

Muswell Hill & Fortis Green Association

Incorporating Alexandra Ward

GOODBYE, RAGLAN HOTEL



After a long period of decline, occasional rejuvenation, restyling and change, the Raglan Hotel on Queens Avenue is no more.

John Crompton, our committee member on conservation issues, writes, 'The owner Safeland is drawing up a planning application to redevelop the building. In advance of this they have sent a leaflet showing the details of what is proposed. In essence this is for the provision of 18 flats (a mixture of one, two and three bedrooms) with parking for 12 vehicles in the basement. The appearance of the front would be improved by the removal of the parking spaces and the fascia and signage etc and with no new bits to be added. The rear elevation has been much altered through the years with various add-ons for the hotel use such as a kitchen extension, so it will be interesting to see what they propose. The rear of the premises is in fairly close proximity to houses in Woodberry Crescent hence the need to be alert about what is planned.'

'A scheme for 20 flats was refused in 2013. There was the associated argument about loss of catering employment opportunities, but it is the case that a large number of new restaurants has opened locally in recent years. We are told that all the rooms in the flats now proposed would have all their rooms complying with space standards –this was not the case in the previous scheme. The new scheme includes on street parking which again was not the case previously. The front of the building would not be harmed by the proposal – quite the opposite. The MHFGA will study the planning application carefully, and comment as appropriate.'

'It is also true to say that the flats development would mean the buildings reverting to the use for which they were built.'



Something to smile about

The worthy winners of the Association's Photography Competition, from left Tom Buckland, Birgit Kaye and Patrick Simpson. And why has William Martyn something to roast about? See page 5

January/February 2016 Newsletter



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NO LONGER CROSS

By Chris Barker, Transport Officer

After two years of effort, Cross Safe N10 have won an important victory making the junction of Colney Hatch Lane and Alexandra Park Road safer for pedestrians. Their main concern was the lack of proper crossing facilities at the junction. There will now be a 'Green Man' pedestrian crossing, incorporating countdown timers, on Colney Hatch Lane, north and south of Alexandra Park Road and on Alexandra Park Road itself, and a pedestrian Island on Alexandra Park Road near the junction of Muswell Avenue.

Traffic lights will be removed from the junction with Pages Lane. The staggered pedestrian crossing point just south of Pages Lane will be retained and a Zebra crossing will be installed on Pages Lane.

The work is due to start in January 2016.

Special Offer for MHFGA members from Bill's Restaurant. Present this voucher, or the Newsletter, when making your order



Dates for the Diary

Members' Meetings

8.00 pm Wednesday 16 March 2016

A talk by Chris Green of St James Church

8.00 pm Wednesday 13 April 2016

A multi-sensory experience from Morgan McGlynn of Cheeses of Muswell Hill!

Annual General Meeting

18 May 2016 at The Mossy Well, N10

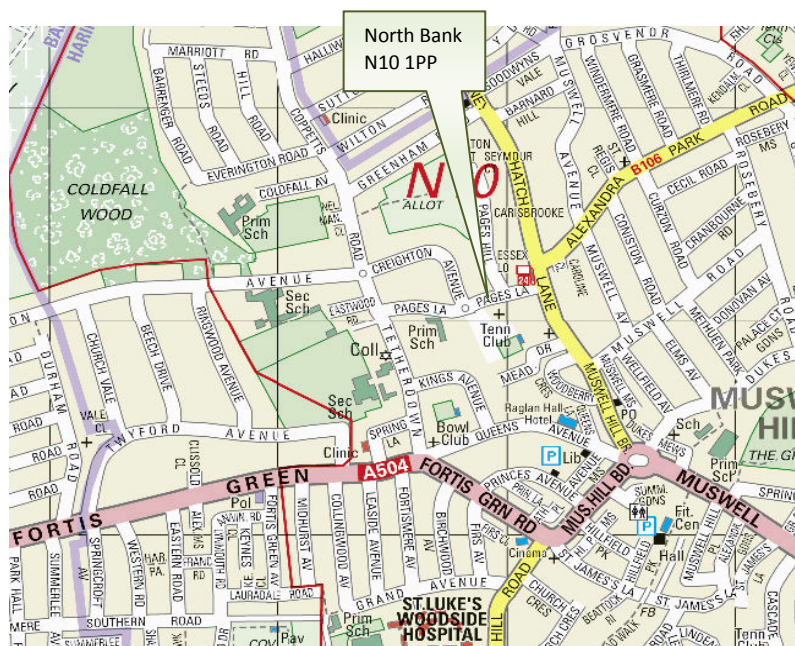
More details in a future Newsletter

A letter from our most recent speaker, Graham Parkinson

Dear MHFGA

I thoroughly enjoyed coming to the meeting and talking about Ladakh. Thank you for asking me. I really want to thank you and so many of the members for the generous donations, through buying my little book and your cheque, to The Compassion Team. I ended up with £215, which delighted me. This will pay for two of the teachers, and a bit more, for the five weeks of the Winter School, so it's a significant amount. I was talking to Wangmo (the nun) on the phone today - such is the world we live in - to agree how I send out the next lot of money. I would be pleased if you could let your members know how grateful I am for their generosity. I hope they will enjoy the book! Best wishes and thank you again.

Graham



The Association is always on the lookout for guest speakers for our meetings – do you have a story to tell or know someone whose work or interests would interest our loyal and enthusiastic membership?

Contact any of the Committee members below.

Have you visited our new website?

www.MHFGA.org

TREE CHEERS

The Association's environment officer followed up a member's recent enquiry about tree removal. Brian Livingston says, 'Here is the response from Haringey which explains why the trees are being removed. A comprehensive response for which I have thanked them.

Dear Brian

This is to inform you of the removal of three trees in the Fortis Green / Muswell Hill Area: 2 Queens Avenue N10 Plane Tree has been colonised by *honey fungus; 52 Tetherdown N10 Acer sp. tree has basal rot & signs of trunk decay; 66 Tetherdown N10 Acer sp. tree is in decline and unable to recover.

*You cannot treat decay fungi once it has colonised a tree. The fungal fruiting bodies usually only appear after the trunk or branch are substantially decayed. Trees identified with fungal fruiting bodies or other major defects cannot be safely retained on the public highway where the risk of damage or injury is high. Unfortunately, in situations like this, removal is the only option.

It is regrettable when mature trees have to be removed, however, the Council has a duty of care with regards to trees and must take action where hazards are evident to minimise the risk to people and property. Prior to removing trees, warning signs will be erected on the trees informing residents that they are to be removed. In the last seven years 63 street trees have been removed in Fortis Green, however 114 have been planted. Giving an overall increase of 51. We will aim to plant replacement trees within these areas 2017/18 planting season.

Clare Pappalardo

Senior Arboricultural and Allotment Officer - Haringey Council

NOISES OFF

Duncan Neill, our man at the Palace, writes:

While the summer months are quieter in terms of trading, the Palace saw the busiest July to September period on record, including a series of craft beer festivals. In total, there were over 20,000 visitors to these monthly events. Over 30,000 people attended the Summer Festival which focused on the 25th anniversary of the ice rink. The Redbull Soapbox event attracted 16,000 plus 900,000 viewers on the TV channel Dave. The Foodies Festival celebrated its 10th anniversary and brought another 15,000 people over its weekend. The Fireworks event seems to have been a success, with all 50,000 (!) tickets sold out in advance. These big numbers suggest that more people are visiting the Palace and Park from outside and it would be interesting to hear whether Muswell Hill shops have benefitted from this inflow. The gig season kicked off in September with many big name artists pulling in thousands of evening visitors.

We have been contacted by a resident of Bedford Road (which runs opposite Alexandra Palace train station) who is concerned by noise disturbances caused by people who have been to evening concerts at Ally Pally making their way home.

There has certainly been an increase in the number of events taking place at Ally Pally and of course that means more people heading home around 11pm and therefore more potential for noise and disturbances. We are pleased that the Palace management has employed more stewards to help direct attendees from and to public transport, before and after events. And of course the long term viability of the Palace and Park depends on increasing the amount of income from these events. However, we would like to hear from any members who have views on this topic. Is enough being done to minimise noise and disturbances after Palace events? What more could be done? If you live close to the Palace, have you experienced problems?

Please get in touch via email editor@mhfga.org or Twitter @theMHFGA

ALEX'S CORNER

Dear Members,

Welcome to the New Year and to our newest members: Nichola Charalambou, Creative Writes, Muswell Hill Broadway; Mark Simpson, Tetherdown; Christopher Barrass, Muswell Avenue; Melanie Marshall & Thomas Buckland, Rosebery Road; Sean Geb, Topps Tiles Boutique, Muswell Hill Broadway; and Lynda Mair, Prêt à Vivre, Fortis Green Road.

LOCAL HISTORY

With the New Year, we are pleased to announce that the book documenting the history of our Association, *Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association: a history of its campaigns and landmark achievements*, originally published and sold in 2010, can now be freely downloaded from our website, www.mhfga.org.

The book, by the current Association chairman, John Hajdu, has been updated to 2015 and is now available to members and to all those who are interested in the Association's work conducted over 67 years to protect, maintain and improve the local environment and quality of life.

CORPORATE MEMBERS

We are delighted to see so many new corporate members joining the Association - businesses, charities, voluntary organisations and churches that provide services and support to our local community. In the last issue of the Newsletter we started a new page for them to introduce themselves and tell you who they are and what they do. As from January, their list has a separate updated web page with links to their websites. See them at www.mhfga.org.

Bill's Restaurant, Clissold Arms (George Kyriakos Karageorgis), Chriskitch (Chris Honor), Creative Writing (Nichola Charalambou), Delicia (Bob), Duo-Klier (Talia Ramos & Pablo Castro), Elsa Boutique (Saliha Demirel), Everyman Cinema (Will Green), Excel English Language School (Judy Loren), Feast (Roger Ward CBE), Fortismere School (Helen Anthony), Muswell Hill Bowling Club (Paul Chapman), Muswell Hill Toy Library (Liz Luxmore), Muswell Hill United Reformed Church (Adrian Stannard), NCT Haringey (Matalie Steiner), Norfolk House School (Samantha Habgood), Planet Organic (Peter Marsh), Prêt à Vivre (Lynda Mair), Robert Linsky Optometrist (Robert Linsky), St. James Church Muswell Hill (Chris Green), The John Baird (Keith Nicholas), The Mossy Well (Genevieve Gardiner), Tim Moss Furniture (Tim Moss), Toffs of Muswell Hill (George and Costas Georgiou), Topps Tiles Boutique (Sean Geb), Victory Auto Services (Mark Bharadia), Woodland Tree Surgery (Christopher Hill).

My Details

Please send your comments, suggestions and requests to membership@mhfga.org or write to The Membership Secretary, MHFGA, 49 Halliwick Road, London N10 1AA.

Have you got a minute?

That's the average time people spend looking at our website, writes Tony Wells, our website maestro, but with more pages, pictures and info being added daily, it's always worth revisiting every couple of weeks. www.MHFGA.org. 'Photographs of new shops and the Wetherspoons Pub will be taken when I get a weather window', says Tony, 'and the Shop Front Survey Archive Folders are regularly updated. Some of the images kindly provided by Jacqueline Servat have already been added to the galleries. And you join our other visitors from Russia, Japan, China, Brazil, Germany, France, USA and, of course, the UK.'

CREATIVE WRITES

Dear Members,

I have lived in Muswell Hill for about 14 years and am very proud to be part of the community. I am also delighted to now be a member of MHFGA.

I am the founder and Director of Creative Writes – which offer creative writing workshops, mostly for adults. We run regular blocks of workshops and one-off Themed Workshops at North Bank/ Muswell Hill Methodist Church in Pages Lane, N10 – where we have been working since 2009. The workshops are small, supportive, motivational and tailor-made. For further information on how we work and our new 2016 programme, please see our website or email me: www.creativewrites.co.uk info@creativewrites.co.uk

I have recently started delivering free taster workshops at Muswell Hill Library – in association with the Friends of Muswell Hill Library. It's great to meet more of the community, some of which may not have tried creative writing before. The dates for the free 2016 Motivational Taster Sessions at Muswell Hill Library are; Saturday 9 January 2-3pm, Saturday 6 February 2-3pm & Saturday 5 March 2-3pm. All you need are notebooks and pens!

In addition to the regular workshops at North Bank/ Muswell Hill Methodist Church, which will run again from 20 January 2016, I am going to be working with Bonafide Studio in Muswell Hill. We will be delivering our Taster sessions with a small group, helping you to write and record songs/audio stories/poetry etc. The workshops will take place over two afternoons in March/April – with the second session at Bonafide Studio, putting your piece together. Please let me know if you would like further details.

Many thanks & best wishes,

Nichola Charalambou
Creative Writes

Tom Wellingham, operations manager at Bill's Restaurant, reviews the first six months in Muswell Hill.

They say time flies when you're having fun, and here at Bill's, we would certainly agree with that age old adage. It seems like only yesterday we were in the middle of our first few days of being open to the public, with the warm August sunshine beating down on our terrace area, and the task of making lots of new friends in Muswell Hill at our feet.

Fast forward six months and, whilst the weather now is not quite as warm as it was then, there is no doubt that we have been very fortunate to enjoy a very warm welcome to Muswell Hill from all of the locals, residents and MHFGA members alike, many of whom we are now delighted to count amongst our daily regulars.

Since arriving in the area we've been working non-stop to get to know as many folk as possible in the area and really integrate ourselves into the community. We've been touched to be asked to offer some of our famous 'Bill's Hampers' as prizes in charity raffles, and of course, been happy to redecorate the MHFGA notice board in the centre of town.

We've been very warmly welcomed by one and all since our arrival in Muswell Hill, and as we are now operating 70 restaurants nationwide, we like to think we have learnt a bit about the importance of community in the areas we operate.

All residents, locals and MHFGA members should be in no doubt that the community spirit is alive and well here in Muswell Hill, it's some of the best we've seen, and we are firmly looking forward to being a part of this community for many years to come. Here's to the next six months (and some warmer weather) and we hope to see you all in our restaurant before too long.

Look for the voucher on Page 1

Join the hundreds of visitors to our website -
click on www.mhfga.org for a wealth of
information, archive photographs and news.

Got a photo or news item?

Share it on Twitter with our members



@theMHFGA

or visit www.twitter.com/theMHFGA

We tweet regularly on Association and local news - so please follow and spread the word!

When you think of recording studios, you probably think of bands, the next big pop star or classical music. But Muswell Hill has its own boutique studios with big opportunities for all recording or rehearsal needs.

BonaFideStudio is a family business, run by Deanna Bogdanovic with her husband Brian. They have lived in Muswell Hill for ten years and relocated their studio from Shoreditch to Muswell Hill four years ago.

Since 1999, BonaFideStudio has worked on thousands of projects, from fledgling teenage bands to platinum-selling international artists and film soundtracks, offering really low recording and rehearsal rates.

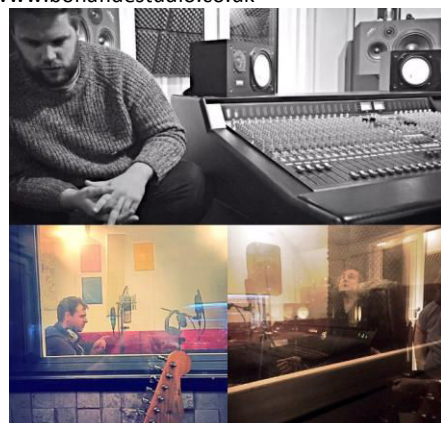
Many businesses and companies are turning to audio to promote sales, to increase brand awareness, or to assist in the development of their work force.

Deanna says, 'Allow us to capture the essence of your company in the medium of sound and music. Our product offering in this arena ranges from radio adverts/jingles, background music and narration for multimedia presentations or video, to composing theme music for an event or project.

'We are voice over experts, providing voice recording, voice production, and can supply professional voice talent for radio and TV advertising, corporate narration, and many more, just name it and with the Bona Fide Studio "can-do" attitude we will deliver'.

The studio is equipped with professional top end microphones and monitoring systems, as well as a full range of effects to give any soundtrack or voice-over recorded that dynamic edge. Coupled with a wide library of sound effects and royalty-free music, BonaFideStudio's production team is an alliance of marketing professionals and musicians committed to raising the standards. 'We also offer sound engineering tutorials, popstar parties and music lessons' adds Deanna, 'and we are well experienced in providing comfortable rehearsal spaces for your band and equipment hire for your gigs and functions. Give us a call to book your free consultation.'

If you would like a personal meeting but your time is precious, no problem – call 020 8883 9641 and 020 8444 5054 and they will come to you! www.bonafidestudio.co.uk



The members' meeting in November was a photographic treat, writes Tony Wells.

The first part of the evening was an illustrated talk by Graham Parkinson, president of the Muswell Hill Photographic Society. Graham went to India over ten years ago to do voluntary teaching for three months and found it such an amazing experience that he wanted to go back. In 2006 he went on the first of five trips to Ladakh in the Himalayas where he teaches in a village school. There he met a Buddhist nun and ended up spending a couple of weeks teaching the young nuns in her nunnery. As you can imagine, that was unusual, to say the least, and Graham told us how it all happened, and showed us many of his photographs of his trips. Bitter winter conditions, almost impassable gorges and icy roads shadowed by the Himalaya give way in the Spring to the local farming communities sending their children to the local Buddhist temples and schools. The many smiling faces, some hardened by the tough lifestyle, bright colours of the clothing and the prayer flags all combined to provide a really wonderful experience shared. The long applause at the end was richly deserved. Thank you, Graham.

Secondly, the Association's second photography competition attracted almost 30 entries from local artists ranging in age from nine to a lot older. Entries had to be on the theme of 'My Muswell Hill' and the standard was certainly higher than last year with more taken on digital cameras as opposed to mobile devices. The three judges were Graham Parkinson, John Crompton, a keen amateur and member of the MHFGA Committee, and Zoe Norfolk, a professional photographer. 'Each entry was considered 'blind' by the judges, with no clue as to the photographer', said Zoe, giving the audience an insight in to the judges' thinking on the winning entries.

Third prize went to 16 year old Patrick Simpson of Fortismere School for his long exposure shot, *Broadway Lights* (Right, bottom). Birgit Kaye was awarded second prize for *Beauty Not Just in the Eye of the Beholder*, a delightful image of one of the Association's Flower Boxes at the Roundabout (Right, centre). The ultimate winner was Tom Buckland's image of roasting coffee beans in Martyn's iconic shop in the Broadway entitled *Full of Beans, a ritual that has been going on for over 100 years*. (Right, top). Thanks to all the entrants for their enthusiasm and talent.



A LOCAL RESIDENT WRITES...

On a recent Wednesday, I had a phone call from someone saying that he was from some outfit called "Express Couriers"(the name could be any courier company). He asked if I was going to be home because there was a package for me that required a signature. The caller said that the delivery would arrive at my home in roughly an hour. Sure enough, about an hour later, a uniformed delivery man turned up with a beautiful basket of flowers and a bottle of wine. I was very surprised since there was no special occasion or holiday, and I certainly didn't expect anything like it. Intrigued, I inquired as to who the sender was. The courier replied, 'I don't know, I'm only delivering the package.'

Apparently, a card was being sent separately...the card has never arrived!. There was also a consignment note with the gift. He then went on to explain that because the gift contained alcohol, there was a £3.50 "delivery/ verification charge," providing proof that he had actually delivered the package to an adult (of legal drinking age), and not just left it on the doorstep where it could be stolen or taken by anyone, especially a minor.

This sounded logical and I offered to pay him cash. He then said that the delivery company required payment by credit or debit card only, so that everything is properly accounted for, and this would help in keeping a legal record of the transaction. He added couriers don't carry cash to avoid loss or likely targets for robbery.

My husband, who by this time was standing beside me, pulled out his credit card, and the "delivery man" asked him to swipe the card on a small mobile card machine with a small screen and keypad. My husband, was asked to enter his PIN number and a receipt was printed out. He was given a copy of the transaction. The guy said everything was in order, and wished us good day.

To our horrible surprise, between Thursday and the following Monday, £4,000 had been charged/withdrawn from our credit/debit account at various ATM machines.

Apparently the mobile credit card machine which the deliveryman carried now had all the info necessary to create a dummy card with all our card details including the PIN number. Upon finding out about the illegal transactions on our card, we immediately notified the bank which issued us a new card, and our credit/debit account was closed. We also went in person to the Police, where it was confirmed that it is definitely a scam because several households had been similarly hit.

THE FORTISMERE COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

Based in the heart of Muswell Hill at Fortismere School, the Fortismere Community Orchestra is made up of talented and enthusiastic members of the local community, including students, instrumental teachers, composers and highly skilled amateurs.

The next concert will be at St Andrew's Church, Alexandra Park Road, Muswell Hill, on 12 March 2016 at 7.30pm. Dvorak Cello Concerto (soloist Thomas Gregory), Brahms Symphony No.3, Conductors Paul Hoskins and Thomas Gregory Leader Rebekah Allan. Tickets will be available on the door

The FCO welcomes new players. If you would like to know more about joining, email the Fortismere Music Centre Manager at fmcinfo@fortismere.org.uk.

HORNSEY PENSIONERS ACTION GROUP

We meet to discuss local and national issues with visiting speakers on the third Wednesday of the month). Coming up - 20 January: *Interactive workshop "Dispel the Blues"*, 17 February AGM and meals for the housebound, 16 March *"What can the London mayor do for us?"* all starting at 1.30pm promptly. Our meetings are held in the Main Church Hall of Hornsey Parish Church at Cranley Gardens N10 3AH. Contact Ann Anderson 0208340 8335 or www.hornseypensionersactiongroup.org.uk

STRIKING THE RIGHT CHORD

A-Chord is a community choir (started in 2013) which will be holding a charity fundraising concert on Sunday 29 November in Muswell Hill. For further details: www.a-chord.uk or contact Laura Gerlis, laura@a-chord.uk, 07732 120464.

WHAT'S GOING ON AT ST JAMES CHURCH?

Community Cafe - Tuesdays: 11.00-1.00 Free coffee, cake and conversation. Venue: through the main doors, just turn up.
Tea Time: For seniors in the Muswell Hill area. Wednesdays: 2.30-3.30pm Tea, sandwiches and entertainment contact: gebrazier@gmail.com 020 8883 6453 Venue: St James Centre
Legal Advice: Free legal advice Mondays & Saturdays walk in service from 10.00 am-12 noon Venue: St James Church, contact: anything.legal@btinternet.com

RETIRED, OR HEADING FOR RETIREMENT?

UNIVERSITY OF 3RD AGE NORTH LONDON can help you on a whole new path of discovery, learning new skills and subjects or teaching your own special skills. 'We believe learning need never stop and should be a pleasure.' Come along to one of their meetings, at St Paul's Church, Long Lane, N3 2PU. To find out more, visit www.nlu3a.org.uk.

HIGHGATE CHORAL SOCIETY

Monday 7 March 2016, **Ronald Corp 65th Birthday Concert** at Royal Festival Hall, Belvedere Road SE1 8XX
Tickets £15 - £35. With Roderick Williams and Rebecca Evans
Britten Four Sea Interludes, Corp Behold the Sea (World Premiere), Vaughan Williams Sea Symphony
More details at www.hcschoir.com

MUSWELL HILL TOY LIBRARY

Open Mondays 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm, Thursdays 9.30 am to 12 noon, and Fridays 9.30 am to 12 noon and 2 pm to 4 pm. Toys, DVDs and music CDs. Children must come with an adult carer! 'Stories and Music' sessions during the Monday and Thursday sessions are FREE to all. 1st Floor - Muswell Hill Library, Queens Ave, N10 3PE.

NORTH LONDON EPILEPSY ACTION is a support group for those with epilepsy or with an interest in epilepsy. The group meets on the third Monday of each month and has lectures, information and social events. For more information, contact Barbara Penney 020 8883 0010 or e-mail barbarapenney@yahoo.co.uk

MUSWELL HILL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The club meets every Wednesday at Jacksons Lane Community Centre at 7.45 pm We show and discuss our photographs, and we have guest speakers, competitions, and practical activities. Visit our website,

www.muswellhillphoto.org.uk, for more details. We welcome new members. If you would like to join or come along one evening as a guest, please email contact@muswellhillphoto.org.uk.

QUEEN'S WOOD

Queen's Wood now has Green Flag status. Congratulations! There was a flag raising ceremony with the Mayor and many others present and you can now see the flag at the Lodge entrance to the wood.

Working Party dates: Sunday 31 January from 10.30 to noon, Sunday 28 February from 10.30 to noon.

Meet at the Lodge. Tools are provided but please bring your own gloves and, if possible, a mobile phone to keep in touch with the working party leader.

Clissold Arms, 105 Fortis Green, East Finchley, London N2 9HR

George and his team at the Clissold are introducing three new Saturday morning child friendly activities. Eco-Art Workshop with Joan Podel (for children aged 5-12 yrs) starting monthly on Saturday 16 January from 9.30am-noon (£3 per child); Comic Club Workshop with Andy Williams (for children aged 5-12yrs) starting monthly from Saturday 30 January from 10am-noon (£3 a child); Movie Club - every other Saturday in the Oscars Terrace from 9 January, activities from 9.30am, film starts at 10.30am (£3 per child)

UPSTAIRS AT THE GATEHOUSE, Highgate N6 4BD

Legally Blonde – The Musical

Winner of three Olivier Awards including Best New Musical, *Legally Blonde The Musical* is an all singing, all dancing romantic comedy. The show follows the story of sorority president Elle Woods as she crosses the country on a mission to find love at Harvard Law School. Until 31 January 2016. Box Office 020 8340 3488

Check all times and dates with the organisers. If you have an event or activity that might be of interest to the Association's members, write to editor@mhfga.org and patriciajloft@aol.com by 12 December





Contact Point

PLANET ORGANIC, 111-117 Muswell Hill Road, N10 3HS

You can meet your local police here on:

- Wednesdays between 6pm and 8pm.
- Thursdays between 6pm and 8pm.
- Saturdays between 1pm and 3pm.

Planet Organic, 111 - 117 Muswell Hill Road, N10 3HS

At the Contact Point you can:

- Report a crime.
- Obtain crime prevention advice or advice on other police related matters.
- Discuss community concerns.
- Make an appointment to speak to a local officer.
- Make an appointment to give a statement if you would prefer for the police not to visit you at home or your place of work.
- Hand in self-reporting forms for road traffic accidents.
- Report lost property or hand in found property.
- Collect your found items by appointment.

You can report crime online at www.met.police.uk

If you need to speak to the police call 101.
Always call 999 in an emergency.

ART WORKS

Local artist, Joan Podel, is planning and organising her speciality eco-art days at the Clissold Arms on Fortis Green. These eco-art days will take place on one Saturday a month from 9.30 am to 12 noon in 'the shed', specifically for children from age 5 to 10 years old.

There is a theme provided for each of the Saturdays: Jack and the Beanstalk, Beauty and the Beast and Rapunzel, on 16 January, 13 February and 12 March respectively.

Children are invited to bring along their favourite packaging, coloured paper, string, used boxes or small cartons, bits and bobs, etc. but Joan and the Clissold will also provide lots of useful materials and all the art supplies needed (paints, brushes, glues, tape, colour pencils, etc.) for each child to design their very own box construction. Joan looks forward to seeing you there – she believes in each child developing their artwork on his or her own but, of course she is there to offer any assistance needed. Joan herself will also be designing her own box creation. Here's one she made earlier!



Trixie and the Dixie Chicks by Joan Podel

The eco-art Saturdays are scheduled for every three months; the fee is just £3 per child, more details and future dates on the Clissold website (clissoldarms.co.uk).

Joan Podel has been working with primary school children for over two years now, at the Park Theatre in Finsbury Park and she also introduces eco-art to primary schools in the community - a great success!

An enthusiastic ambassador for our Association, Joan is an artist of three genre techniques - a weaver of paper collage, box construction and printmaking. Her art has been exhibited in Manhattan, New Mexico and here in London for over 13 years. She has recently has been invited to have a solo exhibition at Chris Kitch cafe on Tetherdown throughout January 2016.

Dear members,

A Happy New Year from everyone at Everyman Muswell Hill! It's been a whirlwind few months here since our debut message in the last issue, and the interest and support from the local community continues to be absolutely staggering. It's been such a joy to have so many of you in to see what we're working on, and our highly ambitious attempts to restore one of the most beautiful buildings in the city to the glorious venue it deserves to be.

Two of our screens (screens 2 and 3) opened in December so we were able to start showcasing the style of the fully refurbished interior we want every customer to enjoy. Frankly, a comfy sofa and a good 'Snowball' feels like the only appropriate way to watch a winter film!

We'd love to offer a massive thanks as well to all of the locals who've helped us shape our developments as we've gone – through ongoing conversations with our neighbours and the old regulars before we came in we've been able to step-by-step keep trying to make the cinema something that everyone in Muswell Hill can be proud to call their own.

We hope you joined us for one of the gigantic cinema events in the form of Spectre or Star Wars, or outstanding Oscar contenders coming up in the form of The Revenant and Joy.

All the best from everyone here,
Will Green,
Everyman Muswell Hill.

CONSTANT JOY

... and constant anxiety and constant care



The flower boxes and the cattle trough give simple pleasure to all our community. Many thanks to all those who stock, plant, water and tend the plants. And a big thumbs down to all those who steal the plants or use the boxes as rubbish bins. Enough said!
(Photo: J. Servat)

*To all members of the
Muswell Hill & Fortis Green
Association, their friends
and their families
A Very Happy New Year
2016*