

Muswell Hill & Fortis Green Association

Incorporating Alexandra Ward

Founded in 1948

Friends of Muswell Hill Library: a brief history



Muswell Hill Library is housed in a striking Grade II listed building on Queen's Avenue, just off Muswell Hill Broadway. The building was custom-built for library use and was opened in 1931.

The Friends of Muswell Hill Library (FoMHL) was established in 2011 in response to the danger of threats to library services associated with the imposition of austerity budgets by the government. The FoMHL is a non-political party group dedicated to the promotion of a flourishing public library service in Muswell Hill and more generally. To this end, it maintains contact with other library support groups, through the umbrella group Friends of Reading and Education in Haringey (FORE) as well as with local councillors. It puts on Saturday afternoon events such as talks by local authors. Among forthcoming events will be a film show consisting of two short films relating to Haringey's recent past. Also planned is a piano recital put on by a local piano teacher and his pupils. The cooperation of library staff in putting on such events is much appreciated by the Friends committee.

The FoMHL was preceded by the Muswell Hill Library Support Group which was set up in 1990 to campaign against the proposal to close all branch libraries in the borough, leaving open only the main libraries in Hornsey, Wood Green and Tottenham. At that time, libraries across the country were under threat of closure or serious reductions in services, the full extent of the cutbacks being revealed in a national survey. Throughout the 1990s the Support Group campaigned energetically to keep the library's importance in public view and to alert the public to recurrent threats to the service. Committee members maintained a lively presence at street festivals and within the library building. They raised money for new books through coffee mornings, car boot sales and fetes. A particularly notable achievement was getting Grade II listed building status for the library in 1994.

By the late 1990s, the library, along with others in the borough, had suffered from reductions in staff, hours and book stock. An outside agency – Instant Library Ltd. – was brought in to advise on the revamping of the library system. This was undertaken with remarkable success under the direction of Diana Edmonds who was subsequently appointed

May/June 2017

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as new head of Haringey libraries. As its main purpose had been achieved, it was decided to dissolve the Muswell Hill Library Support Group in January 2003.

Today, with ongoing austerity budgets, the need for alert and active Friends groups is as urgent as ever, particularly for small branch libraries. Recently, FoMHL participated successfully in a campaign, organised by FORE, against the reduction of branch library opening hours.

The Friends are always seeking new members and help with events, talks and ideas. Membership forms are available in the library. Further information is available on [facebook.com/FriendsN10](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsN10) and on twitter.com/FriendsN10.

Kathryn Dean, Secretary, Friends of Muswell Hill Library

Odd One Out!

The MHFGA proposes to run a summer competition for local children aged twelve and under from 24th July to 31st August, entitled "Odd One Out".

The idea of the competition is to find one strange object in the windows of participating shops that the shop does not normally sell, for example a spanner in a sweet shop or an Oxo cube in a bookshop.

Look out for further details of the competition in our July/August issue!



MHFGA AGM

Our AGM is at 7.30 for 8.00pm on Wednesday 17th May 2017 at the Clissold Arms, 105 Fortis Green, N2 9HR. A buffet with tea/coffee will be served after the meeting. Members wanting drinks can buy them at the bar.

The MHFGA is concerned with everything contributing to the environment and quality of life in Muswell Hill, Fortis Green and Alexandra wards, including roads, buildings and open spaces. The Association represents local views on such matters as planning applications, traffic and transport. It provides a voice for local opinion on many areas of wider interest and is represented on the committees of several amenity and public bodies. Representatives of the Committee work hard throughout the year in response to requests from members for support or advice.

You may like to give practical support to the Association by organising our speakers or meetings, or helping with our PR and communication with local organisations. If you would like to join the Committee, please contact our Chairman, John Hajdu, preferably no later than two weeks before the AGM.

AGM Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of meeting held on 18th May 2016
3. Chairman's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Annual membership fee
6. Election of Officers
7. Election of Committee
8. Election of Independent Examiner
9. Any other business, including questions from members

MHFGA Noticeboard

If you would like to use the MHFGA notice board outside Rymans to advertise your community event, please contact **Pat Lott** (patriciajlott@aol.com). We also list local events on page 7 and on our website.



The Friends of the Parkland Walk have kindly invited a limited number of MHFGA members to

SUMMER WALKS on 10th May and 11th June

led by botanist David Bevan

Be sure to book early as spaces are limited!

See page 6 for details.

If you love us, you have to 'like' us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/MuswellHillandFortisGreenAssociation

Visit us on Twitter for regular updates: @theMHFGA

Follow us on Instagram for beautiful images of Muswell Hill: @mhfga



Visit our website www.mhfga.org for lots of information about the local area including old photos and John Hajdu's history of the Association. If you have a photo or news item why not share it with our members on Twitter @theMHFGA or visit www.twitter.com/theMHFGA. We tweet regularly on Association and local news, so please follow and spread the word. And don't forget our Facebook page!

Your Letters

The views expressed in members' letters do not necessarily reflect the views of the MHFGA

Dear MHFGA

There are two items which I would like to advertise in some way:

Firstly, PC Blakelock's memorial adjacent to Boots, Muswell Hill Broadway. It is evident that loving hands every so often tidy it up and place flowers. Unfortunately, at other times, it is sad to see cigarette ends etc. dropped inside the little area. Perhaps MHFGA could ask the department at Haringey Council responsible for street cleaning to keep the area free from such debris.

Secondly, I have written to Haringey Council about the increase of chewing gum on the ground despite their great and welcome efforts to beautify areas such as around the Everyman Cinema. I am advised that notices to this effect have been placed urging people not to engage in such anti-social behaviour. Additionally, could not we (MHFGA) ask the head teachers of local schools to consider speaking to their pupils, pointing out to them that they would not spit out chewing-gum outside their own front door. Perhaps teachers could talk about it as not being "cool" to make middens out of communal areas?

*Yours sincerely,
Barbara Huszty, N10*

How you can help to support the MHFGA

We should like to extend warm thanks to Penelope Woolfitt for her kind donation towards plants for our flower boxes.

We are always very grateful to receive donations from our members, either of time or money. If you would like to support a specific project, for example plants or flowers, please do specify this when making your donation. Perhaps you might like to consider leaving a legacy to MHFGA? All the work that we do is to preserve and enhance our local environment.

We wish to encourage active involvement from all members of the Association. We are seeking nominations from MHFGA members to join our Committee and help with Press & PR, organising meetings and talks, planning, architecture and environment, as well as 'posties' to deliver our Newsletter. All members of the MHFGA are eligible to join our Committee. Please contact Alex Vincenti, our Membership Secretary, if you can help us in any way.



Brian Livingston, Lucy Haynes and John Hajdu do regular maintenance work on the Colney Hatch Lane beds and are always looking for members who can spare a couple of hours to help with these or our other beds and flower boxes.

Dear MHFGA

I wish to thank the association for your recent donation towards the restoration of the Theatre at Alexandra Palace. It is really very welcome.



The Theatre was one of the undisputed highlights of the second Palace building when it opened in 1875 – a grand room, built with the very latest in Victorian technology, designed to bring 'wonder and spectacle' to the audience. It showcased opera, musical theatre, plays and even early cinema – from what we know of these early years, the programming was ambitious and of high quality.

Of course, it – like Alexandra Palace itself – has led a chequered life. The Theatre served as Gracie Fields' London base during the 1920s... but also as an internment camp, and a store room for the BBC. The Theatre was barely touched by the 1980 fire, fortunately, but has lain largely disused since. Happily, work is now underway to bring it back to life, and we look forward to welcoming audiences into the Theatre once again in Autumn 2018.

We are asking our community to help us in this task, and you can name a seat in either the balcony or stalls to support the cost of the restoration and refit. Every donation of £25 or over will be credited on a donor board, to be displayed in the restored East Court.

One of the great joys of my job is being able to wander around the building – not just the Theatre, but other rooms and spaces too. It is a truly extraordinary building, both in its sheer scale and the events that have taken place within its walls.

Perhaps, in another universe, people would have given up on Alexandra Palace during one of its periods of struggle, demolished the building and sold the park for housing. Happily, however, that didn't happen, and now we have this wonderful opportunity to fulfil its potential at long last.

Bringing the Theatre back to life is part of the East Wing Restoration Project – the biggest investment in Alexandra Palace for a generation. The support from Heritage Lottery Fund and Haringey is hugely important, but the people are the most vital of all. With your support, this building that meant so much to past generations can play a big part in the lives of future generations too.

To support the Theatre restoration, please search 'Support Alexandra Palace' or visit: <http://support.alexandrapalace.com/>. From just £25, you can be part of Alexandra Palace's future.

*James Atkinson
Director of Fundraising, Alexandra Park & Palace Charitable Trust*

STOP PRESS!

Congratulations to The Mossy Well which has been acclaimed as the best pub in the North London postcode area by members of the North London branch of the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA). The staff at the Mossy Well were over the moon to receive the award.

Member in Profile - Steve Steppens



I was given my first guide dog in 1981 after attending the first guide dog residential training centre in Wokingham. My training lasted 4 weeks and I was with 11 other students. The trainer's name was Andy Waltham and my first guide dog was Portia.

Before having a dog, I used to walk around the streets of Holloway where I

lived at the time, using a long white cane which often used to get run over by lorries when I was too far into the road! I was only 20 at the time and not too confident with my mobility. Once I got Portia, my confidence greatly increased and I used to visit friends in their houses as well as attend the local church. With Portia's help, I was then able to start a new job, commuting to Southwark, and it would sometimes take me two hours each way. The journey would involve getting two buses, this was well before the building of the Jubilee Line.

My new-found confidence meant that I could move away from my mother in Holloway and become fully independent. I moved first to Finsbury Park and then Tottenham and, two years ago, I moved to Fortis Green. I've found that people are so friendly around here and I love using the local shops, big and small, where the staff are always so helpful to me and Owen.

I have had 5 guide dogs over the years - Portia, Fran, Nero, Luke and now, bouncy, miscreant Owen!

Having a dog gives me tons of confidence and independence and I now commute to my job in Highams Park near Chingford three days a week using one bus, tube and the Overground. Owen is the best dog I've had for public transport and he has been specially trained for escalators.

But my guide dogs have not only helped me getting to and from work, they have hugely enhanced my social life and other activities such as going shopping and visiting friends. Twice a month, I regularly travel across London to meetings of my science fiction club in Southwark.

Training a guide dog costs approximately £60,000 and my friend's son, Dan O'Rorke, is running in the London Marathon this year to raise funds for the Guide Dog association. If any members or readers would like to make a contribution, any donation will be greatly welcomed via uk.virginmoneygiving.com/danororke.

Steve Steppens and Owen

March meeting

Our members' meeting on 16th March was attended by 18 members and guests. Lewis Slayden of Flesh & Flour gave an interesting and impassioned talk about his shop and café and we were then treated to some wonderful refreshments. Many thanks to Lewis and his wife Sophia for a very enjoyable and informative evening,

Lewis has been kind enough to send us a summary of his talk.

For me food is to be enjoyed with friends and family, it brings back memories of happy times. My maternal grandparents were dairy farmers from Somerset. There was always a victoria sponge in the larder along with good ham, cheese and bread ready for unexpected guests. Food was love and that has always stayed with me.

Food has become too commoditized over the last few decades with supermarkets taking over the supply chain at the expense of real, honest farming, with a 'what the consumer doesn't know won't hurt it' attitude. Clever marketing has led the public to believe that all food with the same name is the same product. It is not.

We source our products for the shop and café very carefully, directly from people who care about what they are making, and would never cut corners in order to increase profit. This comes through in the taste.

With Brexit looming and new trade deals to be negotiated we are at risk of importing some suspect US 'food factory' practices outlawed by the EU: chlorine-washed chicken and unlabelled GM foods to name a couple. As Brexit unfolds and the new Britain emerges, it will be more important to be able to trust your food suppliers. I am confident that I can. I'm not sure that I'd be happy trusting the big supermarkets not to take advantage of any policy changes to make a quick buck.



Sophia and Lewis with MHFGA Chairman, John Hajdu

The Real Greek

The Real Greek Muswell Hill is the perfect neighbourhood restaurant to relax and while away your afternoon, or the ideal child-friendly place to share a lovely meal with friends and family. With its modern, rustic and intimate interior mix, and friendly welcoming staff, our aim is to evoke memories and the spirit of Greece when you dine with us.

We are the ambassadors of Greek food and Greek hospitality in the UK. Our Head Chef, Georgios, and his wife Vicky cook dishes from the delicious and healthy diet of the Eastern Mediterranean.

We have created dishes using the best ingredients and products. Where possible these are sourced from Greece and Cyprus, inspired by the epic journeys of Alexander the Great and developed for us by Tonia Buxton, the face of Greek food in the UK.

Our menu offers you delicious cold and hot meze, souvlaki wraps, exclusive offers for lunch and dinner, and a Sunday offer for families. We have also recently introduced a Click & Collect service.

When you are in our restaurant you do not need to think about the time, our mission is make you comfortable as eating in Greece is never rushed. We take our time, engage in discussion and love to share our food with friends and family. It is all about the experience!



Tonia Buxton, our consultant chef, with Vicky and Georgios

A special offer to MHFGA members, valid until 31st August 2017, of 25% off food from the main menu if they bring a copy of the Newsletter into the restaurant with them. Please note that this offer is not valid in conjunction with any other offer or promotion or with the lunch menu, Athenian set menu or party menu. It is valid for dine-in only at the Muswell Hill branch.

Emily Douglas, Marketing & Brand Manager
224 Muswell Hill Broadway, London N10 3SH
020 3026 5998
www.therealgreek.com/muswell-hill

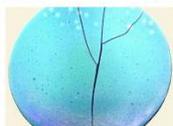
East Finchley Open

Launched in 2004 when a number of local artists and craftspeople held an exhibition of diverse and exciting art work at All Saints Church on Durham Road, this group grew quickly, with membership rising to its current level of 57 artists over the past 13 years. Over 100 artists have been Members since 2004. Our ethos is to encourage local artists to develop and progress their art, as well as to inspire and share ideas. We enjoy learning from each other. We also arrange group visits to galleries and run a lively social programme throughout the year.

We show work in a wide range of media: painting, ceramics, jewellery, photography, silk painting, sculpture, collage, printmaking, calligraphy, textiles, basketry, weaving, glass, box constructions, felt-making and woodworking. Our work is permanently on display at: www.eastfinchleyopen.org.uk.

We also take an interest in local affairs and projects and regularly donate to local charities such as Whittington Babies, the East Finchley Open Artists Charity of the Year 2016.

Over 700 patrons follow our e-mailed Newsletter and keep up with our activities via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and our Blog. If you wish to sign up for our Newsletter, please email info@eastfinchleyopen.org.uk.



Our main events throughout the year are:

- Phoenix Cinema, East Finchley, 'Summer Days'
- 'Open House' two weekends in July
- Made in East Finchley (two days in November).
- Stephen's House, current exhibition 'Re-Generation'.
- High Road (to be announced).
- The Original Gallery in Hornsey Library, Crouch End

We continue to promote the group to a wider audience, hence our new relationship as a Corporate Member of MHFGA. Many of our Members live in Muswell Hill and Fortis Green. Why not join us and take part? We would love to have you aboard our EFO!

Joan Podel

Parkland Walk

The Friends of Parkland Walk are offering MHFGA places on two wildflower walks guided by local botanist David Bevan. The first, on **Wednesday 10th May at 6.30pm**, will start at the foot of the ramp from Muswell Hill by the underpass leading to the Grove. Although short at 750 metres, the Parkland Walk nature reserve in Muswell Hill is nevertheless a very important green corridor linking Alexandra Park with Highgate Wood and Queen's Wood. It hosts a healthy and expanding range of wild flowers as volunteers concentrate on restricting the encroachment of bramble and reducing tree density to ensure the understory gets sufficient light, thereby encouraging ground flora opportunities.



The second walk will go from Highgate to Crouch Hill (convenient for the W7 bus back) on **Sunday 11th June at 2.30pm**. It should reach Crouch Hill at about 4.30. Meet outside Gonnerman's furniture shop on Archway Road. Many people know the Parkland Walk in Muswell Hill but a surprisingly large number report they don't know where the other section leading to Finsbury Park starts. This longer stretch has a very different feel to Muswell Hill as it runs gently downhill, perched on embankments or nestled into densely wooded cuttings. You can actually make out where it runs if you look south east from the Muswell Hill viaduct and follow a line of trees on an escarpment.

The western end in Highgate begins where the old Highgate Station railway tunnels open out into a wide sunny bowl. Ecologically this is probably the gem on the whole of the Parkland Walk and attracts plenty of wildlife activity. Adjacent to that, the Friends of the Parkland Walk have selected an area to create a Wildlife and Nature Trail. Clearance of dense growth and planting of native shrubs and wildflowers is well underway to encourage insects, butterflies and birds to visit the area in greater numbers, and a pond will be created over the next couple of months. Next year visitors will be able to wander around, enjoy the rich variety of flora and fauna and learn about ways to make gardens more nature-friendly.

The path then continues on its way to Crouch End Hill where the old railway platforms help us imagine a very different scene 60 years ago. At the end of the platforms the Walk leaves Haringey for a short while and passes into Islington. Graffiti artists have laid claim to this section and an ever-changing display of artworks dominate. In no time at all you'll be back in the Borough of Haringey, passing through Stroud Green and following the final leg to Finsbury Park with the sense that you just spent the last hour in the countryside.

Numbers are limited so as not to block the narrow path and to ensure that everyone can hear the speaker. We ask that people don't bring dogs along. Reserve your place by contacting John Hajdu on 020 8883 8114.

Simon Olley, Chair, Friends of The Parkland Walk



National Garden Scheme

My husband Earl and I have been working in the garden to get it in shape for the coming season. We have opened for the NGS since 1995. Others, including Sandringham in Norfolk and Blenheim Palace in Oxfordshire, have opened every year since the Scheme's founding in 1927. Our garden has evolved so much over those years: as well as a temple, pagodas, Liberace Terrace and Bates Motel (our shed), a Japanese-style bridge now complements our Oriental Tea House overlooking the carp pond.

This year the NGS is rebranding, as research has shown that we have not been widely recognised for what we do, which is to raise money for caring charities by opening private gardens to the public. Last year at St Regis Close we raised almost £6,000, contributing to £500,000 donated to Macmillan Cancer Support, £500,000 to Marie Curie and £500,000 to Hospice UK. A total of £2.7 million was distributed to caring charities. This year we hope to do even better. With Mary Berry as our new president, and Penny Snell, formerly our Chairman, awarded a CBE last autumn, we feel ready to steam ahead.

As Assistant County Organiser, I have taken on several new gardens around Muswell Hill, even a former pig farm off Crews Hill in Enfield. The owners have reclaimed acres of fields creating an arboretum, wild life meadow, and many areas of interest. Locally, talented photographer, Jo de Banzie opens the first time at 55 Dukes Avenue, in tandem with Margo Buchanan at No 48. Visitors can view an exhibition of Jo's work, and enjoy delicious teas at Margo's over the road.

Visiting NGS gardens not only raises revenue for charities, it's an opportunity to glimpse behind the scenes, to go backstage, and spend an enjoyable afternoon poking about, buying plants, meeting friends, enjoying delicious home-made teas and, for avid gardeners, a busman's holiday!

Have a wonderful summer!

For details of 3,800 gardens open for the NGS, including old favourites and new ones in our local area, see website www.ngs.org.uk

Susan Bennett
Assistant County Organiser NW London NGS



ST JAMES' CHURCH

Community Cafe - **Tuesdays, 11.00am-1.00pm**. Free coffee, cake and conversation. Venue: through the main doors, just turn up. **Wednesdays 2.30-3.30pm** -Tea Time for seniors in the Muswell Hill area. Tea, sandwiches and entertainment. Contact: gebrazier@gmail.com 020 8883 6453. Venue: St James' Centre. **Mondays & Saturdays 10.00am-12 noon**- free legal advice walk- in. Venue: St James' Church, contact: anything.legal@dial.pipex.com. **Sundays 4:45-5:45pm, Monday-Thursday 7:45-8:45pm**. Muswell Hill Soup Kitchen, located at the Muswell Hill Baptist Church. Donations of any non-perishable items would be welcomed! Contact: soupkitchen@mhbc.org.uk **10am on Fridays during term time** Challenge Group: for families with a pre-schooler with additional needs, for support and friendship.

THE FREEHOLD COMMUNITY CENTRE is managed by the Freehold Community Association, a registered charity, and is entirely self-funded and run by volunteers.

Mondays - Freehold Community Men's Shed -10.30am-3.30pm. Showstoppers Performing Arts - 5-7pm. Yoga - 7-8pm. **Tuesdays** - Freehold Community Men's Shed - 10.30am-3.30pm. Showstoppers Performing Arts - 4.30-7pm. **Wednesdays** - Pensioners Lunch Club - 12.30-2pm. Pensioners Bingo - 2-4pm. North London Woodturners - 7.30-10pm (**3rd Wednesday of month**). **Thursdays** - Open Shed - 10.30 to 3.30pm. Open Bingo - 7.30-10pm. **Fridays** - Baby Rhyme Time - 9.45-11am. **Saturdays** - Showstoppers Performing Arts - 10am-4.30pm. Shree Depala - 7.30-10pm. **Sundays** - Yoga - 10-11am. Contact details: 07935-324578, freehold2003@gmail.com. Freehold Community Centre, 9 Alexandra Road, N10 2EY.

THE CLISSOLD ARMS, 105 Fortis Green, N2 9HR.

Opening hours:

Monday: 4pm – 11pm; Tuesday – Thursday: 12noon – 11pm; Friday & Saturday: 12noon – 12am; Sunday: 12noon – 11pm

We serve food:

Monday, dinner only: 6pm – 10pm; Tuesday & Saturday, all day: 12noon – 10pm; Sunday: 12noon – 9pm

www.clissoldarms.co.uk

FRIENDS OF PARKLAND WALK

Tuesday 2nd May, 10.30 - 15.00 Wildlife Trail

Thursday 4th May, 10.30 - 15.00 Wildlife Trail

The Conservation Volunteers will be continuing work on the pond and preparing a base for a 'bug hotel'.

info@parkland-walk.org.uk.

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 the month** and has lectures, information and social events. Contact Barbara Penney 020 8883 0010 or e-mail barbarapenney@yahoo.co.uk

POPCHOIR MUSWELL HILL

Wednesday evenings 8-9.30pm at the Royal British Legion in Muswell Hill Rd. No experience, no auditions, no need to read music. Book a free taster session at www.popchoir.com or email info@popchoir.com. 020 8659 5464.

MUSWELL HILL AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Saturday 8 July Summer Show. Contact Jenny Kruss at jenny_starick@hotmail.co.uk or 020 8442 0031.

UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE NORTH LONDON for the retired or those heading for retirement. www.nlu3a.org.uk.

FRIENDS OF QUEEN'S WOOD

Visit our new website www.fqw.org.uk.

Working parties **last Sunday of month 10.30-12.00** meet outside Café in Queen's Wood. Please bring gloves and mobile phone if available.

Monday Litter picking. Please contact Gemma Harris if you are free to help her do litter picking on a **Monday morning**. harrisgemma67@gmail.com or 07806 870505.

HORNSEY PENSIONERS ACTION GROUP

We meet to discuss local and national issues with visiting speakers on the **third Wednesday of the month**.

Our meetings are held in the main church hall of Hornsey Parish Church, Cranley Gardens, N10 3AH.

Contact Ann Anderson (020 8340 8335), Pamela Jefferys (020 8444 0732), Janet Shapiro (020 8883 9571) or

www.hornseypensionersactiongroup.org.uk.

FRIENDS OF COLD FALL WOOD AND MUSWELL HILL PLAYING FIELD

www.coldfallwoods.co.uk/whats-on Thanks to Coldfall Primary School for hosting our meetings at **7.30 pm on the first Tuesday of each month**.

CROUCH END FESTIVAL CHORUS

www.cefc.org.uk.

MUSWELL HILL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The club meets at **7.45pm every Wednesday** at Jacksons Lane Community Centre. 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.

FRIENDS OF MUSWELL HILL LIBRARY

All events take place at Muswell Hill Library.

13th May, 2pm – Talk by Michael Rosen 'The Disappearance of Émile Zola'. Copies of Michael's book of the same name will be on sale. Space is likely to be very limited at this event. Our AGM will follow the talk.

20th May - 2pm, Nichola Charalambou: Creative Writes Workshop.

3rd June - 2pm (TBC) - Piano Recital - local piano teacher Ian Coleman will bring along some of his students to show off their skills making music in our wonderful library.

17th June - 2pm - "I am a migrant" - hear the stories of local residents who were born abroad but decided to make the move to London.

For more details email the Chairman, George Danker, at friends.muswell@gmail.com

HIGHGATE CHORAL SOCIETY

Saturday 17th June 2-4pm. Jumble Sale, St. George's Church Hall, corner of Cranley Gdns and Park Rd, N10. Admission 40p. Plants, raffle, teas. Many bargains!

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 7th June 2017.

Copy date for July/August edition of this Newsletter

If you would like to submit an article, letter or diary date for our next edition, please send your copy to editor@mhfga.org by Wednesday 7th June 2017.

Alex's Corner

A very warm welcome to our new members: Chris & Caroline Faulkner, Freehold Community Centre; Steven & Leonora Peters of Barnard Hill; Emily Douglas, The Real Greek; Joan Podel, East Finchley Open Artists; Philip Matthews, The Hampstead Butcher & Providore; Ian Stephens, Rookfield Avenue; Jane Robinson, of Kings Avenue; Androulla Mantovani, of Grand Ave; George & Sophie Danker of Muswell Hill Road.

Membership Renewal

The new subscription year starts on the 1st of May and it's time for members to renew. If you paid for a single year, you will get a reminder either by email or in your letterbox. To renew, please use the form below or download it from www.mhfga.org and click on the Become a Member tab. There, you will also have the choice to pay by credit or debit card. Please consider setting up a standing order or direct debit in favour of the Association: it helps us budget our projects more effectively and simplifies our administration. See the website Membership page for all details. You can also email me at membership@mhfga.org and I shall make sure you get the form through your door.

And finally...

Thank you to Chris Faulkner and to the Freehold Community Centre for repairing our Noticeboard. Their skills and robust screws will ensure that we can continue displaying our members' notices for quite some time.

Corporate Members

Forty-three local businesses and organisations support the Association. You can find the links to their websites on our Corporate page at www.mhfga.org.

1104 Architects, Barkers for Dogs, Bill's Restaurant, Clissold Arms, Clarke & Parker Fishmongers, Crouch End Festival Chorus, Duo-Klier, East Finchley Open Artists, Elsa, Everyman Cinema, Excel English Language School, Feast, Flesh & Flour, Fortismere School, Freehold Community Association, House of Nails, Internet Express (UK) Ltd, Knidos Café Brasserie, La Dinette, Mossy Hill, Muddy Boots, Muswell Hill Bowling Club, Muswell Hill Toy Library, Muswell Hill United Reformed Church, Norfolk House School, North & Ten, Planet Organic, Poppy Rose, Pret A Vivre, Rhodes Avenue Primary School, Robert Linsky Optometrist, Robin Kiashek Osteopathic Clinics, St. James Church Muswell Hill, The John Baird, The Mossy Well, The Real Greek, Tim Moss Furniture, Toffs of Muswell Hill, Topps Tiles Boutique, Victory Auto Services, WAVE, Woodland Tree Surgery and Yien Chinese Restaurant.

Please let us know if you have changed your e-mail address so that you continue to receive the Newsletter if this is your preferred method.