

Muswell Hill & Fortis Green Association

Incorporating Alexandra Ward



September/October 2015 Newsletter

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STILL TIME TO ENTER!

Closing Date: 30 September 2015

There's still time to enter the MHFGA photo competition - open to members and their families. Not a member? Join now using the form on page 6. What the judges are looking for is your personal emotional or physical connection to anything Muswell Hill! A very wide brief, so get those cameras snapping. The PRIZES are: First £50; Second £30; Third £15.

The entries will be judged by Zoe Norfolk, professional photographer, Graham Parkinson, President, Muswell Hill Photographic Society, and John Crompton, MHFGA Committee Member. Winners will be announced at the Members' Meeting on Wednesday 11 November 2015 (North Bank, Pages Lane N10 1PP).

Terms and Conditions (full details on the website MHFGA.org).

Format: Digital JPEG from cameras and all mobile devices, recent image (maximum 5Mb) taken by the entrant within the previous twelve months, maximum of three entries per person. Send entries to: anthony.wells@btinternet.com. Receipt will be acknowledged. No entry fee required. Please provide name (and age if under 18), email address, phone number and title of Image.



TWENTY IS PLENTY

Our transport officer, Chris Barker gives us the heads up.

The Council's timetable for the introduction of 20mph limits is as follows:

Between July and December, they will be erecting the signs. This is what you can see appearing all over the borough - the black mask covers the 20 mph instruction.

From December, there will be the unveiling of the black masks, at which point 20mph will be the legal limit. During the first half of 2016, the police will operate a 'stop and advise' policy. That is, you won't get fined unless you are behaving outrageously. Then, from the second half of 2016 onwards, you'd better watch out!



RIDING ALONG

Meet our Member in Profile on page 4

Follow our new Twitter account

@theMHFGA

or visit www.twitter.com/theMHFGA

We tweet regularly on Association and local news - so please follow and spread the word! And there's lots more about our area and its history at

www.mhfga.org



Members' Meetings

Members' Meeting

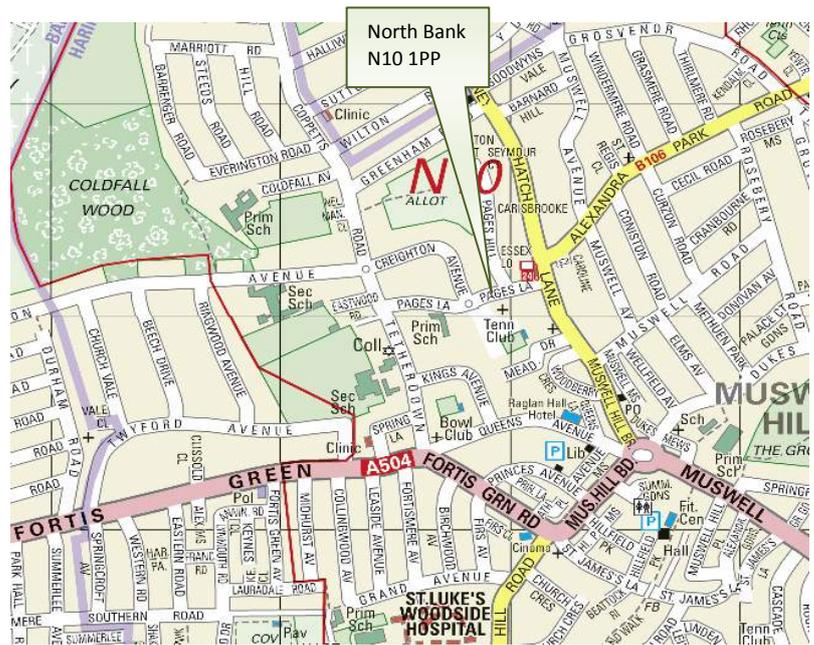
October – details to be announced shortly - check www.mhfga.org for details, or follow our Twitter feed @theMHFGA

Members' Meeting

8.00 pm Wednesday 11 November



Graham Parkinson, president of the Muswell Hill Photographic Society talks about *Life in Ladakh*, a photographic record of his fascinating experiences in the Buddhist communities in northern India, plus Tony Wells announces the winners of the Photography Competition.



YOUR ASSOCIATION – YOUR VOICE
The Newsletter welcomes contributions from the members. All letters, features, articles and photographs will be considered for publication.



Write to editor@mhfga.org

NEWS FROM THE PALACE

Alexandra Palace is set to welcome a new chief executive to drive through ambitious restoration and regeneration plans.

Louise Stewart will take the helm at Ally Pally this autumn, arriving at a pivotal time in the Palace's colourful history – with progress underway on historic restoration and exciting leisure plans for the landmark venue. Louise comes with an impressive track record that has seen her working in a host of roles across the public and private sector, including positions in culture, tourism, hospitality and growth. Successes include leading roles in major regional arts and regeneration programmes such as Sage Gateshead, Hadrian's Wall and Alnwick Garden. In her most recent position as Director of Strategy and Deputy CEO at VisitEngland, Louise has been responsible for a wide range of work, including securing £40million funding from the Regional Growth Fund for a three-year programme of tourism investment across England.

Clr Joanna Christophides, Chair of the Alexandra Palace and Park Board, said: 'We were hugely impressed by Louise's vision, imagination and ambition for Alexandra Palace and look forward to working alongside her and local people as together we deliver an exciting future for Ally Pally.'

QUEEN'S WOOD WALK



Ecological liaison officer, Lucy Roots, on the left, led an interested group around Queen's Wood in June, part of the annual programme of events for MHFGA members. The source of the Moselle River was a great talking point, and the group was shown examples of coppicing and ancient earthworks such as the medieval boundary bank, the recent coppiced areas and earlier coppiced areas, and the various pools. Lucy has recently told us that Queen's Wood has been awarded a Green Flag. Another feather in the cap – well done.

LET'S CLEAN UP QUEENS AVENUE!

Following the reports in the last Newsletter about rubbish collections on the Broadway, new Association member Arezoo Corrigan has put pen to paper to add to the debate. She writes, 'I discovered Queens Avenue over seventeen years ago when I was looking to move into Muswell Hill. I remember taking a wrong turning at Fortis Green junction and finding myself on a beautiful tree lined avenue with grand double-fronted houses and wide pavements. Seventeen years on, sadly for Queens Avenue and all Muswell Hill residents, Queens Avenue's pavements are now mostly populated by uncollected cardboard boxes, abandoned mattresses and other unsightly objects, and overflowing wheelie bins which are permanently stored on the pavements spew out stinking rubbish at passers by. A recent addition to Queens Avenue's woes is the decision by many of the residents of Queens Lane and some Colney Hatch Lane businesses to leave their rubbish on the pavement at the intersection of Queens Lane.'

Arezoo's regular correspondence with the council seems to be making little progress. 'The current problem of overflowing bins is caused by a number of issues, all of which could be addressed by Haringey if it listens to residents' concerns and shows a degree of flexibility in its approach.'

Arezoo suggests concerted contact with the council and the local MP. What are your experiences? Can you think of a solution? Write to editor@mhfga.org.

ALEX'S CORNER

Dear Member,

WELCOME

Many of our newest members have joined after meeting us at our stall in the Broadway and at the fantastically successful Midsummer Muswell and Fortismere's Fortitude festivals. A very warm welcome to Paul and Diana Conyers, of Leaside Avenue; Karen Crofton, of Queens Avenue; Tony Davies, of Pages Lane; Elisa Foppa, of Cromwell Road; Barbara Huszty, of Cascade Avenue; Pi Jones, of Muswell Hill Broadway; Grellan and Cecile McGrath, of Queens Avenue; Gautam Mistry, of Midhurst Avenue; Stan and Barbara Pound, of Coniston Road, Jamie Randall, of Hillfield Park; Richard Streat, of Fortismere Avenue; Arezoo Corrigan, of Queen's Avenue and Charlotte Wickers, of Muswell Hill Road.

THANKS

First of all, thanks to all the dedicated volunteers who deliver our Newsletter and make sure that local members receive their copy on time – come rain or shine. If you think you too can help, please call me or drop me a line: we need more deliverers particularly around Vallance Road/The Avenue and Fortismere Avenue.

Thanks to all members who have answered our appeal and in renewing their membership are now paying by Standing Order. If you have not yet renewed, please consider this option: it helps us enormously in our administration and in planning our campaigns and activities. You can download the form from our website www.mhfga.org, where you can also get the details for arranging a Standing Order with your bank online and pay by debit/credit card.

Also thanks to our growing number of corporate members.

Delicia (Bob), Ethical Edibles (Donatella Bernstein), Victory Auto Services (Mark Bharadia), Woodland Tree Surgery (Christopher Hill), 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), Norfolk House School (Samantha Habgood), Everyman Cinema (Will Green), Planet Organic (Peter Marsh), Robert Linsky Optometrist (Robert Linsky), St. James Church Muswell Hill (Chris Green), The John Baird (Keith Nicholas), Tim Moss Furniture (Tim Moss), Toffs of Muswell Hill (George and Costas Georgiou), Tootoomoo (Philip McGuinness), Clissold Arms (George Kyriakos Karageorgis).

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.

PLANNING UPDATES

Car parking behind the cinema (HGY/2015/2277)

A new lighting scheme was approved but at the time of its installation in early August the applicant made major changes to the scheme. The lamp columns were originally going to be in the centre of the car park – they have actually been placed around the perimeter which means that not only are they effectively at the bottom of people's gardens but also means there is a much greater possibility of lights shining directly into bedrooms. Following representations the Council has agreed that the revised scheme will go out to proper consultation.

5-9 Connaught House (HGY/2015/1956)

The Association has lent its support to those objecting to the cramming of six houses onto this site on the grounds of over development, excessive density, adverse effect on neighbouring properties and inappropriate design.

MEMBER IN PROFILE - LYDIA RIVLIN

Lydia Rivlin and her husband moved to Muswell Hill in 1984 with their young family, now all grown up. She started taking a serious interest in horses, and side saddle in particular, in 2001.

Side saddle is also used for people with various disabilities, which inspired Lydia's novel "The Girl Who Wanted to Fly" (ISBN-13: 978-1904987628) which is about disability and body image and aimed at teenage girls.

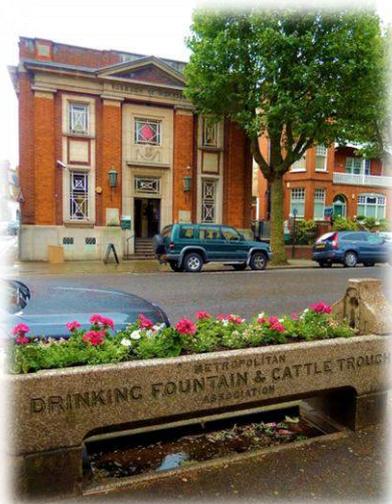
Lydia also lectures about the history of the side saddle—which is a subject that is far less esoteric than it sounds as it tracks the evolution of social attitudes to women since the times of classical Greece.

Lydia tells us, 'This is a picture of me and my horse Flamenco de Murcia participating in the Canter for a Cure, which is a sponsored ride, raising money for medical detection dogs. See their webpage: <http://medicaldetectiondogs.org.uk/canter.html>

Entrants are encouraged to wear costumes with a pink theme—I assume that this is because breast cancer was the first to be 'diagnosed' by a dog. Despite the fun and games, it is a serious ride with some precarious sections such as underpass tunnels, motorway bridges, ditches and jumps all of which can cause trouble with horses and riders are required to wear correct, up to date riding hats. This posed a problem for me since I intended to do the ride side saddle, in historical costume. A modern riding hat with a Victorian outfit would have looked very incongruous and I decided to construct some sort of disguise, which I did with a swatch of material sewn around the shell to resemble a puffy hairstyle tied back in a bun, a tricorne hat brim cut out round it and some pink net for the theme. A Victorian lady would probably not have worn such an extravagant hat for riding, but in general it was in the idiom and I was quite pleased with the results. I'm not sure how my horse felt about the pink ribbons, though.'



In our last Newsletter, our environment officer, Brian Livingston, put out a call for a volunteer to 'adopt' the flower trough opposite the library. The call was answered by Pauline Hudson, a resident of Muswell Hill since 1970 and now retired. Pauline says, 'I walk past the trough on my way to the Broadway, so to do a bit of dead-heading and watering was not a huge challenge.' Having to fetch water for the trough from the library means that occasionally Pauline hopes for rain! Originally from Yorkshire, Pauline moved to London to pursue her career and moved to Muswell Hill when she got a job in adolescent psychiatry at St Luke's. The Association and the whole community are grateful for her support. Modestly, Pauline has asked us to mention *all* the people and businesses who help to keep the flowerboxes on the Broadway looking so bright and welcoming.



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

THE MOSSY WELL PUB

A sneak preview of the proposed garden and interior



CALL FOR ACTION

By Cara Jenkinson

Did you know that Marks & Spencer on Muswell Hill Broadway has 100 solar panels on its roof installed by Muswell Hill Sustainability Group? Seven years ago a few members of the Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association concerned about climate change set up Muswell Hill Sustainability Group (MHSG). The aims of the group were to reduce carbon emissions and waste in the local area and increase awareness of the need to take action on climate change. Since then we have gone from strength to strength. In addition to installing solar panels on the roof of Marks & Spencer and on the Muswell Hill Methodist Church, we've run several "21st Century Homes" events to inform people on what they can do to make their homes greener and welcomed a long list of distinguished speakers to Muswell Hill. We've also been delighted to help the MHFGA fund the flower boxes on the Broadway, a small measure to encourage people to use the local shops rather than driving further afield.

2015 is an important year for climate change. In December, world leaders are gathering to make a long-awaited new climate agreement. MHSG will be involved in publicising the climate talks locally and are planning a debate for the Autumn. At a more local level, we're working alongside other Haringey climate groups to petition Haringey Council to divest its pension funds from investments in coal and tar sands, two of the most dirty fuels.

You can sign the petition at www.haringey.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/meetings/petitions.

Most Muswell Hill homes weren't built to be energy-efficient and high fuel bills are the result! We're continuing our practical work to help people make their own homes more energy efficient by launching a new "Green-a-Neighbour" scheme – we're doing this in partnership with the Highgate Sustainable Homes group. A number of residents who've taken inspiring measures to slash the energy use of their homes will be inviting neighbours to come and take a look – a bit like a green Tupperware party! We also maintain a list of local installers of energy saving measures on our website and have produced a 'Homeowners Pack' with useful advice and contacts on greening your home.

If you'd like to get involved, please find out more at www.mhsgroup.org or contact us at info@mhsgroup.org.

A busy day for Muswell Hill Sustainability Group at Midsummer Muswell in June



A MESSAGE FROM THE EVERYMAN CINEMA

Dear Members,

As a new corporate member of the MHFGA we wanted to take the opportunity to introduce ourselves. Since coming in and taking over the old cinema on Fortis Green Road we've been absolutely stunned by the warm welcome received, and wanted to sincerely thank everyone who's gone out of their way to so quickly make us feel at home in the area.

For anyone that hasn't been to our new site yet, we're in the very early stages of what should be a very exciting facelift for the Cinema. We've been working closely with Heritage as we work towards restoring the building to its true, original 1920's art-deco glory, and are still only at the beginning. We've done plenty of work on the lounge areas and foyer, and have built a bar to provide the sort of food and drinks we like to serve – the next step is to replace the old seats with the big comfy sofas you can find at our other sites too.

It's a very exciting project for us, and the first time we've done something like this, so please do pop in and give us your thoughts! We're learning as we go, so would love as much feedback as possible, and we're around all the time if you want to pop in for a coffee and a slice of cake and chat over what we've got planned. Looking forward to meeting many of you in person,

Will Green, Venue Support Manager, Everyman Muswell Hill

Dear Editor

Allow me to correct two minor errors in your page 8 piece in the July/August issue of our newsletter. I was never a policy adviser to the Greater London Council. I did work for them as a transport planner, but my policy role came later, in my last job with the London Borough of Hounslow. My local ward councillor is Patrick Berryman, not Berry. I hope you can find space in the September issue to print these corrections.

Best wishes. Eugene Myerson.

Always happy to set the record straight – Ed.

UPDATE FROM THE PINKHAM WAY ALLIANCE

The latest consultation on the North London Waste Plan opened on 30 July and will run to 30 September 2015. This consists of twelve detailed reports looking at resource and waste management in North London through to 2032. The task of analysing these reports will be undertaken by the Pinkham Way Alliance, and their submission will be ready in September.

Well over one thousand residents added their signature to the last PWA input. You can have the chance to add yours to the final PWA submission once it is available and so provide better protection to this valuable piece of London's green infrastructure. Simply register on the website for newsletter updates.

www.pinkhamwayalliance.org

Despite what many residents had come to believe, the nearby site at Pinkham Way is not "saved". Instead it has been identified as one of the "most suitable, sustainable and deliverable locations in North London for new waste management facilities."

It is also one which, according to the London Biodiversity Partnership, contains "a remarkable diversity of species" and includes a section of a UK Priority Habitat. More generally it is a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) Grade 1. As part of recent analysis a Reptile Survey identified a small breeding colony of slow-worms, a protected species, while an on-going survey identified a rich variety of spiders and beetles, some rare.

Much is written about the importance of green space and its protection in our crowded and climate-change threatened City, but perhaps the experience of Cecil the lion has finally highlighted that people really do care about the unjustified exploitation of our natural world. Potentially concreting over this green space when the case for this additional (waste) site appears flimsy may be thought of as a step too far. Susie Holden

A VIEW FROM ST JAMES

With an imposing building visible from miles around, St James Church has a rich history as a place of Christian worship. St James Church started out as a 'Chapel of Ease' in 1842 and the foundation stone of the Church, as it now is, was laid in 1900. The Church was built to be physically and spiritually at the centre of, and serving, the local community.

So what is St James today? Well, we'd like to think we're still building on our heritage and that we continue to be right in the centre of our community. That's not just because of our wonderful central position but also because as a church family we love being at the heart of what's happening locally in so many different ways beyond our building. An example of that was being part of Midsummer Muswell earlier this year – it was so exciting to meet so many of our neighbours on that brilliant (albeit rather damp) day.

The sign outside St James tells everyone that it's our aim *To Love as Jesus Loved; to Live as Jesus Lived*, and we try to reflect this in everything we do, both on Sundays when we meet together, and during the week in all our activities - whether that's at our weekly community café, our children's and youth work, at the debt advice service, winter shelter or at our regular lunchtime concerts. We also offer our garden to our community; it's always open as a quiet and peaceful place for passers-by to sit and reflect at the beginning, in the middle or at the end of a busy day.

If you visit us on a Sunday - and we'd love you to - you'll find we are a lively and welcoming community. There is a range of services to choose from, at various times and reflecting different styles of service. What they have in common is worship and the Bible's message of hope which we believe Jesus brings to our world and to our lives, individually and as a community.

You'll find full details of all our services and weekly programme on our website www.st-james.org.uk. Better still, come and see us, on a Sunday, at our Tuesday morning community café, or pop into our bookshop where we sell Christian books, cards and music. Here you'll also find information about the church and what the St James Church family is up to on Sundays and during the week. Whenever you visit we hope you'll find a friendly face and a listening ear if you ever need a chat. Bring this Newsletter with you to the bookshop, during the autumn term, and enjoy a free cup of tea or coffee whilst you browse.

Follow us on Twitter @StJamesMHill, like us on Facebook or email churchoffice@st-james.org.uk

Stop press - A new Alpha course for anyone wanting to find out more about the Christian faith begins on Tuesday 29 September for nine weeks. For more information go to www.st-james.org.uk or email michael.john@st-james.org.uk



The church spire was completed in 1910, and the total height to the top is 170 feet.

NORTH LONDON VINTAGE MARKET

An eclectic mix of 20th century kitchenware, fabrics, furniture, ceramics, accessories, curiosities and ephemera all in a cosy village hall atmosphere.

Saturday 5 September 10.00 am -5.00 pm and Sunday 6 September 1.00 -5.00 pm at St Mary's Parish Hall, Cranley Gardens, N10 3AH

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. Thomas Gregory conducts the orchestra to an impressively high standard, rehearsals are fun, and the repertoire has so far included Tchaikovsky, Sibelius, Brahms, and Dvorak, with a range of soloists based locally and as far afield as the USA.

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.

STRIKING THE RIGHT CHORD

A-Chord is a community choir (started in 2013) which meets weekly in term time on Thursday evenings from 8.00 – 10.00 pm at The Manor House, 80 East End Road, London N3 2SY. Fees are £60 per term including refreshments. A-Chord is open to any adult who wants to sing in a choir - an ear for music would be an advantage, but you don't have to be able to read music!

The new term starts on Thursday 10 September - do come along for a free taster session. They will be singing at the Princess Alexandra Care Home in Stanmore on Sunday 1 November and 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@dial.pipex.com

COURSES IN MUSWELL HILL

The WEA are offering two courses for adults again this autumn, on Thursdays at North Bank (Muswell Hill Methodist Church, Pages Lane). 'An Introduction to Indian Art & Architecture' from 2pm and 'Writing for Pleasure' from 7.00 pm. Courses are for 10 weeks, starting on 1st October. Each costs £84 or is free on proof of income related benefits. Further information is in WEA brochures in libraries and at www.wea.org.uk/courses, or ring Sally at 020 8883 1483.

HORNSEY PENSIONERS ACTION GROUP

Hornsey Pensioners Action Group is meeting to discuss *What problems are pensioners facing today and what do you want to do about it?* at 12.30 Wednesday 16 September at Hornsey Parish Church Main Hall, Cranley Gardens/Park Road N10 3AH. Lunch will be available. On October 21, the topic is *How can we stop the dismantling of the NHS?*

BRITS ON THE SILVER SCREEN

Friday 18 September

The Clissold Arms – well known gastro-pub – is devoting a whole room to the stars and masterpieces of the British cinema. The walls will be decorated with photos and posters of classic British movies and on certain nights, there will be actual showings of famous films such as Bridge on the River Kwai, Great Expectations and Shakespeare in Love. This is the Clissold's third great themed room, one of the others of course being dedicated to THE KINKS, who started their whole glorious career here in the now iconic Clissold Arms. The official opening and launching date is Friday 18 September from 6.00 pm.

CLISSOLD ARMS, 105 Fortis Green, N2 9HR. Tel: 020 8444 4224

MUSWELL HILL & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Autumn Flower Show & Plant Sale at North Bank, Pages Lane, N.10. Saturday, 5 September. Doors open 3.00 pm. Teas, homemade cakes, raffle. Flower, plant, cookery, floral arts, craft exhibits.

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

Saturday 7 November *Verdi Requiem*

All Hallows Church, Savernake Road, Gospel Oak.

Tickets from www.hcschoir.com or Les Aldrich on Fortis Green Road

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

Putting on a show? Got an exhibition coming up? Music group? Book club? Promote it to a wider audience on the MHFGA noticeboard, opposite St James's Church.

Contact Ruth Schamroth at ruth_schamroth@yahoo.com

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.

ALLY PALLY FIREWORKS

The big event at Alexandra Palace. This will be held on 7 November and capacity has been increased from 40,000 to 50,000. Ticket prices have increased so Adult Standard is £9 and 11---15 years Standard is £6.50, with savings for "early birds". Look at the Palace website for details. www.alexandrapalace.com

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 patriciajlott@aol.com by 12 October

IF A JOB'S WORTH DOING...

The Association's notice board is in need of a bit of refurbishment. Are you a dab hand with the sandpaper and paintbrush – would you do this job for us? Or can you recommend someone? Remuneration will be forthcoming. Contact John Hajdu or Pat Lott. Thank you.

BEACON LODGE, EASTERN ROAD

By Bill Tyler and John Crompton

The Council has received an application for new residential use of the buildings and land of the mansion that, until recently, was in use as hostel accommodation. The proposals include some minor demolition and extension work to convert the house itself to three 4-bedroom 3-storey houses, plus basements. The scheme also includes the construction of 6 new maisonettes in a small block fronting Eastern Road comprising three 2-storey 3 bedroom apartments, plus basements, with three 2-bedroom 2-storey apartments above. A caretaker's lodge at the rear of the grounds is to be replaced by a compact 'modernist' style two storey (plus basement) 4-bedroom house. The applications also include car parking, communal open space as well as some private gardens, and landscaping of the extensive grounds and tree works.

The applicants held a public exhibition in the early summer prior to the planning application being submitted. We received comments on how useful this pre-applications exhibition was and they certainly are helpful when handled properly, e.g with wide publicity; we would welcome their more general use. A local residents' interest group has been monitoring the situation since it was known that the previous use as a hostel was to cease and the site was to be sold. We are grateful to Liz Santry from that group for keeping us abreast of developments.

The heritage statement which appears on the Haringey planning website is a very interesting and well-illustrated document - it also covers the history of Fortis Green in general. There is much to commend this application as a good example of a new use being found for an existing building that is part of our local heritage, rather than demolition and the building of something new that may or may not be of satisfactory appearance. It is very good to see that there will be communal open space provision - something a developer is not required to provide in a development of this size - and also some on-site parking provision. The majority of the comments on the Council website are broadly in favour - with some making suggestions for limited changes: in particular the colour of the bricks for the new maisonette block has been changed to reflect the brick colour of existing houses in Eastern Road.

Any development on this scale is bound to have an impact on the life of nearby residents, not least during the construction period. Therefore the Association submitted a comment to say that we look to the Council to ensure that if permission is to be granted then the development should be built as proposed in regard to on site car parking, open space provision and protection of trees. Also, importantly, that during the construction period there is minimum disruption to local residents.

Planning Reference: HGY/2015/1820



SAFER CROSSING ON COLNEY HATCH LANE

Our Association's transport officer Chris Barker has reported that the consultation period is now completed for a major rethink of the junction on Colney Hatch Lane junction with Alexandra Park Road. The Council has worked with the community, local councillors and Transport for London to try and address the many concerns. The key elements are:

- To install 'Green Man' pedestrian crossings on Colney Hatch Lane, north and south of Alexandra Park Road and on Alexandra Park Road itself;
- Remove the traffic signals at the Pages Lane junction.
- The staggered pedestrian crossing just south of Pages Lane will be retained;
- Install a zebra crossing on Pages Lane;
- Install a pedestrian Island on Alexandra Park Road near the junction of Muswell Avenue;
- Install advanced stop lines for cyclists on Colney Hatch Lane approaches to the Alexandra Park Road junction; Slightly relocate the existing bus stops on the Colney Hatch Lane southbound approach and Alexandra Park Road to help the junction to function more efficiently;

OTHER TRANSPORT MATTERS

Things might be moving on the need for a pedestrian crossing on the corner of Fortis Green and Tetherdown. Work is listed on Sustainable Works Plan under 'Walking Schemes' Fortis Green/Tetherdown signal study, with a budget of £20k. No other details!

And, following complaints of poor bus stop accessibility on the 234 'hail & ride' route, the Council is working with Transport for London and London Borough of Barnet to install eleven permanent (fixed) bus stops between Trott Road and Pages Lane. This switch to fixed bus stops also links with the Mayor's objective for bus stop accessibility.



Contact Point

You can meet your local police here on:

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

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.