover for contact details).

Sub-Committes on planning, the public realm, traffic and transport, publications and local history form an important part of the Society's work and all members are welcome to involve themselves in areas which interest them.

Forthcoming Event
Architecture Walk
2.30pm Sunday 6 September

The views expressed in the *Camberwell Quarterly* are not necessarily those of the Society unless clearly stated as such. The Camberwell Society is a registered charity (No 264751).

LOCAL SOCIETIES, VENUES AND EVENTS We recommend checking details

Brunswick Park Neighbourhood Tenants and Residents Association Jason Mitchell 07985 548 544

tandra.brunswickpark@yahoo.co.uk

Burgess Park, Friends of

www.friendsofburgesspark.org.uk friendsofburgesspark@.gmail.com

Butterfly Tennis Club

www.butterflytennis.com

Camberwell Arts

Promoting the arts in Camberwell ,and Camberwell in the Arts camberwellartsfestival@gmail.com www.camberwellarts.org.uk

Camberwell Gardens Guild

Membership enquiries to: Pat Farrugia, 17 Kirkwood Road, SE15 3XT

Carnegie Library, Friends of

See the Friends' tray in the Library or foclchair@googlemail.com

Concerts in St Giles'Church

Camberwell Church Street www.music@stgiles.com

Cuming Museum

Old Walworth Town Hall, 151 Walworth Road, SE17 1RY. 020 7525 2332 www.southwark.gov.uk/Discover-Southwark/Museums

Dulwich Picture Gallery

College Road, SE21 7AD 020 8693 5254. www.dulwichpicturegallery.org.uk

Herne Hill Society

Jeffrey Doorn 020 7274 7008 Membership: Herne Hill Society PO Box 27845, SE24 9XA www.hernehillsociety.org.uk

Architecture Walk 2.30pm Sunday 6th September

Camberwell Modernism

There will be a walk, led by lan McInnes from the Twentieth
Century Society, covering the streets north and east of
Camberwell Green. It will look at post war social housing schemes,
a 1950s school by James Stirling, Camberwell Town Hall and other more
recent buildings.

Meet on Camberwell Green opposite the Camberwell Green Surgery. Finish same place.

Lambethans' Society

See Brixton Society website www.brixtonsociety.org.uk

Maudsley Learning

ORTUS learning and events centre, 82-96 Grove Lane, SE5 8SN www.maudsleylearning.com

Minet Conservation Association

020 7737 8210 www.minet.fsnet.co.uk

Nunhead Cemetery

Linden Grove, SE15. Friends of Nunhead Cemetery (FONC) 020 8693 6191 www.fonc.org.uk

Peckham Society

Peter Frost 020 8613 6757 Sunday 16 August, 2pm, *Peckham Walk*. Meet at Peckham Rye Station *www.peckhamsociety.org.uk*

Ruskin Park, Friends of

Doug Gillies 020 7703 5018

SE5 Forum

SE5Forum.org.uk comms@SE5forum.org.uk

South London Gallery

65 Peckham Road SE5. Open: Tuesday to Sunday – 12pm-6pm, closed on Monday www.southlondongallery.org

Southwark Friends of the Earth

Stephanie & Jim Lodge 020 7701 3331. Emails: stephanielodge1947@talktalk.net southwarkfoe@btopenworld.com

Wells Way Triangle Residents Association

Andrew Osborne WWTRACamberwell@gmail.com



Cover: Pest or pet? A curious cat studies a pond on Open Gardens Day

Camberwell's community spirit is alive and thriving

First of all I would just like to say how pleased we were when our President, Jeremy Bennett, despite a prolonged period of ill-health, agreed to remain as President for another year. We send our best wishes to Jeremy, his wife Tine and his family.

There is a great sense of community in Camberwell which is a tribute to our members and others, all of whom work tirelessly to make Camberwell a better place to live and work. There are residents associations, friends of parks, the SE5 Forum as well as other local amenity societies.

I had an email recently from a student living and studying in Camberwell who had seen the repeat of the BBC TV programme in the Secret Streets series and wanted to say how fantastic it was that groups like the Camberwell Society exist, and how the community spirit really came through in that programme.

I think it is fair to say that this spirit has been evident throughout the past year, particularly when it comes to transport – and by this I mean the question of bringing the Tube to Camberwell, Peckham and beyond.

Bakerloo extension

The question of the Bakerloo extension is a long-running saga. A southern extension of the Bakerloo line has been in contemplation ever since it was first opened in 1906. Indeed an extension to Camberwell was actually approved by the Government of the day in 1931 (a coalition if you are interested in these things!). That was, however, abandoned in the post World War Two austerity era. Last year TfL ran a consultation on proposed routes for the Bakerloo line extension, with one of the routes serving Camberwell and the other running down the Old Kent Road.

The Camberwell Society has been very active in advocating the Camberwell route. In November last year I led a deputation to the Southwark Council Assembly to speak in favour of the Camberwell option. We made the point that although close to central London in miles, Camberwell suffers from clogged roads – Denmark Hill is the third most congested road in the



country – as well as high levels of unemployment and deprivation. Although fairly well served by rail services out of Denmark Hill station, overcrowding is an issue and will only get worse.

Significant institutions

Camberwell also contains some large, nationally significant institutions – King's, the Maudsley, the Institute of Psychiatry, and Camberwell School of Arts. King's College London has its biggest hall of residence on Denmark Hill. These institutions all need to be better served by public transport.

The Society was a founder member of PACT – the Peckham and Camberwell Tube Campaign – helping with the organisation and funding of the rally that took place on Camberwell Green in November, although once again, many others helped make this a successful event.

In addition, Alex Blacknell, the Executive Committee member responsible for Traffic and Transport, attended meetings, wrote letters and did everything she could to advance the Camberwell case, particularly where there was a feeling that the odds were stacked against Camberwell in the first place, given TfL's stated desire that the funding of any route should be supported by contributions from developers of new residential and commercial developments.

The results of the consultation, released in March, showed a strong preference for the Camberwell option, which is a tribute to the efforts of everyone mentioned above (and not forgetting our local Southwark Councillors, who were visible in their backing of the PACT

campaign and rally).

There is a long way to go, not least with further consultations, but my point is that this shows what we can all do when we focus our collective efforts for the good of Camberwell.

The Society continues through its Planning Sub Committee to review planning applications, large and small. At a high level, we have commented on both the London Plan and the London Infrastructure plan. At a more local level we have looked at and commented on plans for Camberwell Green itself, the snooker hall site, the Library, as well as throwing our support behind the efforts of the residents association on the D'Eynsford Estate to make the Council see sense on its proposals for replacement windows and doors.

We had a less than successful outcome with Southwark Council in connection with their attempt to revise the rubbish collection arrangements for Camberwell Grove residents. Despite a lively open meeting with representatives of the Council, admirably chaired by Ian Wingfield, we were met with a "Health & Safety" refusal to contemplate any changes to their position, which was very disappointing. At the time of writing, there appears to be little prospect of persuading the Council to reconsider its hasty and unreasonable decision.

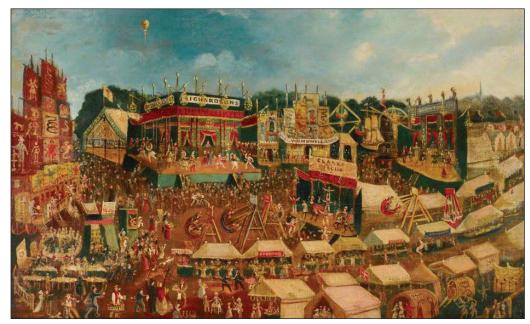
Executive Committee

At the AGM I said that we would like some new members on the Executive Committee. Liz Cook joined last year and I would love to find another two or three new members. Being on the Executive Committee is not a huge commitment in terms of time – we meet once a month - but it is massively interesting if you want to know more about what is going on in Camberwell and also, more importantly, if you want to help influence what Camberwell can be. If you are interested in knowing more, or simply would like to come along to an Executive Committee meeting then do please let me know.

Nick Holt

nick.holt.camberwell.soc@gmail.com

There have been fairs on the Green for hundreds of years



Fairs on
Camberwell
Green have
been taking
place for
hundreds of
years. This
painting shows
what they might
have been like

t last we have begun the long lazy days of summer, meeting up with friends and sharing good food, wine and music. This of course is nothing new and something the residents of the various villages which make up modern-day Southwark have been doing for over 500 years. Most people have heard of Southwark Fair which took place in the Borough High Street and was recorded by a variety of visitors, from the artist Hogarth in 1733 and the diarists Samuel Pepys and John Evelyn. Fewer have heard of the Camberwell Fair, but Mendelssohn was moved to write about the "Camberwell Green", better known today as "Spring Song".

First fair on the Green

The first recorded fair in Camberwell, on the village green, is noted in 1279. Camberwell then would have been a very rural area and the majority of people living there would have worked on farms probably owned by the local lords of the manor. The ownership of the area had for centuries lain with nobility, as was recorded in the Domesday *Book*, which noted the ownership being in the hands of King William I's half brother, Haimo. Over the years this ownership saw Henry I gain control through the marriage of his son, Robert, Earl of Gloucester to the granddaughter of Haimo, and later it was held by the first Duke of

Buckingham but lost by the third Duke, Edward Stafford, who unfortunately, lost his head for treason in 1521 when he opposed Cardinal Thomas Wolsey.

Although he had enjoyed the patronage of both Henry VII and Henry VIII he was both a Plantagenet by birth and a Tudor by the marriage of his mother to Owen Tudor. Like many of the upper aristocracy of the time he viewed Henry VIII's activities with suspicion and in 1520 Henry moved against him and he was executed on Tower Hill on 17 May the following year. His lands reverted to the crown and they were taken up by John Scott for £7 rent per annum. Royal connections with the area continued however, and the area around what was then the village high street was renamed Denmark Hill in honour of Prince George of Denmark, whose wife Queen Anne, had a residence there.

Puritans

The Camberwell Fair seems to have continued on throughout these changes of ownership, with probably a short cessation during the years of the Commonwealth when the Puritans banned all manner of entertainments and gatherings. The fair was normally held from 9 August until 1 September, the latter being the feast of St Giles to whom the local parish was dedicated. Over time this reduced and the fair was typically held on the Green

between 18 and 20 August.

Many records of the fair can be found, whether in William Bray's three volumes of *The History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey*, published between 1804 and 1814, which notes that it was originally held in the High Street "opposite The Cock public house" before it became larger and moved to the village green, or in *The Annual Register of 1807* which described all manner of sports, splendour and entertainments.

Unlucky accident

In particular: "An unlucky accident happened on Wednesday to a black magician, who professed to be acquainted with the secrets of nature, to be descended from the magi of Persia, and to profess the highest veneration for the Greubes or worshippers of fire. In addition to his legerdemain, he exhibited a puppet show, in the last scene of which a battle was introduced between Lucifer and Buonaparte. As the infernal king was conveying the effigy of the Corsican to the region of fire, an unlucky boy blew up a sausage-pan in the rear of the magician's booth, and Buonaparte's catastrophe was attended by real fire, for the flames, in consequence of the explosion, caused the hangings of the booth, and the disciple of Zoroaster found himself inclosed by the element he so much admired." Unfortunately, Health and Safety

officers did not exist in the early 19th century and the magician's booth fell in a pile of ashes.

The Fair continued for a number of years and The Observer notes the changing tastes of those attending, as by 1832 much of the Green was occupied by Richardson's theatre tent and the local taverns decorated their premises to attract patrons. In 1840 it was noted in Colburn's Kalendar of Amusements that the fair was the "most amusing and orderly occurring near the metropolis". The date of the last fair on Camberwell Green is noted as 1859 when the green opened as a public park. To get an idea of what the fair may have been like it is worth taking a look at the painting (left) which is held in the Southwark Art Collection.

All that is known of the work is that it was donated by an unknown benefactor some time ago. The work is an oil on canvas, measuring some 82.5 x 133.3 cm and is attributed to an artist by the name of Parkhurst.

Do you know who Parkhurst was or can you help date the painting or give some idea to its provenance? You can view it on the BBC's website at

http://www.bbc.co.uk/arts/yourpaintings

Carol Walsh

Are you going to Camberwell Fair?

amberwell Fair will be revived on 25 July 2015 with music, stalls and a stage for local talent. Then the Green will close for six to nine months for improvements. What needs improving on Camberwell Green?

Just about everything, according to one group of local 12- to-14-year olds. "That park is dead." "I loved the roundabout when I was little but now they do not even have that." "We walk through but there is nothing to stop for." These were some comments from Chigozie, Faith, Onome. Taiwo, Kenny and Chukwu of Camberwell Youth Centre. They have lots of ideas to make the Green more attractive: "Repainting it." "Making it bigger." "More places to sit." But most of all they want things to do. "Equipment for people our age – zip wires, water jets like those in Burgess park." "More stalls selling food we can afford." "More events."

According to Barbara Pattinson of SE5 Forum it is not just young people who want more activities. "Every time we ask, people tell us that the main thing they want is more events on the Green." The Forum has a stall on the Green every week. During the renovation it and the market will move, probably to Datchelor or Artichoke Place then to

the new market site south of the park in the cul de sac next to the Camberwell Church Street bus stops. There will be a new playground next to the Father Redcap with trampolines and a log swing as well as baby swings, new lighting and resurfaced pathways. Pavements will be narrowed to extend the park and wild flower meadows created, according to Pippa Krishnan of Southwark Council, to turn the "faded" Green into "a destination place".

Overall, the Friends of Camberwell Geeen are pleased with the Council's consultation and with the plans. Craig Stansfield of the Friends says, "We want the Green to be an oasis in the Town Centre, a place to relax. We welcome the investment and hope that the landscaping is extended from the Green and the Library to create a green route down Lomond Grove to Burgess Park. We would have liked to see the lavatories moved though."

Ah! The lavatories. They have long been a sore point. Although the closure of the old Victorian lavatories was welcomed the new ones were not maintained for some time. On one occasion our present Mayor, Dora Dixon-Fyle, was so incensed at the

Continued on next page

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Are you going to Camberwell Fair? Continued from previous page

lack of upkeep that she followed the responsible Councillor into the gents at the Town Hall to make her case. Long time local activist John Marten of Southwark Pensioners has also campaigned for working toilets on the Green and warns that "Southwark are very good at getting capital money for big improvements but singularly fail to maintain what they have installed." He cites the hanging baskets, a much admired feature of the Green which were neglected and not renewed. He has seen the number of street drinkers and drug users reduce and agrees that overall the Green has improved. In 1998, when Dora Dixon-Fyle first became a Councillor, the Green she remembers was "unkempt, dark and unsafe." She hopes the refurbishment and activities such as the Fair will make it "a place that brings people together across Camberwell, across the social divides, young and old".

Priya Prakash, the driving force behind the transformation of Camberwell Post Office, sees new technology as a tool to integrate the community. Camberwell could be the "first digital neighbourhood" with a wide range of people using free internet access on the Green. "Wi-fi is like water, it gets everywhere and creates change," she says. As founder of Design for Social Change and Changify (see website at http://www.changify.org/cities/london)
Prakash is part of a movement creating smart cities such as Bristol, Glasgow and Sheffield, places that use technology to bring play into public spaces, for example, musical traffic lights, or developing more responsive services, for eample the Sheffield app which enables cyclists to send photos of potholes by mobile phone to the Council and receive a report when they are fixed, saving time and money.

A high-speed data network around the Green would integrate and link Camberwell's different businesses, enable food, music and arts festivals and create a stronger sense of neighbourhood. Priya loves Camberwell's diversity and creativity but sees it too often coming second to Peckham and Brixton with their cultural centres like the Bussey Building. "Camberwell could stick its neck out and learn how to thrive in a new smart age," she says.

Andre Marmot, the founder of Wormfood, promoters of the 2015 Camberwell Fair, agrees that Camberwell is overshadowed by its neighbours. "I knew Brixton and Peckham well but had not even visited Camberwell until I started seeing a girl from here. But it is so central, ancient. I like the mix of cultures, the

independent shops like Rat Records, the great buildings, so much that I now live here." Wormfood (motto We're all going to be wormfood some day, so we might as well wriggle while we can!) promotes live music – African, reggae, electonic – events and acts from Bestival to Brixton, and won funding from Southwark and the Arts Council to stage Camberwell Fair from noon to 8pm on the last Saturday in July.

Although the fair will give a nod to its predecessors – the Camberwell Fair was held from 1279 to 1855 the line-up celebrates modern-day music people and cultures. It will have two music stages, a community stage for local talent, dance workshops and pop up stalls run by local businesses such as Leon Legal, Daily Goods, Camberwell Arms, Pigeon Hole, Besty, Perfect, the barbers, Dave's Kutz. Nigerian Afrobeat star Dawn Penn is a headliner and Dele Sosimi, the keyboard player for the legendary Fela Kuti, is bringing his 10-piece band. And the 2015 Camberwell Fair is free!

For a free ticket to Camberwell fair register on line at http://www.camberwellfair.co.uk/

Marie Staunton



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Perseverence and commitment honoured

wo Society members have been honoured with special awards recently. Ann Kenrick (Warby) was presented with the insignia of Chevalier in the Ordre national du Mérite [fr] and Nicholas Roskill received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Southwark Council, an award recommended where an individual has demonstrated an outstanding contribution to the life of the community, typically for a period exceeding 20 years.

This is not Nicholas's first Civic Award, but perhaps his most notable contribution to the life of the commuity began when, in July 1988, he wrote his first letter to the Council, the then owners, about their derelict buildings at 4A, 6 and 6A Grove Lane. It was the first of many letters and articles, but his perseverance finally paid off. In the process Nicholas says he has accumulated a file some six inches thick!

Chronicled

The saga of these buildings has been well chronicled in the *Quarterly* by Nicholas over the years and is summed up again in the spring issue, No 184, where photographs compare the neglected terrace with the splendid new building, now housing the Hill Bakery & Deli, which is reported on in this issue, (see page 8).

Meanwhile, fed up with the eyesore, nearby residents painted the buildings a uniform green and over the years Nicholas could often be seen with a pot of matching green paint painting over the graffiti which the derelict terrace attracted. But his brushwork didn't end there! Over the last 10 years or so he has carried out



Award winners Ann Kenrick and Nicholas Roskill

a single-handed, unpaid and largely successful crusade to eliminate graffiti throughout Camberwell by removing it as soon as it was reported to him.

He has also served on the Society's executive committee for many years and his current role as member responsible for licensing matters has greatly helped curb late night disturbances, notably from the Cube Bar and Club Couture.

Campaigner

Ann is another stalwart of the Society and this is not the first time *CQ* has reported on an award for her. In 2008 she received a Civic Award for "environmental awareness" and was commended for her activities as chair of the Safer Routes to School campaign. Then in the following New Year honours she received an

OBE for promoting Anglo-French relations.

Anglo-French relations featured again when her latest insignia was presented to her by the French Ambassador Sylvie Bermann who, congratulated her on "her brilliant career as Secretary-General of the British section of the Franco-British Council [FBC]". She said that Ann had played a major role in the bilateral relationship and that she had wholeheartedly and effectively committed herself to the post of Secretary-General of the Council's British Section.

The Ambassador also spoke about Ann's commitment to protecting the environment and championing the place of women in society, such as participating in programmes for schoolgirls about women in business and management.

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Baking fast and slow

It is 7am and the sweet smell of baking cakes drifts from Sophocles down Camberwell Church Street to the corner of Grove Lane where it mingles with the yeasty scent of sourdough from the ovens of the Hill Bakery. Both Camberwell's independent bakers start early and finish late but the slow baker takes 17 hours to make a loaf, the fast three hours.

The fast baker is George Galiotzakis. He produces a dozen different breads, including the popular round sesame seed called Polytelias. He also makes an enormous range of treats – 10 varieties of Greek pastries from Baklava to almond cake, 27 types of sponge cake, six different chocolate cakes, doughnuts iced, filled or sprinkled and no fewer than 22 different biscuits. George is omnipresent – checking orders, greeting old friends, stepping behind the counter to serve a customer. Finally he sits down with a small cup of strong, thick, black Greek coffee and, keeping an eye on the busy shop, describes his day.

"I start the bread with two bakers at 6pm and within three hours it can be ready. By 11pm I can leave them to it and they stay until 3am when the day-shift baker starts and works through till 1pm. I join him at five in the morning to send out our 60 or so orders which go to shops and cafés throughout south London. Baking is a 365-day a year job. Even on Christmas Day some people want bread. My day of rest is Sunday when I arrive here at 7am and try to go to church in the middle of the day."

George says he came to Camberwell on his honeymoon two decades ago and just stayed. Born in Crete, George met his wife Morfoula while serving in the Army in Athens. She lived with her Cypriot parents in Shenley Road. George and Morfoula settled in the area, bringing up their son in Choumert Road. In 2001 when he was working in Andrews Fish Bar (where the Lebanese café now stands) he persuaded the then owner of Sophocles, Melamendes, to teach him how to bake. In 2003 he took over the shop and now has 12 members of staff.



George Galiotzakis starts the bread with two bakers at 6pm and within three hours it can be ready

The key to a successful business, he says, is always to try something new to keep yourself and the customers interested – and to survive times of austerity. Cakes are a luxury purchase and sales dipped last year, but takeaway sandwiches and hot

"Even on Christmas Day some people want bread"

meals remain popular. George has seen Camberwell change over the last 20 years and welcomes the new shops that have appeared, but like other traders, wants the Council to encourage more diversity – the small clothes and home shops like the ones that abound in Lordship Lane would be welcome.

Slow Baker

The slow baker, Adam Newey of Hill Bakery at the foot of Grove Lane, takes 17 hours to make a loaf using the sourdough method that has been used to leaven bread throughout human history. The oldest known sourdough bread, excavated in Switzerland, dates from 3700 BC. It was the main form of leavening until 150 years ago. Adam starts at 4pm with a sourdough "starter" of wild yeasts and probiotic bacteria produced by fermenting a mixture of speciality flours and water for two to three hours. The dough then rises slowly overnight in the fridge. Before 6am Adam is back in his small bakery, the bread is knocked back, shaped into loaves and put to rise in traditional raffia baskets. After another two hours it is ready to go into the oven. But not just any oven -Hill Bakery ovens have stone shelves that get exceedingly hot and steam channels along the side to produce the crunchy crust that is impossible to achieve at home.

Baking takes long hours and hard work. So why do it? For the sheer satisfaction, says Adam, whose past career includes teaching creative writing in Boston with Derek Walcott ("that is when I learnt that I am never going to be a poet," he says), 20 years as a journalist, including as sub-editor on the *Independent*



Adam Newey takes 17 hours to make a loaf using the sourdough method that has been used to leaven bread throughout human history

newsdesk and reviewer for the *Guardian Books* supplement. So why the career change?

"My dad always made bread on Sunday, a family tradition followed by my sister who taught me to make sourdough in the '90s. I started taking my loaves to work on Saturdays. After we went to press at 6pm I

roybrooks.co.uk

would share them with the people on the newsdesk, who brought the wine. My bread was so popular that colleagues suggested I start my own business. I started delivering bread to customers around Brockley and New Cross, all the while looking for a retail shop. My partner Tracey Beresford lives in Camberwell so we researched the market for a bakery/delicatessen here, leafleting local houses and offering a free loaf of bread to those completing our on-line survey. One of those was Julian Kenny who was restoring this shop at the foot of Grove Lane and looking for a delicatessen. It was sheer luck to find a good-sized bakery, a lovely shop in a beautiful building and a supportive landlord. With a business mentor from GLE oneLondon I raised the finance, found local food producers and opened in 2015."

Adam uses many local suppliers. He enthuses about the "fabulous food made on our doorstep", from Phished Fish – salmon smoked in whisky in Shenley Road, the honey, cheese and preserves made under the railway arches in Bermondsey, to tortellini and pasta handmade by Emmanuella in Peckham and delivered to the shop every Thursday. But days as a baker are long and he struggles to find time for other interests. This year he is a judge for the Costa Poetry prize.

After 14 years as a baker George says the hours get no easier. Adam found them impossible and now opens after 10, stays open until seven to catch people coming home from work, and he delays baking till 7am.

Marie Staunton

At home in Camberwell Fast Dulwich 020 8299 3021 Nunhead 020 3206 3063 At home in Camberwell Fast Dulwich 020 8299 3021 Nunhead 020 3206 3063

New building reflects Sacred Heart's traditional culture

In 2010 Cottrell & Vermeulen was commissioned to design a new building to replace and enlarge the existing school buildings as part of Southwark's £220 million Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme. Due to the urban nature of the site it was impossible for a new building to be constructed prior to the demolition of the existing buildings.

Fortunately the BSF programme was also delivering a completely new school near Elephant and Castle (anticipating the regeneration of the Heygate Estate) that Sacred Heart could borrow during the construction of their new school in Camberwell. This temporary move gave a rare opportunity for the site to be completely re-ordered to meet the academic, contextual and physical needs of the new school without the constraints of having to work around the existing buildings.

Sacred Heart School is in the heart of Camberwell, a short walk north-westwards from Camberwell Green. The school is bounded by Camberwell New Road, County Grove, Knatchbull Road and the railway viaduct that serves trains running south from the City which gives a panoramic view of the site.

Sacred Heart is a Roman Catholic co-educational secondary school (11-15) which currently has 661 pupils plus a small sixth form. It is a very successful school, consistently achieving among the best results, both in Southwark and London. The school specialisms are in maths, ICT and languages. Its ambition is to provide places for 850 pupils in the re-ordered site.

The history of Sacred Heart School's presence on its current site extends back to 1959 when the original school buildings were designed to accommodate a four-form entry intake of students. Over the years the school was extended and



The building makes a gesture to the existing large holm oak by stepping back around it

demountable structures added to the site to accommodate changes in the educational requirements and an increase in pupil numbers. In 2002 the City Learning Centre was completed to provide a community internet facility. This building was incorporated within the school premises in 2009.

The 1893 map of Camberwell New Road shows housing along the street edge of Camberwell New Road, continuing the line of the adjacent Georgian terrace; these appear to be large houses interrupted by a Congregational chapel with a sunday school to the rear. The original Roman Catholic Church is in the same location as the existing church (the church was damaged during the second world war and rebuilt in 1952). At the south-east corner of the site was a convent. The centre of the site was a garden or yard, presumably a shared space between convent and church.

The historic street pattern, with strongly defined edges and corners, was in contrast to the 1950s layout of the site, with centrally placed buildings and ill-defined external spaces at the edges.

By locating the main teaching building on the Camberwell New Road frontage the Georgian street pattern was reinstated, so not only is the building now closely interwoven into the urban character, it also gives the status of a civic building, rising to four storeys at the eastern side of the

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site while stepping back down two storeys at the western edge to match the domestic building line of the adjacent Georgian terrace.

By concentrating the teaching spaces along the street, the school could at last provide for ample external playspace, an external multi-use games area and a separate sports building and assembly/dining space perpendicular to the main teaching block.

The Head Teacher, Serge Cefai, was keen that the new building should reflect the traditional academic school culture. The predominant material used at the new school is brick, used in such a way as to acknowledge the Georgian terrace's rich red brick, with the grey brick acting as a counterpoint to this. The red brickwork is further enhanced with zip-like vertical recesses echoing the divisions between the adjacent residential properties. While the situation allowed a certain amount of freedom to re-order the site, this opportunity was not extended to simply returning the site to a "tabula rasa": instead the building makes a gesture to the large existing holm oak by stepping back around it. This point marks the entrance to the school where the cut from the building reveals a patterned light coloured brick wall and folds into the entrance and through into the main internal courtyard.

Beyond the entrance lies an external "ante-room" in the form of a covered external courtyard before entering the main external courtyard that is intended to be the main civic square of the school community. The covered external courtyard also acts as a social hub where visitors, staff and students convene in the café which looks onto the courtyard, and a feature staircase provides open access to the first floor.

The new Sacred Heart School building seeks to provide the most up-to-date facilities in an environment that reflects both the school's traditional ethos and integration into Camberwell's lively and diverse community.

Richard Cottrell



The learning garden and courtyard of the main teaching block



View of the school looking west down Camberwell New Road

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How Camberwell's association with Kensington Palace began some 300 years ago

ensington Palace was built in 1692 in the time of William and Mary, but it was Queen Anne's interest in it, especially the gardens, that began its association with the royals and sparked a connection with Camberwell.

During the reign of Queen Anne (1702-1714), her husband, Prince George of Denmark, took an interest in Camberwell. The local people must have liked him: Camberwell High Street was renamed Denmark Hill in his honour and he kept his dogs in kennels in East Dulwich.

(My wife Dorothy was a teacher at Dog Kennel Hill Infants School and she recalls that people used to ring up to ask, "Do you take dogs?" The teachers' view was that they had enough problems with children!)

After Queen Anne died in 1714, in order to keep our country protestant, a distant relative, the Elector of Hanover, became George I, who reigned from 1714 to 1727.

He was unpopular here because

he had divorced his wife Sophia Dorothea for adultery and had her imprisoned in a castle near her home town of Celle. (I have been to the schloss in Celle where she was held and it is a very impressive building.)

George I did not learn English and because of that a special appointment had to be made and Sir Robert Walpole became our first prime minister in 1720.

His son George II (1727-1760) married Caroline of Ansbach and they both became very interested in Kensington Palace, especially the gardens. George II, incidentally, was the last English king to lead his troops into battle in Dettingen in 1743 in the War of the Austrian Succession.

He was a patron of musicians, notably Handel who, in 1749, to celebrate the victory, composed the music for the Royal Fireworks. These were let off in Green Park.

When George III (1760-1820) came to the throne he and Queen

Charlotte took an interest in Kensington Palace and also spent much time at Kew Palace.

Queen Charlotte, an accomplished musician, was taught by Johann Christian Bach, son of Johann Sebastian and Anna Magdalena Bach. Johann Christian became known as the London Bach.

John Troke

Forgotten and found



Tobias Kennedy-Hall, whose business Forgotten and Found, deals with salvage and antique items, has written to us to say he has recently found an original "Borough of Camberwell" bronze plaque dated from 1920-1922.

He is curious about the item and would like to learn more about it. He says that any help or information would be greatly appreciated. If anyone can help, please contact the Editor (mpowleybaker@gmail.com) and/or Tobias on tobias@forgottenandfound.com



Who was the Beau of Camberwell?

Caroline Cole has inherited a painting of a forebear of her grandmother who was apparently known as the Beau of Camberwell. Her grandmother's maiden name was Kelley.

His clothes look pre-Victorian, maybe early 19th century, she says.

If any historians out there can help, Caroline would love to hear from you. She can be contacted on *c cole@tiscali.co.uk*



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Progress Works, 3 Addington Square Camberwell, London SE5 7JZ Telephone: 020 7703 2686 www.avfowlds.co.uk Wendy Birch has been sorting out her mother's papers and has come across some old school magazines. She is reluctant to throw them away and would like to give them to anyone who is interested. They are:

- The Magazine of Camberwell Central School, the Lindsay Ash Memorial number, Easter 1928
- Holland Road Central School magazine, Vol 1, No 1, December 1928
- The Loughborough Central School magazine, 1929 through to 1933.

Wendy can be contacted by phone on 01462 675425 or 07738599566 or by email at

Wendy-birch@hotmail.co.uk

It takes a team to build a festival

y the time you read this, the 21st Camberwell Arts Festival will have concluded and planning will already be underway for 2016.

Arts, in all their forms, is thought-provoking, evocative, fun, engaging, challenging and aspirational, and thanks to Camberwell Arts, it's entirely accessible to anyone and everyone throughout the 10-day festival. That's a lot to programme, plan, organise, and these days, fund!

Thank goodness for our trustees! When I joined the board two years ago, I never realised how all-consuming being a trustee would be. Unlike most charities, it is we, the trustees that do the work. We have no staff, we do not take expenses; we even have to pay for our own coffee!

But that has not put off a small group of hard-working people from choosing to offer their skills in their professional lives to the charity in their spare time.

From writing funding applications, presenting to the Council, talking to local stakeholders, meeting with businesses, and of course building relationships with our artists, we've all been involved.

I am so very proud of what we have been able to achieve with this year's festival (Camberwell Feast)



Some of the people who make it all happen

Photo: Luther Taylor

and I hope you have all been able to experience it in some way or other, whether it was open studios, arts market, sweetie trails, the film night at St Giles or comedy in the crypt, as well as the dozens of other activities, including the discovery of 10 artist-designed benches in public spaces.

The festival reminds us of how lucky we all are to be living in such a creative community – and it seems right that we should celebrate our good fortune once a year.

So I would like to personally thank Dan Cowdrill (chairman), Tracy Allen, Kelly O'Reilly, Gita Joshi, Kelly Blaney and Richard Watkins who really have been the dream team of trustees, and a joy to work with, and not forgetting our wonderful band of volunteers who have provided so much support.

They are all the unknown, unsung heroes of the festival, without whom none of this would be possible.

If you would like to join Camberwell Arts as a trustee or volunteer please drop us an email at CamberwellArtsFestival@gmail.com

> Jordana Leighton (Deputy Chair, Camberwell Arts)

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How does your garden grow?

ardens need bold editing according to horticulturist John Turpin. The cottage garden prettiness of his Benhill Road plot has no space for sentimentality, no room for the favourite plant that has grown too big. One of the benefits of Open Gardens Day is free advice from successful local gardeners like John. Common themes are: plan a good design and structure, understand your soil and don't fight with the aspect of the plot. And for those with no land of their own our community gardeners advise on how to set up a shared plot or guerrilla gardening.

John started with a new structure for his long (90 foot) narrow, derelict site cut in half by a band of concrete. He changed the path to a serpentine shape, creating wide and narrow bays and persuaded the neighbours to install low-level netting instead of a high fence so the boundary now disappears under dense planting. The careful informality of geraniums and raspberries scrambling through larger shrubs and an abundance of flowers makes 126 Benhill Road a regular star of the Open Gardens Day.

But John is a plant expert and has developed his garden over a quarter of a century. What do you do with a neglected back yard and a lack of time and expertise? Paola and Robert of 55 Grove Lane invested in a garden designer, Katrina Todd, who was as ruthless as John. Only one tree, a flowering cherry, was retained. The rotting eucalyptus and weeds were replaced by reliable roses (white Iceberg and Golden Showers), dew catching Ladies Mantle (Alchemilla Mollis), and sulphur yellow Achillea Moonshine, a lawn with a centrepoint of standard rose Alfred Bell underplanted with geranium Johnsons Blue. Result: a low maintenance green retreat in under two years. It is instructive to watch how new gardens come into their own - it is only four years since 78 Camberwell Grove was relaid and replanted and the Indian Bean and Albiza trees are now flourishing.

The Perkins were lucky to move into the Vicarage Grove house of a landscape gardener, Gardener's World columnist James Alexander Sinclair, who created a series of garden rooms. Planting is a mixture of structural plants such as the smoke bush (Cotinus) and artichoke with native flowers such as buttercups and forgetmenots. Melissa Perkins' advice is to pull up all the forgetmenots after flowering or they will take over, but do remember to shake out the seeds and they will flower again.

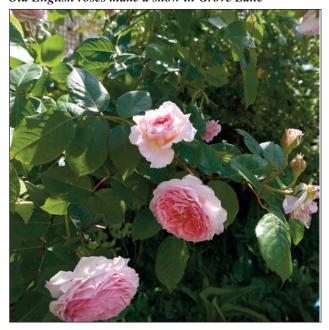
What grows well in Camberwell? Planting the right plant in the right place is key according to Matthew Hart and is the secret behind his stunning display of maples, yellow irises, red roses and ferns hidden from the roar of Camberwell New Road by a tall privet hedge. The Oliviers at 60 Grove Lane recommend seakale - Crambe Cordifolia, tall and dramatic, its billowing clouds of tiny, honey scented white flowers float above huge rosettes of deeply cut rhubarb-like dark green leaves in June and July. A favourite plant of Edwardian garden designer Gertrude Jekyll, sea kale needs to be cut down to ground every autumn when the Oliviers underplant it with spring bulbs. Their porch shows off a clever combination of climbing plants for successive flowering - wisteria succeeded by a rambling rose which is followed by passion fruit.

Knowing your soil matters, says John Turpin. Lucky Benhill Road gardeners have light river silt from the final flood plain of the Thames terraces, further south soil is more pebbly clay. John enriches the soil with compost from Southwark Council's Devon Street depot (black gold at £3 a bag). But it is fast draining so he uses drought resistant plants such as the grey leaved white flowered lychnis, a Chelsea Flower Show regular that grows easily in Camberwell, popping up in its cerise form in the McNeil road guerrilla garden. Other "good doers" in SE5 are alpine strawberries, euphorbias,

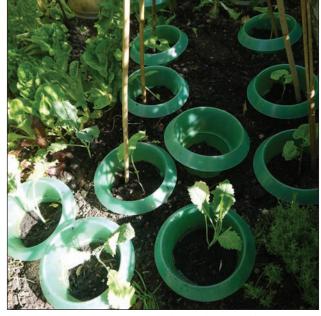
An abundance of flowers in Benhill Road, a regualr star



Old English roses make a show in Grove Lane







A combination of climbing plants for successive planting

Snails and slugs can't climb these plastic collars

mallifera honey spurge (cutting off the top after flowering allows offshoots around the base of the plant to grow), kniphofia, red hot pokers, which combine well with the sword shaped leaves and yellow flowers of Sisyrinchium. Architectural Phlomis (Turkish sage) grows well but can be a "bit of a thug" with a tendency to spread. John does not tolerate plants that fail to perform so gave up on agapanthus, the African lily, which forms a large clump with only a few flower heads. He looks for the more interesting variegated forms of common plants such as brunnera, Siberian bugloss, and confederate jasmine (Trachelospermum Jasminoides).

And aspect is important – some of the most restful gardens are those that embrace shade. No 44 Grove Lane was one of the most peaceful spots on a hot clammy day with the

gentle trickle of a tap into a pond surrounded by ferns and a welcoming seat. The artist's eye of Arabella at 165 Camberwell Grove has created a shady refuge of a front garden with a tree fern underplanted with purple and bronze heucheras, the dark tones making the one white cyclamen stand out vividly.

Pest control

But even the best planned garden can be destroyed by an onslaught of pests or animals. The community Secret Garden in D'Eynsford Estate has some stunning plants – highlights on Open Gardens Day were the rambling red Pauls Himalyan musk rose over the entrance, a golden Chinese lantern (Abutilon) by the arbour and the flourishing beds of raspberries and cabbages. The secret, according to the garden's Chair, Connie, is to use sand or eggshells

underneath the plants to deter pests, particularly slugs

The first question of Open Day visitors to 165 Camberwell Grove was – how do you grow such magnificent hostas – with no slug damage at all? Arabella's method is to put the plants in pots on top of deep saucers (about six inches) in which the slugs drown. Runner beans are protected by plastic collars which are impossible for snails and slugs to climb.

A more difficult problem can be cats and dogs. This year the volunteers who run the Secret Garden were faced with moving a colony of stray cats that took up residence. John Turpin has five neighbouring cats who regularly visit but he sets up barriers of canes and pots to keep them away from prize plants. Or you

Continued on next page

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How does your garden grow? Continued from previous page







A mixture of structural plants in Vicarage Grove

can just live with the animals. The garden at 55 Grove Lane is full of interesting finds for Sherlock, Paola's Cairn terrier and on Open Gardens Day he dug up and proudly exhibited a rotting chicken wing to the amusement of visitors.

Failure of a plant to fruit may not be the fault of pests at all – you might need a companion plant

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angi@angidriver.co.uk www.angidriver.co.uk advises Alison Telfer of Grove Park whose male and female kiwi produces wheelbarrows full of very hairy but edible fruit.

The fight for Lettsom Gardens

Alison gardens on the site of the original house of Dr John Coakley Lettsom, an 18th century Quaker, financier of botanical expeditions and well known doctor who is supposed to have written about himself: "When patients comes to I, I physics, bleeds, and sweats 'em, Then – if they choose to die, What's that to I – I lets 'em."

(I. Lettsom)

Alison chaired one of Camberwell's first fights for a community garden when Dr Lettsom's plot was about to be concreted over to build 80 houses in the 1970s. A successful campaign saved the gardens which have been managed since by the Lettsom Gardens Association (LGA). Locals are welcome to join the LGA to access the site which contains two wooded areas, as grassland and a children's play area. A further third of the site is used for 32 allotments. When the Kimpton Road allotments were concreted over to build the Camberwell Magistrates Court this land was allocated by the Council to the Camberwell Garden Guild who now run them.

The allotment holders kindly open for the day and dispense free advice. Tony is planting spinach in a friend's allotment made up of raised beds, which he recommends to allow a new top layer of compost and good soil. In the two years since his group took over the allotment they have harvested fruit and veg some 10 months of the year. Tim on the adjacent plot has been an allotment holder for 15 years and his 18 by 35 foot plot is packed with strawberries, onions, leeks, tomatoes, chillies and broad beans (but beware of blackfly he warns). And it only take him two hours a week to cultivate.

There is lots to be learnt about growing vegetables in a small space from Stanswood Gardens and the Secret Garden, the two community gardens which are Camberwell Society's charities of the year. This year Kasia, one of the founders of Stanswood, has started an apothecary garden, with the support of the Cleaner, Greener, Safer Fund, on a small site where two paths cross. It will have four sections. The first will be devoted to plants for digestion (mint, fennel, milk thistle, dill and artichoke), the second to beauty (camomile, borage, rosemary, evening primrose and calendula), first aid (arnica, hyssop, feverfew, calendula, comfrey), colds (Echinacea, raspberry, elder, scented geranium,



At 34 Grove Lane Isobel and co organise face painting and "guess the sweets jar", while others enjoy the sun and tea



Well established allotments at Lettsom Gardens

rosa rugose, and if there is room, thyme and sage). In the centre will be a peace of mind area planted with a hawthorn, underplanted with St John's Wort. Kasia and husband Carlo see the gardens as a way of developing a sense of community, teaching locals on the estate how to enjoy their own gardens and together with other local community gardens "creating a netting of mutual support".

What makes a great Camberwell gardener?

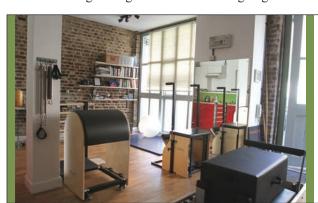
The most successful local gardeners may not spend hours digging but they do spend time looking and planning. Tim only spends two hours a week digging his allotment but every day goes and spends 10 minutes deciding which jobs to do next, Arabella walks though the garden to her studio every day, doing little jobs on the way. John Turpin goes out every morning to see how his garden grows.

Whether you have a garden, a window box or just an interest there are lots of opportunities to improve your garden skills in Camberwell. You could plant up the guerrilla gardens at Stories Mews and McNeill Road where the ambition has moved from simply reducing the numbers of dumped car parts and fridges to creating shrubs and meadows. You can join the Secret Garden, go to one of the family garden workshops at Stanswood or become a member of the Camberwell Gardens Guild which is affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society. Membership of the Guild is good value - only £5 per annum, and they run trips to famous gardens, hold competitions and sell plants.

This year there is another opportunity to get gardening – the new Benhill Road Nature Garden is looking for local "Friends" to nurture it going forward. The garden, a

former bomb site where prefabs were erected, is just past the junction of Elmington Road and Benhill Road. The Conservation Volunteers, backed by Southwark Council and in partnership with Elmington Road Residents Steering Group, Brunswick Park School, London Wildlife Trust and Froglife, have created a new type of garden. You enter from Benhill Road, past a teepee which provide a frame for bamboo and climbing plants and a circle of elevate branches which local children use as a climbing frame. Straight ahead are log seats and a meadow, to your right a marsh water garden and a white path of crushed shells winding through fruit bushes and shrubs. Mature trees provide a shady area to sit or play. Visit, learn and get dug into Camberwell's newest community garden!

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The Society comments on planning applications

he Society looks at all planning applications within the SE5 area and occasionally at other applications which are significant to our area of interest. We advise the relevant planning authority (either Lambeth or Southwark) that we object, support or have no objection to an application where we have decided to comment.

Owing to the limited space available in the *Quarterly*, we are only able to print a selection of the applications on which the Society has commented.

You can also see our comments on the Society's website at www.camberwellsociety.org.uk

15/AP/1103

9 Anderton Close, SE5

Erection of a two-storey side extension and single storey rear extension.

The planning application has little detail on design or materials proposed and inadequate detail on scale given the proposal to extend the footprint of the building into the garden altering the aspect from neighbouring houses.

The Society recommends that the Council asks the applicants to provide full details of the proposed design and scale of the building.

15/AP/0619 & 0620

33 Camberwell Grove, SE5

Extension to the rear in the basement, ground and first floor. Additional third floor with new mansard roof with demolition of existing roof. New staircase to the basement from the front of the building and internal alterations within the property.

The planning application is voluminous but unfortunately fails to reflect the detailed planning guidance provided in Southwark's (Mr Gary Rice) pre-application advice enquiry report dated 29 September 2014. The amendments to the plans referred to in the Design and Access Statement are minor and fail to address the key concerns expressed in the Council's advice.

The Society shares the view

expressed in the pre-application advice enquiry report that the proposed additional floor at the rear is excessive and that an apparently unauthorised past extension at the rear of the neighbouring No 31 has no relevance as a precedent for ignoring the requirements for this conservation area.

The Society recommends that the Council rejects the plans as submitted and makes it clear that any plans for an additional floor will not be entertained.

15/AP/0218

138-142 Camberwell Road, SE5

Construction of one new floor to Nos 138 and 140 Camberwell Road and two new floors and a four-storey part rear extension to No 142 in order to create four one-bedroom self-contained flats and the increase in floor area to the ground floor commercial unit and the enlargement of the existing flats.

While there is nothing wrong with the floor spaces proposed for the additional flats and the scale of what is proposed in extending these properties to resemble others in the scale with others in the terrace, the copy and paste look gives concerns as to how the proposals would actually look. The visuals of proposed elevations are a copy and paste using Adobe Photoshop or similar to add another floor with bits from lower floors and as such looks unconvincing.

The existing elevations have inappropriate UPVC windows which are replicated in the additions.

We object to these proposals in terms of the unconvincing detailed design and inappropriate use of materials.

15/00591/FUL

17 Southwell Road London, SE5

Erection of a single storey side and rear extensions at basement level and erection of two-storey rear extension at ground and first floor level together with associated alterations. The proposal is a well presented proposal to modernize and extend this terrace property. The proposed rear extension projects out further

than the neighbour's adjoining extension and is two stories above ground. This can often lead to overshadowing but as this property is on the north side this should not be an issue. The extension is set away from the adjoining property on the other side. A daylight assessment is probably needed to be sure to address possible concerns, but is not included in the submitted documentation.

The Society does not object to this proposal subject to a satisfactory daylight and sunlight assessment.

15/AP/0228

59 Warner Road, SE5

Rear dormer roof extension with a roof terrace and three rooflights to front roof slope to dwelling house. This extension into the roof space is sensible in scale and design and we do not object to this part of the plans. The obscured glass screen of the proposed rear roof terrace on the second floor level might make it seem less intrusive to the neighbours, but the large sheets of glass will be an eyesore and out of place on this building.

15-AP-0437

Land in the front wide highway soft verge, opposite The Hamlet, Champion Hill, SE5

Radio base station comprising 25m monopole with dual stacked antennas within shroud between 20 and 25m, four equipment cabinets and one slim line meter pillar.

While supporting the principle of telephone antennas, the Society objects to the introduction of a ground based construction of cabinets and a mast in a prominent position on a verge in an area with a high level of pedestrian traffic. A rooftop location would be preferable.

Note:

The Society objects on all counts to the proposal to use UPVC windows and doors. These are nonsustainable and will result in crude fenestration. We recommend timber or powdercoated aluminium.

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