
CAMBERWELL QUARTERLY

The magazine of the Camberwell Society
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www.camberwellsociety.org.uk



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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. Members are welcome to attend as observers with prior notice to the Secretary,

Planning, the environment, traffic and transport, publications and local history form an important part of the Society's work. Members are welcome to involve themselves in areas of interest.

Forthcoming Society Events

The Annual General Meeting of the Camberwell Society will be held at 7.00pm on 12 May 2020 at: The United Reformed Church, Love Walk, SE5
Tree Walk 2.30pm July 5th
Meet Camberwell Green
www.camberwellsociety.org.uk

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

Patricia Ladly 020 7703 7491

tandra.brunswickpark@yahoo.co.uk

Brixton Society

www.brixtonsociety.org.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

foclchair@gmail.com or

foclmembers@gmail.com

(for membership queries)

Concerts in St Giles' Church

Camberwell Church Street

www.music@stgiles.com

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

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

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

St Giles, Friends of

16 Sears Street SE5 7JL

robertcope@hotmail.com

www.stgilescambewell.org

St Giles Churchyard, Friends of

[StGilesChurchyardFriends@](mailto:StGilesChurchyardFriends@gmail.com)

gmail.com

Wells Way Triangle Residents

Association

Andrew Osborne

WWTRACamberwell@gmail.com



Cover photo Actor Jenny Agutter launches Camberwell Banners
Photo © MarcSchlossman.com

Have you walked the walk recently? I of course refer to the walk from Camberwell Church Street to the station. If so, you cannot have failed to see the splendid banners promoting the richness of Camberwell.

We heartily thank those who helped crowdfund these and hope those who turned up to the Banners' Launch event on 23 January enjoyed the guided walk up from the Tyger to hear the Banner story over a glass at the Phoenix. Our thanks to Jenny Agutter – and the Salvation Army for allowing the laser display of banner artwork to be projected on their ample walls. Those who asked why the Society was spending time promoting the banners will be relieved to know that we have made a concerted effort in the recent Southwark consultation about bins in Camberwell Church Street. Bins and Banners, nor Bins or Banners.

You will be heartened to know that station improvements are coming thick and fast. The meetings with both Govia Thameslink (£30,000 on specific passenger improvements) and Network Rail (£600,000 on detailed planning of the new Windsor Walk entrance). Whatever you think



Nick Mair holding one of the Camberwell bricks which come together to form the Camberwell C. They are based on the bricks in the old well of Camberwell. Like our community each one is different but they fit together to make a strong whole.

of your journey from the station (or indeed up the stairs) I can only say that I have been hugely impressed by

their willingness to take into account local user needs in the development of the station.

You may actually have walked on the station floor vinyl helping visitors find their way to the (excellent) hospitals (go right, traveller) or the (excellent) arts centres of Camberwell (go left, traveller).

I welcomed a number of businesses to Camberwell in the last Quarterly and I am even more delighted to see that you are using them – and liking them. Can you help bring more businesses to Camberwell? – Camberwell has it all – but more need to know.

50 Years on... We recognise the contribution made by former members of the Camberwell Society and will be celebrating these in following editions of the Quarterly. They strongly advocated better rail links – and did all they could to bring the Bakerloo line to Camberwell Green. Whilst this may not have worked who among us is not happy that their combined efforts stopped the flyover at Camberwell Green.

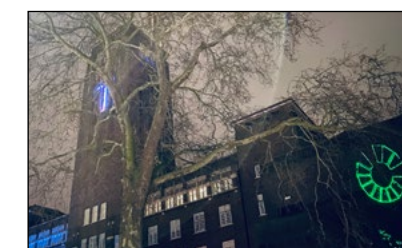
Banners' launch



Camberwell bags, now on sale for £10

Party Time

The Society's Christmas party was held at the Crooked Well on Grove Lane, thanks to Hector and Jen for generously providing the venue. A new fund raising initiative, a Dutch Auction, was run by chief auctioneer Tony Coleman. A special thank you to Pauline Amphlett for the Dame Elizabeth Frink print, to Rupert Maas for the Camberwell Map, and to all the members of the Camberwell Society Executive Committee for their generous



Laser show of the C on the Salvation Army Photos Patrick Whibley



contributions. A big thank you also to members of the Society and the following businesses for their contributions of prizes to the raffle: Francesco's; Sophocles; The Good Neighbour; The Vineyard; Caravaggio, Easy Gym; Cowling & Wilcox and The Lumberjack Café.

Stephanie Correia from the 2019 charity of the year, Southside Rehabilitation Association, collected a cheque from the Society for £1,619. The Association supports people with mental health issues

in their three social enterprises – catering, cleaning, and printing see: www.sra-ltd.co.uk/about-sra

The Society will continue to champion Camberwell, adopting it as the good cause of the year for 2020, a key milestone as it marks the 50th anniversary of the Camberwell Society. Over the course of this year the Quarterly will be looking back at some of the successes and setbacks of the last half century in Camberwell. Liz Allen

Camberwell Lanes: A town centre for Camberwell

An application for planning permission to partly redevelop and partly refurbish existing buildings on a significant site in the centre of Camberwell has been submitted by the developer Spot Property Company Ltd Ref 19/AP/7057 to Southwark Council. John McAslan and Partners are the architects.



Site Plan
The site is at present occupied by the Butterfly Walk Shopping Centre, which was constructed in the 1980s with frontages onto Denmark Hill, Orpheus Street, Daneville Road and Wren Road. Butterfly Walk is at present a covered walkway that links Denmark Hill to Morrisons Supermarket and car parking for 128 cars.



Aerial View of the existing Butterfly Walk development
The redevelopment proposals include:

- New and refurbished commercial outlets, including retail, professional services and food and drink.
- 146 dwellings of which 41 are affordable.
- A 101 bed hotel with restaurant and bar facilities.
- A 2 screen cinema with 120 seat capacity with café and bar facilities.
- A new civic open space to replace the enclosed mall.
- Improved outdoor spaces with

- planting, lighting and street furniture added.
- New pedestrian and cycle routes and cycle parking throughout the site.
- 32 car parking spaces for visitors and disabled residents.
- Deliveries limited to 8am to 2pm and idling lorries banned.

The scale of the proposed development is:

- Denmark Hill; 3, 5 and 6 storey buildings.
- Daneville Road; 2, 3, 4 and 9 storey buildings.
- Orpheus Street; a 6 storey building.

The developer’s stated objective is to create a cohesive town centre incorporating housing, employment and business opportunities, improvements to the landscaped public realm and encouragement of a night time economy.

Public transport and bicycles will assume greater importance than of late and car parking provision will be reduced.

Some of the existing retail tenancies in Butterfly Walk will have a place in the new development eg Morrison’s Supermarket, Superdrug, Barclays bank and McDonalds. Morrisons will remain open throughout the development process.



Ground Floor Plan

- Retail (green) Orpheus Street, Butterfly Walk and Denmark Hill
- Supermarket (beige) between Orpheus Street and Wren Road
- Housing (blue) Daneville Road
- Cinema entrance (purple) Butterfly Walk
- Hotel entrance (mauve) Denmark Hill



1st Floor Plan

- Retail (green) Butterfly Walk
- Cinema (purple) Orpheus Street
- Housing (blue, green, cream, pink) Daneville Road, Orpheus Street, Denmark Hill
- Hotel restaurant and bar (mauve) Denmark Hill
- Hotel rooms (pale blue) Butterfly Walk

PRINCIPAL FEATURES

ACTIVE FRONTAGES AND ROUTES THROUGH THE SITE
A feature of the proposed development is an increase in active street frontages throughout the area. Where formerly there were brick walls facing the street eg in Orpheus Street and Wren Road, the application is proposing shops and restaurants.

More pedestrian and cycle routes through the area are planned eg there is a new route from Orpheus Street to the Butterfly Walk open space.

CINEMA
The cinema is located at first floor level over part of Morrison’s Supermarket visible from Denmark Hill. It has a double height entrance lobby at ground floor level giving access to the first floor cinema with café/bar and ticket office adjacent.



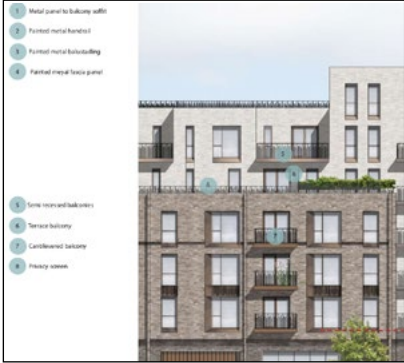
View from Denmark Hill down Orpheus Street towards the new first floor cinema.

CIVIC/AMENITY SPACES
These spaces constitute an important aspect of the proposals, around which the new buildings are arranged. They will offer a respite from the bustle of Denmark Hill, a place to sit down at a street café or in a courtyard with trees and planting beds. The main open space will be a 15x45m area at present occupied by the Butterfly Walk arcade. This area is to be closed off when the shops close, to avoid anti-social behaviour. The other open spaces will remain open throughout.

Wren Road is to become an open space used for time limited vehicular deliveries but prioritising pedestrian traffic



New open space looking towards Denmark Hill
There are two amenity spaces available for public use as part of the proposals: Daneville Road, which is already pedestrianised and will have seating and planting and a childrens’ play area behind the flats facing Daneville Road. Most of the new flats will have private balconies and access to rooftop amenity space, the exception being the flats on Denmark Hill where pollution makes such provision unsuitable.



Daneville Road flats

THE MAIN STREET ELEVATIONS



Daneville Road



Denmark Hill



Orpheus Street



Wren Road

Since the original proposals were presented parts of the scheme have been modified in response to neighbour and statutory consultee comments.

The height of the tallest building has been reduced to accommodate the concerns of local residents, which has lead to a reduction in the number of flats from 300 to 146.

The works proposed for Morrison’s supermarket have been reduced in ambition to accommodate Morrison’s wish to keep trading during the development period and the plan for an underground car park has been abandoned.

The proposed new civic open space in Wren Road between Morrisons supermarket and “The Collonades” flats has been abandoned as a result of objections from the residents.

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

Car Parking: Will 32 car parking spaces be enough to accommodate likely demand?

Cinema: Will a 120 seat cinema be financially viable?

Hotel: Will a hotel be financially viable given plans for a new hotel on the Valmar Trading Estate site on the other side of Denmark Hill?

The height of the 9 storey tower: Will this overshadow the houses to the south?

Materials: Are the grey bricks chosen for the principal elevations appropriate in an area where most buildings are constructed of London stock bricks or red bricks?

Daneville Road: Should this road be re-opened to through traffic to relieve congestion on the main roads around Camberwell Green?

Gated access to the principal civic open space: It is possible that limiting access to this space to daytime hours to prevent anti-social behaviour will reduce its effectiveness as a hub for social activity and deter tenants such as food and drink outlets from taking up leases there.

Landscaping: Consultees from Secure by Design have warned that planting in the proposed open spaces will provide opportunities for knives to be hidden amongst the vegetation. Landscaped, user friendly open spaces constitute an important part of the development proposals and should not be abandoned lightly.

Bus stands in Orpheus Street: The developer is keen for the bus stands in Orpheus Street to move to the other side of the road, and for the pavement outside the new shops to be widened and trees planted alongside. This would significantly improve the pedestrian experience and would not impair the ability of buses to pause in Orpheus Street. Transport for London have not yet agreed to this change.

Elizabeth Borowiecka

Drawings by permission of Rolfe Judd Architects.

The Tiger, Cock, Lion and Butterfly

The current Butterfly Walk planning application is a redevelopment of the site last redeveloped at the beginning of the 1980s. This article looks at the background of this site through the 1871 and 1916 edition maps available and photographs.

The Camberwell population exploded from 111,000 in 1871, to 187,000 ten years later. By 1911 it reached 261,000. It is doubtful that this same area, the current SE5 part of the London Borough of Southwark south of Albany Rd, is half the population that it was 1911, although starting to rise again with new residential developments in Camberwell such as this.



On the 1871 and 1916 OS maps of this East side of Denmark Hill (High Street on the 1871 map) you can find Tiger Yard, Cock Yard, Lion Yard along with Joiners Yard, discreetly tucked away behind the pubs which gave them their name. The Tiger, 18 Camberwell Green, is still on the corner with Denmark Hill. It never went away, it was just rebranded for a while as the Silver Buckle. An original sign on the South side wall reads Tiger Yard. The Joiners Arms, just up Denmark Hill keeps its name to this day. But The Cock, with Cock Yard has long gone, as has The Lion with Lion Yard.

These yards were the service industry of their day, stable yards for horse drawn cabs and coaches, the public transport of the time, workshops and accommodation for casual workers. The standard of accommodation was poor.

In the 1911 census Tiger Yard was noted as a community of labourers and unskilled workers. There were 18 two room apartments housing 100 people, 42 of which were children. Seven of the families had more than 4 children. The men's jobs were builders and bricklayers' labourers, decorators and painters, stable-hands, handymen and carmen (delivery drivers – horse and cart mostly still), shop boys and teenage van boys.



Tiger Yard. 6th September 1933. Daily Herald Archive / National Media Museum / Science & Society Picture Library www.scienceandsociety.co.uk An early autumn morning photograph in 1933 getting ready for work, out in the yard, at the only running water source available.

Only after the Labour Party had won a majority on the council the previous year, promising improved housing, Tiger Yard was demolished in 1935; as long before as 1922 the houses had been designated unfit for human habitation.

Tiger Yard housed 100 people at the turn of the Twentieth Century. What's left is a rather barren service yard and car park behind Butterfly Walk Shopping Centre. Yards for bins and service vehicles, not for people.

The Booth survey map 1898-1900 shows in red "Middle-Class, Well-to-do", in dark blue "Very poor, casual. Chronic want" housing mostly people from his Class B, "casual earnings – very poor".



LSE. Booth Archive. Booth map 1898-1900. Tiger Yard – the two dark blue rectangles, East of Denmark Hill.



Early 20th Century postcards featuring Denmark Hill and the Palace of Varieties. The Lion – note the parapet – almost an integral part of the Theatre. The Cock portico visible on the pavement to the left.



Denmark Hill SE5. A completely different view from today just up from Camberwell Green c.1955. Nos.5 (Bank)-23 that today would be the shopping arcade 'Butterfly Walk'. Today, Superdrug is where the Midland Bank was, and McDonalds is past the open shop awning. All demolished in the early 1980s for the arcade to be built.

When thinking about the heights within the Camberwell Lanes proposed development we should reflect on the heights of the past. The Fly tower of the Camberwell Palace Theatre is certainly an eye-opener from the past.

Note – some great cars from the past and the tramlines, post 1952 closures, patched in the middle of the road. Initially they temporarily filled the tramlines in leaving the conduit in place, so still a hazard for cyclists. In some cases, the tram rails are still there, deeply buried in the road.

Antony Kyrke-Smith

Acknowledgements

Tiger Yard statistics – Posted on November 23, 2015 by [ruskin61](#)

Photo c 1955 sourced by Richard Crimins – Memories of Walworth, Camberwell and Bermondsey.

Screen on the Green



The Empire

Camberwell was once an entertainment hotspot. The current application to include a two screen cinema in the redevelopment of Butterfly Walk, at the very heart of Camberwell, and the launch of a Camberwell identity makes it timely to examine that heritage.

In Victorian times Camberwell was the music hall capital of South East London. The Father Redcap still stands on the Green and there, on a single evening in 1867, one could enjoy "a banjoist from America, a Shakespearean sketch, Professor Davis in the renowned rope trick, and Marcus Hellmore in his great delineation of Mephistopheles". By the 1890's, theatres abounded. Most, in turn, became cinemas.

Fifty years ago Camberwell boasted five large cinemas including the largest Odeon built in London, with a capacity of 2470. Not one of these survives as a cinema today. The Camberwell Odeon on the corner of Coldharbour Lane and Denmark Hill closed in 1975, became Dickie Dirt's jeans emporium, was demolished and replaced with the building which houses Nando's. The domes of the former Golden Domes Picture House (built in 1913/4, later renamed the Rex and then the Essoldo) can still be seen above the Co Op on Denmark Hill.

The history of entertainment on the Butterfly Walk site, where a new cinema is proposed, is particularly

colourful. Famous comedian, Dan Leno, opened the Oriental Palace of Varieties on the corner of Denmark Hill and Orpheus Street in 1896. This was rebuilt as the ornate and capacious Camberwell Palace Theatre in 1899, designed by renowned theatre architect Ernest A. E. Woodrow and holding an audience of over 2000. The Metropole Theatre and Opera House had opened just opposite in 1894, on the corner of Denmark Hill and Coldharbour Lane, staging transfers of West End shows (the Metropole would become the Camberwell Empire, and later the Camberwell Odeon cinema). Famously, in 1902, a lion tamer was mauled to death on the stage of the Camberwell Palace – and returned to haunt the theatre.

Films were introduced into the variety bill in the early 1900s but variety continued for many years. In 1932, the theatre became a full-time cinema, the Palace Cinema, with seating for 1396 patrons. It reverted to being Camberwell Palace Theatre and to staging variety in 1943, after the opening of the Regal Cinema on Camberwell Road in 1940. In 1948, the Camberwell Palace became home to the Court Players repertory company for five years. In its final few years, the theatre became a venue for 'girlie shows', coming to a scandalous end when Peaches Page, the "singing nude of Camberwell", was sacked for moving whilst nude on stage (illegal at the time). She had

spotted a mouse. The theatre closed soon after and was demolished in 1956.

The Regal, which briefly closed in the Blitz when it sustained damage and some patrons were killed, was the third largest single screen cinema in the country. It hosted many grand screenings, attended by Royals and stars including the Beatles, before being renamed ABC in 1961 and becoming a bingo hall in 1973. The church, the Lighthouse, that acquired the Grade II listed building in 2011 has preserved and refurbished its splendid Art Deco interior, raising hopes that it might one day reopen as a cinema.

So, one did not have to go far in 1850's or 1950's Camberwell, for an evening out. Live entertainment in abundance was supplanted by films in abundance. How piquant then to see a cinema proposed where the Camberwell Palace once stood. Perhaps one can dare to hope, if not for a return to the glory days of entertainment in Camberwell, for a step back towards it.

Spot Property are in discussions with cinema operators who have a commercial interest in the venue. The proposed Butterfly Walk Cinema was originally located to the north of the square in a ground and first floor space, allowing for capacity of 180 – two screens of 100 and 80 seats respectively. It has been relocated in the revised scheme to above Morrison's. This has resulted in a smaller cinema, with the two screens each seating only 60. As the existing building and Morrisons are to be retained, the architects are reviewing the structure to make it work. They say that once the scheme is permitted and a cinema operator is on board, there will be further design work. Total capacity of 120 seems very little. Even bijou East Dulwich Picturehouse can seat 262. A fine cinema with decent capacity would go some way to reaffirming Camberwell's artistic heritage.

Sandra Simpson

Sacred Heart

On a dull winter's day, Headmaster Serge Cefai walks through the bright, orderly corridors of Sacred Heart, Camberwell. He checks in on a classroom, arranges for a prefect's fraying tie to be mended, and quotes to me the scores that make this one of the country's most successful schools at adding value: "Outstanding" is Ofsted's verdict.

His conversation is interspersed with tales of his childhood. He arrived in London from Tunis in 1961, illiterate and unable to speak one word of English. His experience of learning a new language in a new country, then becoming the interpreter for his large extended family, of playing on the street, of succeeding through sport, has moulded the Sacred Heart's philosophy of No Excuses. Six out of ten pupils in this Roman Catholic school come from families where English is not the first language. The number entitled to free school meals is large. According to a recent inspection report by the diocese, students enter the school with lower than average achievement scores, make outstanding progress and, supported by tenacious teachers, leave having achieved well above average.

"Our children do not need to be pitied or patronised," says Cefai. Experience has been his schooling. When his family arrived in England, his father could speak Maltese, French, Italian and Arabic, but no English. He got a job as a sheet-metal worker, labouring seven days a week with overtime. Soon, four more children were born. With grandparents, two unmarried uncles, his aunt's family, a lodger and the children his mother childminded, their three bedroom terraced house near Clapham Common was "heaving". So Serge spent his time on the streets, playing football with jackets for goalposts, cricket with sticks, climbing over bombsites and breaking windows. And yes, getting into trouble. He vividly remembers the time police collared him and his mates. The fear of being reported to his parents and



Serge Cefai at a computer lesson

the severity of the police warning deterred him from further vandalism. He was encouraged by teachers at St Gerard's Secondary Modern School (now Clapham College) to develop his aptitude for sport and qualified as a PE teacher, working at another Southwark school before joining Sacred Heart as Head of Sport thirty years ago. He became Headmaster in 2008.

Lessons from experience

He applies many lessons from his childhood to the school. He never delivered notes with bad news from school to his own parents, so now does not send written reports home with pupils. Sacred Heart parents must attend the school to collect the report. And 95 to 97 per cent do so. Illiterate parents are briefed verbally by teachers. Cefai did his homework in the school playground because there was no space at home. So Sacred Heart's school library is open from 7.30 to 5.30pm and it runs a homework club. If a child still does not hand in homework the school tries to engage the parents. Pupils are encouraged to see the value of their education and take responsibility for it. Continued failure to hand in work leads to the child being banned from homework. The rest of the year group is offered the chance to stop homework altogether, an offer that has never been taken up.

Knowledge of individual pupils is important. So information is gathered from parents through extensive pastoral services. Pupils are regularly tested and ranked, a practice for which Cefai is an unapologetic

advocate. "The middle classes claim our children are tested too much. But those with fat enough wallets test their children from the womb to make sure they go to the right private school. Then their progress is assessed all the time so they can make it into top universities. We should learn from that and not dumb down expectations of our children." Ofsted praises the school's detailed and effective systems for checking how well students are doing over time and the way in which assessments and test results are collected, published and reviewed, so that teachers can plan carefully for the next stage of their student's learning.

Data

Cefai knows the data on pupil achievement by heart. Sacred Heart scores first or second in Southwark for adding value to a diverse group of pupils (85 per cent BAME, 60 per cent from families where English is not the first language) and is always among the top 20 to 30 schools in England for added value. Some 67% of sixth formers go on to further study, mostly at top Russell Group universities. This year three have interviews for Cambridge.

In recognition of the success of Cefai's approach in 2012, he was also appointed Executive Head of the failing St Thomas the Apostle, then the poorest performing school in Southwark. Cefai appointed a new head and team and the school has been transformed, receiving an outstanding Ofsted rating and winning the UK Secondary School

of the Year Award at the prestigious 2017 Times Educational Supplement Schools Awards.

Cefai attributes the success of both schools to "purpose, extensive pastoral care, knowledge about pupils, progress, high expectations and no excuses, strong boundaries, good discipline and follow through." When a pupil behaves badly, the school's approach is for the teacher to agree a plan with him or her to overcome it. Good behavior is rewarded. But sometimes even intensive intervention does not work. Cefai recently attended the funeral of a former pupil who had been killed in a drugs-related crime. "The eldest brother was here, very successful, went to university. The mother did everything she possibly could to take her second son away from the gangs, even moved to the other side of London, but in the end the gangs were too persuasive."

Exclusions are rare – one every two or three years. When possible the pupil is transferred to another school. "If they have learnt their lesson a fresh start helps," Cefai says. He is

well aware that most children who are excluded from school end up in prison. As a Head he liaises regularly with social workers and youth offending teams. His frustration at a justice system that he sees as failing to deter young people from crime or to rehabilitate them is palpable. "The youth justice system is failing and no action is being taken. Schools would never get away with missing targets so dramatically."

Community

In contrast, community activities such as youth clubs and sports are "worth their weight in gold". Thirty years ago when he started at a Walworth school, Cefai, like many teachers, ran a youth club. Now most of these have closed because of a lack of funding. Blue buses used to take children to Orchard playgrounds in Morden, but such sports activities have been cut.

Sacred Heart pupils are encouraged to engage with the community. Locally, they organize a Christmas tea dance for some 130 local elderly people, serving food and providing entertainment. Every two years

pupils work in an orphanage in Thailand.

"Young people get a bad press. People see them when they are let out of school, talking loudly, blocking the pavement, expect them to be rude and give them a wide berth. But I would say, take them as you find them. Every child on a street corner is not a gangster. The vast majority are lovely. As adults we abdicate responsibility every time we cross the road rather than politely asking them to move."

Cefai changed the Sacred Heart uniform to a distinctive grey with a red and yellow school badge to more easily track behavior to and from school. He is calling on the community to report to him on pupils' behavior, positive and negative. "Knowledge is key. We need to know what pupils are doing. Then we will act." And you can be sure they will. Cefai's own story shows that however poor a child's background, they can succeed and contribute to the community. And at Sacred Heart they do. No excuses.

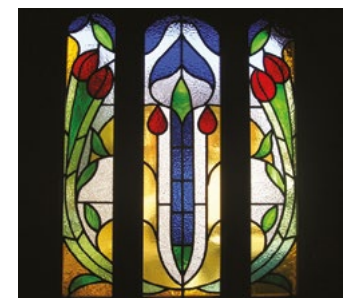
Marie Staunton



Community tea party entertained and served by pupils



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The Meaning of Life in Camberwell

Terry Jones, hailed in the 1960s and 70s for leading a generational change in British comedy, was also a community-minded citizen who contributed much to society in Camberwell. The creative genius who was largely responsible for Monty Python's Flying Circus, lived in Grove Park for more than 40 years.

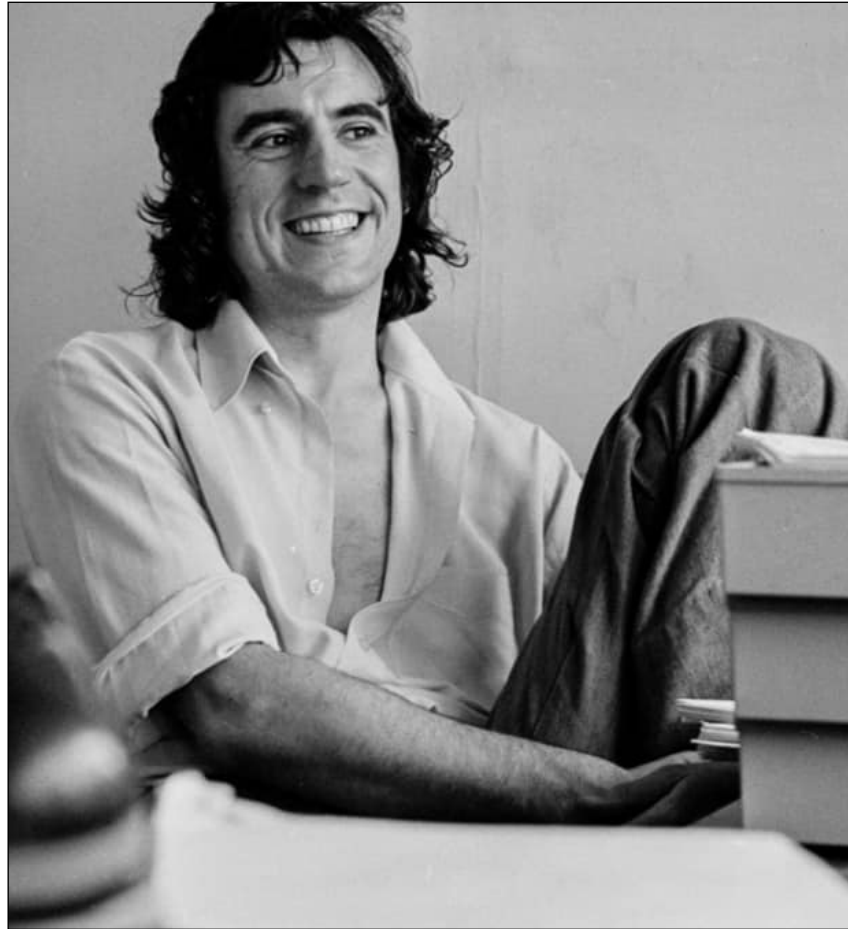
Popular among his neighbours, he took part in or helped many events or causes, often anonymously. Newly-married to Alison, (now Dr Telfer, a distinguished bio-scientist at Imperial College) they moved to upper Camberwell in 1969, when Terry was at his busiest, writing and performing in many of Python's most memorable and funniest sketches.

The arrival of daughter Sally, and then son Bill, after a few years, drew both into more contact with other parents around them, as it did for many of us. But it was the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 that really brought residents of Grove Park together.

Terry was magnificent, arriving in a smart open-topped cream Roller, dressed as Princess Margaret with a tiara, to officially declare celebrations open in a right royal accent. Terry dressed and spoke as many women in his TV and film career. But this was hugely changed from perhaps the most repeated -- the hero's mother in the brilliant film Life of Brian. Calling him "a really naughty boy" was shown in most TV news clips after he died on 21 January.

He also recruited an excellent group, the Pilgrim Band, to play throughout the day. Others organised tables of food and drink, while two sheep were roasted over a large open fire.

Encouraged by this, newly-active residents sought to do something for the primary-age kids who lived in a childrens' home in the road. Terry was among those who plumped for a pantomime, as Christmas was approaching. Demonstrating all his comic expertise, he also showed



Terry Jones RT. Thankyou to Dr Alison Telfer for photographs

signs of his future as a film director, organising us all and making sure we knew our lines and actions.

He mainly left us to it after that. We all carried on with sub-Python style pantos, as much for other residents as for the kids. They ended when Southwark social workers sent the little ones elsewhere, to be replaced by teenagers.

Terry the friend

Terry, as we quickly found out, was a welcoming and hospitable friend; he truly liked and cared about other people. He also had his massive enthusiasms. One was an early devotion to craft beer, and he invested a little too heavily in a Welsh brewery that brewed a tasty brew. Visits to the Jones house at that time invoked unrefusable invitations to help drink up the stocks he received in lieu of dividends.

One constant enthusiasm that remained through the decades was

the historical research he began at Oxford. Despite that, Terry played his full part in writing and acting in university reviews with Michael Palin and others, taking one to the Edinburgh festival.

Much was new to him. At the Royal Grammar School in Guildford, near his home in Claygate where he lived from the age of five, taking part in "theatricals" risked charges of being gay. He was captain of rugby (retaining a strong Welsh heritage) and Head Boy of the school.

He once said that going to Oxford was valuable because it introduced him to both Palin and Chaucer. An essay he wrote there continued into research on the life of Chaucer's Knight, and sparked the idea that the knight was really a mercenary during the crusades

The result was warmly welcomed for its importance by many historians. But (this being Terry) the serious



Terry Jones and the Pythons

nature of this work also formed the basis of an entertaining as well as fascinating and illuminating evening. when he lectured members of the Camberwell Society, and anyone else who could get in, in the large and splendid wood-lined hall at the old Wilson's Grammar School

It was the biggest and, to my mind, most successful gathering the Society has ever held.

Terry could often be seen taking Sally and Bill to Lyndhurst primary school. But not just at morning and afternoon, as Stephanie Read, then deputy head, recalls: "Terry would come to read to the children. It was always hilarious. The children ended up on the floor crying with laughter. Terry knew exactly how to make people laugh." His gifts extended to writing children's stories, which he made up at bedtime for Sally and Bill, and later published as books.

Lettsom Gardens

A lasting legacy for Alison and other local residents, with Terry's full support, is Lettsom Gardens. It is an irregular shaped area of unused land behind homes in Grove Park, Grove Hill Road and Camberwell Grove. The council wanted to build homes

there, but there was no space for full vehicular access, other than by demolishing existing homes.

Southwark had run out of money, so the council agreed to lease it to residents for a peppercorn, and it became a semi-wild area for families to use for play and picnics, or planting crops, now as well-used as ever.

Terry's career turned to directing critically-acclaimed films, following such classics as The Meaning of Life, including Personal Services, Erik the Viking (adapted from his book), and Wind in the Willows in which he played Mr Toad painted entirely in bright green. Among his many talents was the ability to direct people to perform to the best of their ability. Three out of the four films banned in Ireland were his, he liked to tell people.

At the age of 69, when most men's interests have moved above the waist, he fell for a young Oxford student, Anna Sodastrom at a book signing. Divorce from Alison and remarriage followed, as did a daughter, and Terry moved from Camberwell to a new home in Highgate near Hampstead Heath.



Terry and Alison at the Dog at Dulwich 2018

A huge legal bill the Pythons had incurred, plus members' individual money and mortgage problems, were the reasons for the Python reunion concerts at the O2 in 2014. As we saw, in a few sketches Terry showed initial signs of the rare form of dementia which impaired and eventually prevented his ability to speak. But he thoroughly enjoyed the whole reunion experience, unlike some Pythons. And found a crib to perfect his words.

We also saw more of him in Camberwell later as the virtuous Alison, with Sally and Bill, assumed increasing responsibility for his care.

On a personal level, years earlier I benefitted from his concern for others when I was assaulted on my doorstep. Terry was kindness itself, with many visits to cheer me up. Such people are rare. Terry will rightly be remembered for his many excellent innovative and creative achievements; but also by many of us in Camberwell as a wonderful neighbour and very real human being. We are privileged to have known him.

Jonathan Hunt

Readers are invited to send letters to CQ with their memories of Terry Jones.

Transformation at the Station

Over the next 18 months you will see Denmark Hill station transformed. There will be changes to the physical infrastructure. The look and feel of the station will change as elements of the new Camberwell brand start to appear across the site.

Camberwell Identity

Travellers arriving at the station will be welcomed to Camberwell by a new floor vinyl showing the way to get to local shops and cafes; to UAL and the South London Gallery; and, of course, to the hospitals. The vinyl uses the new Camberwell Branding to bring a freshness and zest to the busy entrance. Keep an eye out for the community notice boards in the station entrance that will be displaying details of local events through the year. The vinyl and noticeboards have been funded by Govia Thameslink (GTR) as part of their contribution to the Station Partnership signed with the Camberwell Society, Camberwell Arts and SE5 Forum.

GTR will also be funding further developments as part of their compensation package following last year's timetable fiasco. We hope to be able to report greater detail on their proposals in the next issue.

New Entrance

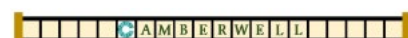
The design for the new second entrance is progressing well. The entrance will be in Windsor Walk just west of the dark blue footbridge. It is intended that those heading to the hospitals or toward the Green will use it by preference so reducing the crush at the existing one. The design is programmed to be submitted for



planning approval before Easter with the construction commencing by autumn 2020 and all being complete by Easter 2021. It is hoped that Camberwell Identity branding can be incorporated in the design, and we are in discussion with Network Rail about this. Once the scheme has gone to planning we will be able to report further details.

The Bridge Panels Opposite the Phoenix

Network Rail have given permission for the panels opposite the Phoenix pub to be decorated with Camberwell Identity clearly showing that Denmark Hill station is in Camberwell and not in Dulwich or Brixton or other neighbouring areas. We are raising money for the work and hope to get it completed in March this year, barring any hold ups.



Urban Gardening and Plinth for Interesting Items

The Camberwell Society is in discussion with NetworkRail and GTR about creating an urban garden on the triangular piece of land adjoining the existing entrance hall. The intention is to install a plinth where sculpture and other interesting feature pieces can be mounted. Ideas for installations include a chaos wheel, a clock made from bicycle

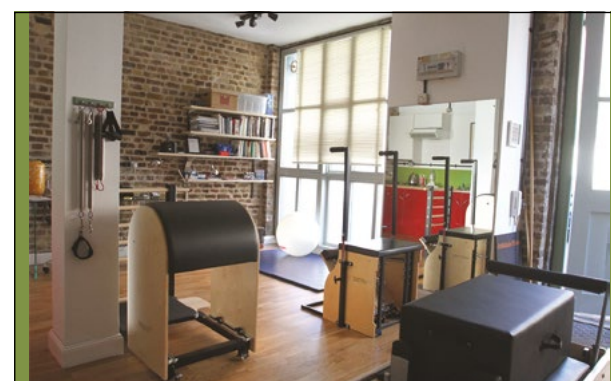
parts and sculpture pieces by students at the Art College. The area would be planted with low maintenance shrubs and used to promote the arts in Camberwell. Further planning is required and further stages of approvals needed before it can become a reality, but the process has been started.



And Finally – The Litter

And hopefully it will be finally! The manager for trackside litter at NetworkRail has informed us that he has applied for budget to clear the disgrace that lurks behind the railings on Champion Park. We hope to hear soon that they are commencing the clean up. About time...

Tony Coleman



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Camberwell School Days

I loved going to primary school in Camberwell. I started at the Oliver Goldsmith school, situated on the corner of Peckham Road and Southampton Way, in September 1962, a few weeks before my fifth birthday. I was a pupil there until 1969. It was a Victorian building which had been built in 1899. Most of the other children came from similar working-class backgrounds to myself. Some of us lived in blocks of flats on the large Sceaux Gardens housing estate which was next door to the school. I felt safe and secure at Oliver Goldsmith. The teaching staff nurtured a family feeling, a sense of belonging to something that made us feel comfortable and at ease. We were growing up in the inner city, but we never felt unsafe.

The head master was a bit grand. Every morning, when we congregated in the school hall for assembly, classical music blared out at us from a gramophone. The music continued as the head master walked into the hall and up onto the stage. Then the music ended. It was all very theatrical, but he was also a disciplinarian so we didn't dare giggle.

At Easter, Oliver Goldsmith had a Harvest Festival and encouraged every child to bring a tin of soup or a packet of tea to school. These would be included in a small parcel and distributed free of charge to senior citizens in Peckham and Camberwell. It seems extraordinary now, but young children like myself were allowed to leave the school, unaccompanied, in groups of three or four, and take the food parcels to the homes of mostly appreciative senior citizens. I say mostly because I shall never forget walking all the way to a house in Kimpton Road, off Camberwell Church Street, and having an elderly lady look disgustedly inside the parcel. She said, 'Oh, no, not bloody tomato soup again. You gave me that last year and I hate it!' But she kept the parcel.

Every Summer, Oliver Goldsmith had a Flower Festival which was an ambitious but thoroughly enjoyable



Stephen Bourne Oliver Goldsmith school 1963

event that drew lots of proud mums and dads into the school playground to watch the May Queen crowned. This was followed by some entertainment from us children, such as dancing around a maypole. In the Flower Festival of 1963, I did the sailor's hornpipe with a classmate called Eric, and we were dressed in the proper sailor's costumes. My mum later told me I looked very nervous, trying to remember it, as Miss Ash pounded away on the piano. It didn't help having boys from nearby Peckham Manor standing in the background and jeering, but I got through it.

In the photo I have kept of this performance, corrugated iron sheets and scaffolding can be seen on the school building. This was somewhat belated restoration work on the school to correct bomb damage caused by air raids in the Second World War. The school didn't receive a direct hit, but the structure needed reinforcing. We were told that the waste ground that existed next to the school was a wartime bomb site, so it is likely a bomb exploded close to the school.

The most enjoyable time I spent at Oliver Goldsmith was in my fourth and final year (1968-69) before I went to secondary school, also in Camberwell. We had a young teacher who would sometimes get bored with teaching and play us his favourite records instead. After all, this was the 'Swinging 60s' and pop music at that time was fantastic. I always



Stephen Bourne in the same spot 2015

remember him playing us 'Michelle' by The Beatles, which I didn't like, and 'Lily the Pink' by The Scaffold, which I loved. He then asked us all to vote for our favourite and he looked disappointed when we unanimously chose 'Lily the Pink'.

I left the school in 1969 and, though I remained a Camberwell resident, I did not return to Oliver Goldsmith until 2015 when, for Black History Month, I gave a talk about my book Black Poppies. I had a wonderful time, presenting the talk in the school hall to about 100 enthusiastic children. They were impressed when I informed them I had been a pupil at the school. I then rediscovered my 1968-69 classroom, and had my photo taken outside in the playground in the exact spot where I had danced the sailor's hornpipe in 1963. I am proud to say I am now immortalised on the Oliver Goldsmith Primary School website 'school history' page along with the world famous and internationally acclaimed movie star, John Boyega (www.olivergoldsmith.southwark.sch.uk/about-us/school-history/). How cool is that?

Stephen Bourne

Rid our pavements of those bins!

To get an idea of what it is like for pedestrians walking residential streets in Camberwell, let us take a walk, starting in the south-east corner. This is Bushey Hill Road. The houses are mostly Victorian, handsome, solid and proud, except where the bombs fell in the War, where frailer ones have sprouted. Immediately we witness a phenomenon that would have astonished our Victorian forbears, those spirited champions of parish pride. Outside on the pavement of a large double-fronted house with a wonderful ornate garden, stand three rubbish bins, one brown, one green, one blue, flaunting their ugliness.

Large numbers of these 'wheely' bins occupy the pavements of many of our residential streets. On Bushey Hill Road I counted 53. On the next street, Crofton Road, there were 85. At the bottom of this street, I encountered another problem arising from this invasion of public space. Blue bins are for recyclable rubbish; and Southwark is proud of its recycling effort. But look under the lid of a blue bin on a pavement, and you are likely to find all sorts of rubbish that shouldn't be there: plastic bags, dirty tissues, the ubiquitous rotting chicken and chips in a greasy box. If you leave your bin on the pavement, passers-by will chuck their rubbish into it, not discriminating between green and blue.

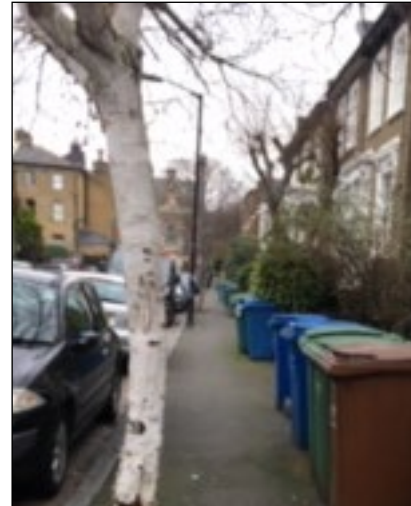
And another problem, not only in Crofton Road. The pavement is narrow. With a row of bins occupying a third of its width, it is not possible for two pedestrians to pass each other. One must retreat between two bins to let the other pass. When there is a tree on the road side, it is difficult for even one person pushing a buggy or sitting in a wheelchair to get through. One must drop down to the road and mount the pavement further along. This is unsafe. (Plea to the Council: Don't solve this problem by cutting down the tree.)

Turning into McNeil Road, in the

stretch of about 50 yards before Shenley Road, pavements of both sides of the street are lined with bins, 38 in all. On the right side, what once was a pub has been converted into flats, the entrance to which gives directly on to the pavement. The houses on the left are constructed so the gate opens to a small stretch of paving leading to a flight of stairs to the main entrance on the first floor, there is another flight of stairs leading down to the basement. So there is little or no space for bins. Hence the residents of these flats leave their bins on the pavement. I suppose they or their landlords think that every household is entitled to two bins, one green and one blue, irrespective of their capacity to accommodate them on their property.

There is no such entitlement. When these bins were introduced, it was made quite clear that you would not get one unless you were prepared to keep it on your territory. Recyclables were stored in bespoke bags or boxes and we were required to put them out on the night before collection day, together with other household rubbish for which black bags were used. Wheely bins were not introduced for the benefit of residents; they were a labour-saving device for the benefit of waste removal companies. There is no reason why we cannot go back to the old dispensation.

The top end of Shenley Road has 16 bins on the pavement, all of them on one side of the road, though architecturally the houses are much the same. This seems to illustrate a feature of human nature that could be harnessed for the good. If your neighbours leave their bins on the pavement, you might too, for your contribution won't add much to the general ugliness; but if they don't, you won't either. A couple of decades ago it was considered perfectly acceptable not to pick up after your dog. Now this is considered an anti-social act, with unpleasant consequences. We need a similar cultural change in our attitude to bins on pavements.



Linnell Road scored 10 (two on the road to save a parking space), Maude Road 65, Grace's Road 82. Camberwell Grove, the loveliest street in Camberwell, with its stretches of magnificent Georgian terraces and wonderful plane trees, has a row of 29 bins at the bottom of the road. The terrace imitation Georgian houses on the Mary Datchelor site has been well designed to keep its rubbish out of view. There were 16 bins in front of the row of cottages below the passage to the churchyard and a hideous cluster across the road in front of what once was a beautiful bookshop and another lining the block of flats once owned by the Council.

This is a small sample of our streets, but it is probably safe to generalise to the whole of Camberwell. If we care about our area, we should rid our residential pavements of these bins.

The first step is to get the Council to see this as a problem it must tackle. To our enquiry about this matter, Cllr Richard Livingstone, Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport Management and the Climate Emergency, issued the following statement:

"The council is currently looking at a number of approaches to try and find practical solutions. We need to carefully balance dealing with bins that cause an obstruction on the street and providing effective waste collection services that help keep our streets clean. Not all homes have any bin storage space, and we would only

want to resort to stricter enforcement measures where we are sure that it would be reasonable and effective to do so. We are already taking action on some of our busiest shopping streets such as Walworth Road, and Rye Lane in Peckham, where no bins at all other than public litter bins are allowed on the street, and we plan to extend this to some of the busiest parts of Camberwell soon."

It is clear he doesn't share the sentiments expressed in this article. No doubt many residents don't either. But if you do, send him an email: richard.livingstone@southwark.gov.uk copy it to your councillor and to us, saying you want these bins to be removed from our pavements. Try to persuade your friends and neighbours to do the same. If there is sufficient support, they will go.

Shekhar Das

Letters

From Mark Webb
Chair of Camberwell Green Police
Safer Neighbourhood Team Ward
Panel.
Chair, Southwark Neighbourhood
Watch Association

2019 saw the highest rate of knife related murders in London since 1946 (when records first started). It became a record-breaking year for teenage murders in the capital as well. So I figured, that it was time to physically do something. I heard a snippet of news saying that a small group of people in Walthamstow had gone door-to-door asking people to give up their knives and weapons. I thought that makes sense, it's the logical step. I've been campaigning for a permanent weapons bin with very little movement on that, so it was time to go mobile. I researched mobile security bins and I got a company to make one especially for me. Good friends to Camberwell, Adam & Tracey at The Hill Bakery, paid for the bin and I was off, up and running.

How does the bin work? I go door-to-door explaining who I am and that I'm collecting any excess,



Friends of Burgess Park are campaigning against a proposed development on Burgess Park west. They say "The area is under threat from new developments all along the southside of the park. The 10 and 11 storey blocks along Parkhouse Street will be north facing meaning long shadows across the park. In the winter mornings the shadows will be over 100m long and reach to the main path. Overshadowing from multiple buildings will have a negative impact on green space, biodiversity, and people's health and well-being. Tell us what the wildlife space means to you." www.friendsofburgesspark.org.uk/revitalisation/dont-put-burgess-in-the-shade/

Volunteers needed for nature conservation in Burgess Park

Can you help with species habitats and nature conservation in Burgess Park and other parks? One threatened species is the White-Letter Hairstreak Butterfly (picture) spotted in Burgess Park and reliant on elm trees. See: www.friendsofburgesspark.org.uk/events/



The endangered White-Letter Hairstreak Butterfly

unwanted, unneeded, broken or disused knives, blades or sharp tools, I would also take any weapons that people wished to surrender. The response has been overwhelming. I got total support from the Police, I got local councillors and neighbours tweeting. In the first three weeks items placed in the bin totalled three figures and counting. A school boy gave me a blade he was keeping in his school blazer, a woman gave me a travelling suitcase full of blades that her son had been hoarding, a man confronted me and told me that he was determined to keep a knife that he always had in his car in case he 'needed it'. We spoke for half an hour. I explained that just keeping a blade like that risked a prison sentence, serious harm or death to another or to himself. We argued back and forth and he went and got the blade from his car. It was a big blade, it was a very tense moment, then he pushed it into the hole at the top of the bin.

So what is going to happen to all the knives and weapons being surrendered? Well my good friends at UAL have some wonderful ideas to extract the dyes used in the metals and they wish to make ink

from them. This ink will be used to write the stories of young people affected by knife crime. The metals will be smelted and turned into gym equipment then fabricated into a static permanent weapons bin. Something that would be a first in the UK. A knife bin, made of knives. So I'm asking everyone to, 'bin the knife & save a life'.

Every weapon taken off the street is a crime not committed, families saved from grief and a safer community for people to live, work and study in. I've had a ton of flak from people saying that people don't bin blades. That's not true. In 2017-2018, 650,000 weapons, blades, knives were dropped into knife bins or handed into police stations in the UK.

The fight against knife crime is a community effort. Everyone can and should be doing something. I was told that what I'm doing is dangerous. Well I think that it's even more dangerous to sit around doing nothing. That's the real danger. Turning a blind eye to the reality and ignoring the crisis. That's a fatal mistake. Wars are not won by surrendering, running away and hiding. That's a recipe for disaster.

Dulwich Hamlet redevelopment

Re article by Elizabeth Borowiecka in CQ 202.

From Ben Clasper, Chairman Dulwich Hamlet Football Club
benclasper@dulwichhamletfc.co.uk

The most sensitive element of the application is returning the derelict astroturf pitch to become the pitch for the stadium again (it is a commonly overlooked and important point that the club's stadium previously occupied the astroturf pitch and surrounding areas prior to the move to the current site). That pitch is now designated as Metropolitan Open Land and it is correct that the application requires the reinstatement of terracing around the pitch and its enclosure as well as the loss of trees between the astroturf and the current stadium. The club therefore insisted (1) that no part of the stadium building will be on the MOL (2) that any loss of trees will be offset by the planting of a greater number of trees on the site (3) any land around the pitch lost to terracing will be offset by new green space reclaimed from the concreted areas around the current ground and (4) to engage with local groups to identify materials and planting for use in and around the enclosure to minimise the visual impact. All of those remain at the heart of the club's approach to the planning and invitation remains open to any local groups who would like to discuss this further.

The environmental impact was a key factor in the design process as was the delivery of wider sporting provision to add physical wellbeing benefits to the mental wellbeing benefits the club already delivers through its community work in bringing thousands of people together at each game with hundreds of families invited for free each season, supporting local charities and providing support to anyone that asks for help. Despite unfounded claims to the contrary this application is the only option that will allow the fans who own and run the club to continue to deliver those benefits to our community.

We have heard claims that the club could just continue in the current stadium or rebuild on the current site

but the reality (other than the fact that it does not own the stadium) is that the facilities are in such a poor state that estimates for repairs now exceed £1m. The stadium is also not compliant to play in the league above and works exceeding £1m would be required to expand and convert the facilities to meet those criteria. Rebuilding on site would see the club leave its community for at least two years as Champion Hill is the only stadium in Southwark that meets the league's requirements resulting in a loss of revenues in excess of £1m per season and a rebuild bill in excess of £10m. As a club owned by fans none of those are viable.

On planting on the site of the old tennis courts, whilst the club did previously have a lease to the whole of the Greendale site, the new lease from 2018 only includes the astroturf and immediate surrounding area however we are aware the council have previously set out plans for the wider Greendale site separately from the planning application.

We are happy to answer any questions or address any concerns.

From Simon Hughes, MBE member of the Society

I would like to draw attention to misleading points in the article in CQ202. The multi use games area is planned to be very much smaller than the astroturf already available and thus suitable for only one game at a time. The existing astroturf pitch can accommodate three five-a-side football games simultaneously which could provide an income of £140,000pa to Dulwich Hamlet Football Club (DHFC).

The DHFC: "Will also be able to continue its community and charitable work..." as it does now, and there is no reason why this should not continue without a new stadium.

"The remainder of the area known as Green Dale Fields will be untouched...". Wrong, as the area taken up by the new pitch and

surrounding concrete terracing on MOL is much larger by some 950m2 than the area taken up by the existing astroturf pitch. In addition destruction of a row of mature trees is planned, plus those planted more recently by local schoolchildren and others. Some 2,500 metric tonnes of soil will have to be removed, plus even more to lower the pitch by just one foot. "planting...on the site of the old tennis courts..." is not planned but further destruction of a tree on the edge of the astroturf is planned.

"...the view from other parts of the MOL will be unobstructed." This is wishful thinking; no example of a demountable screen of the type proposed is available. Any structure built to hold up such a screen is bound to obstruct the views and vista that form an important reason for it being MOL. FA regulations insist on walls at least 7 feet high all round the ground.

"Hamlet supporters who believe that the proposed development will give their club a secure future." As made clear in the co-located article by Jonathan Hunt, DHFC has already received a new stadium.

"Those against have mainly focussed on the damage they believe that the proposed development will do to the MOL and the wildlife that it sustains". To that must be added the destruction of a whole row of mature and other trees which are absorbing carbon dioxide and cleaning out pollution now for the benefit of us all.

"...the extensive works to protect and enhance the natural environment..." are not extensive and are completely inadequate and anyway will only have an effect in two or three decades time when the LBS target is carbon neutrality by 2030.

The loss of a substantial part of this MOL and the open space provided by the existing football ground, and the tree destruction, will much reduce the capacity of the all important green lungs of an overcrowded and polluted area.

Foxes in our Garden

In Camberwell we live surrounded by parks and gardens: Ruskin Park, Burgess Park, Lucas Gardens, St Giles Churchyard, Camberwell Green and other green spaces. Many of us have gardens of our own. And Nature rewards us with wildlife. All of us, if we look, can see blackbirds, robins, blue tits and great tits, woodpeckers, jays, parakeets and much more – if we're lucky we can even see peregrine falcons visiting the spire of St Giles. Squirrels build their dreys in our trees and bury their nuts in our flower beds: a few of us will have seen albino squirrels. And then of course there are the foxes.

We've all seen the occasional fox, in the streets late at night, padding through a park in the distance, or in our gardens. I once saw one, bizarrely, in the subway at Elephant and Castle, during rush hour. Maybe we've wondered where they go during the day. But I had never thought of them as frequent visitors.

In autumn 2017 I bought a camera trap. This is the kind of thing you see on wildlife television programmes: a battery-powered camera which can be attached to a tree or other stable object and which is activated by motion. It can take photographs or videos which are then transferred to a computer to be viewed. I bought mine because I wanted to see what birds came to our feeders.



Camera trap catches fox sniffing apple and playfighting

In this I have for the most part been unsuccessful: birds are generally too small to wake the camera up, though it has sometimes recorded larger birds such as wood pigeons or blackbirds. It is also rather good at recording branches waving in the wind. And it is very good at recording mammals. We see squirrels chasing each other, burying stuff and digging it up, and stealing bird food whenever they can. We see neighbouring cats; on the whole we don't welcome these, because we see them threaten the birds that come to our feeders and the frogs that live in our pond.

And we see foxes. At least one fox most nights, often making several visits. And sometimes more – the most we have seen is three, two cubs and an adult. We see them nosing around the garden looking for stuff to eat. We hear them squealing at each other as they play, or barking. We see them chasing each other through our flowerbeds. We see them playing



with objects they have found, rolling in the snow, scent-marking, and leaping on to our neighbours' wall on their way out.

We do nothing at all to attract these foxes. We don't put stuff out for them, and any food they find occurs naturally in the garden. So it follows that any of you who have gardens are probably also being visited by foxes, unless perhaps your gardens are covered in tiles or concrete – they might find those too uninviting. Possibly you wouldn't welcome them. But I do, even when I go out in the morning and find that one of our flowerbeds has been flattened. They remind me that a garden is a living thing, which we originate but do not control. To the foxes, sparrows, butterflies, frogs, dragonflies and bumblebees which visit it is their garden, their environment. It is where they come to find food and water, where they breed, where they sing, and where they play.

Carole Mason



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The Society’s comments on recent planning applications

10 GROVE LANE SE5 8SY
Construction of a ground and first floor rear extensions with a balcony.
This application is a resubmission following the previous application being withdrawn which was 19/AP/1814 | Construction of rear extensions at ground, first and second floor levels (including balconies) to extend existing flats 1, 2 and 3. Construction of a mansard roof to create an additional floor for 1 x 1-bedroom flat. As before the drawings are inadequate to show the building in context (besides the site location plan). The proposal is to extend the rear of the property (West) to the full depth of the site with large flank walls overshadowing the adjoining properties, of which no account is taken in the drawings, or any documentation.

The plans and elevations are very basic and it is surprising that the application has been validated. The proposed first floor balcony to the rear may give rise to overlooking of adjoining properties, but as this is close to the rear boundary, the aspect is mainly over the present carpark. In the future this carpark will become the Daneville Road development as part of “Camberwell Lanes” with a proposed terrace flank wall closing on or close to the boundary. The Camberwell Society objects to this application as lacking in detail and overdevelopment of the site.

HIGGS INDUSTRIAL ESTATE HERNE HILL ROAD SE24
The Society has reviewed the changes made to the above application. The reasons for our initial objection to the proposals remain largely unaltered.
Excessive Height, Density and Visual Impact:
April 2019 proposal for the Higgs Industrial Estate includes a 17-storey high building with an adjacent 11 storey block. Other proposed buildings on the site rise from 2 - 8 storeys. We believe that the maximum height in this location should be no more than 8 storeys, as in the previous approved design. The site has not been identified

in the local plan for tall buildings does not comply with Lambeth’s own policies. The scale and height of the proposal would not fit into the local streetscape and the visual impact would be overwhelming. The tall elements of the development would have an impact on views from Ruskin Park and Loughborough Park Conservation Area. The density of the revised proposal has increased and the change to a darker brick will emphasise the excessive height, scale and massing.

Transport Capacity:
City-bound train services stopping at Loughborough Junction Station are at full capacity now and would not be able to cope with the significant increase in resident numbers. Local bus routes are overloaded. The development is car free and residents would not have the option of driving to work. No changes have been made to the revised proposals.

Employment Floorspace:
In principle we welcome that employment floorspace is retained, but the proposed increase by 11% compared to the previous application leads to the massive overdevelopment of the scheme. The proximity of commercial units to the residential accommodation would also restrict its use be fully used and rented. More commercial accommodation has been added to the scheme, although there is no evidence that such commercial units are required in the area and have a long-term future.

Infrastructure:
Trains and buses are at full capacity and local schools and GP surgeries are oversubscribed. Another massive increase in resident numbers would cause more pressure on these services and it is questionable if existing schools and surgeries would have enough space to expand.

Façade Design:
All street facing facades are brick clad and reinforce the bulky appearance of the whole scheme. The lack of any setbacks of the

elevations along Herne Hill Road would not allow for enough space for any trees. The design fails to conform to Lambeth Local Plan policies Q8 and Q9. The replacement of the colonnade feature with more commercial accommodation leads to a loss of set back and articulation. This emphasises again the bulkiness of the impenetrable massing of the development. The Society object

THE OLD DISPENSARY 325 CAMBERWELL NEW ROAD
Construction of an additional storey at front of building to create a new two-bedroom dwelling.
Appears to be as the previous application, but without the mansard storey. The proposal is to build up on the Camberwell New Road frontage to create this residential unit and use the existing first floor kitchen which is lost at the rear of the site. This kitchen is accessible access off the alleyway between this building and adjoining Listed Building and stairs up, as well as from the Public House. The link would be closed off making this solely the residential entrance and staircase to first floor kitchen and living area, converting the existing commercial kitchen space, before a wrap round corridor to reach the front of the site, where the proposal is to erect a depth two storey front extension, to sit in front of the lantern rooflight; the key feature of this historic building. So this feature is overshadowed, surrounded and lost from public view. The building defines Camberwell and is part of its history; to make such a change would be an unacceptable loss. The buildings both sides are Grade II Listed Buildings and their setting and view should not be compromised by such an extension nor the siting of this historic unlisted building. The lantern might be viewed from within the Public House but the effect will be lost. Externally the view will be lost from the gap on Camberwell Green and from Camberwell New Road, overshadowed, surrounded and lost from public view. This unique historic building should not be tampered with. Objection

Chartered Accountants K A Jeffries & Company p17	8693 4145	Stained Glass Stained Glass Windows p9	07791 620011
Garden Centres Dulwich Pot & Plant Garden p19	7733 3697	Upholsterers AV Fowlds & Son Ltd p17 & 19	7703 2686
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Pilates Artichoke Pilates Studio p5	7358 5454		

Camberwell Society AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 12 MAY 2020

The Annual General Meeting of the Camberwell Society will be held at 7.00pm on 12 May 2020 at The United Reformed Church, Love Walk, SE5. The Agenda is as follows:

1. **Apologies for absence**
2. **Previous minutes and matters arising**
3. **Chair’s report for the year 2018-19**
4. **Treasurer’s report**
5. **Proposed amendment to the Constitution (see separate notice)**
6. **Election of officers of the Society**

All officers of the Society and members of the Executive Committee retire annually in accordance with the Constitution of the Society and are eligible for re-election. Nominations are required for the Officers and Committee. Any paid-up member may, together with a seconder (also a paid-up member), make nominations These must be sent to the Secretary, Robert Wainwright, 55 Grove Lane, SE5 8SP, to arrive at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting.

7. Any other business

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION
The executive committee propose the following amendment to the Constitution of the Camberwell Society under paragraph 14 of the Constitution, which will be proposed to members at the 2020 Annual General Meeting:

In paragraph 6(1) “in” shall be replaced with “by the end of”, and “audited” shall be replaced by “independently examined”

Notes: The amendments have the effect on the paragraph as follows:

1. (1) *An Annual General Meeting shall be held by the end of the month of May in each year or as soon as practicable thereafter to receive the Executive Committee’s report and independently examined accounts and to elect officers and members of the Executive Committee.*
2. *The 1st amendment is to enable the AGM to be held earlier in the year (& not so close to open gardens).*
3. *The 2nd amendment is housekeeping, as for governing documents dated before 1 March 1992 (when the audit exemption provisions of the Charities Act 1992 came into force), audit is taken to mean some form of independent scrutiny. Accounts have since then been subject to an independent examination as laid out in Charity Commission guidance CC32.*

Robert Wainwright, Secretary

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Barbara Pattinson (SE5 Forum & Community Liaison)	020 7274 8045
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LOCAL HISTORY: email: <i>localhistory@camberwellsociety.org.uk</i>	
MEMBERSHIP: Annual membership costs £20 (household) £15 (individual) or £10 (concessionary) Membership form available online: <i>www.camberwellsociety.org.uk</i>	
PLANNING: email: <i>planning@camberwellsociety.org.uk</i>	
The Camberwell Society is the recognised amenity society for those living, working or interested in Camberwell.	
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