

Muswell Hill & Fortis Green Association

www.mhfga.org

Your Residents' Association working for the local community since 1948

Happy 70th birthday!



View of the city skyline from the top of Hillfield Gardens

At our AGM we will be celebrating our 70th birthday and this is a good time to look back to our beginnings.

Our Association was formed by nine residents in May 1948 as the Fortis Green Residents' Association, following an outcry over parking of commercial vehicles behind the police station in Fortis Green, about dumping of garden refuse and about municipal extravagance. Letters were written to the press and this resulted in the Hornsey Journal noting an increasing interest shown by residents in local affairs. By 1952 we had changed our name to what it is today and had a credit balance of £13! By 1957 we had 121 members, paying a membership fee of 50p.

Since that time we have been involved in many battles with the authorities, the planners, the wrongdoers and the would-be developers, some lasting for years. We did not win them all, but it became clear very early on that, as the Association grew, so had our voice, and both the authorities and the residents took note of what we were saying and more and more residents joined us.

Our achievements are numerous and this is not the place to list them. If you want to read about what we have done, please go to our website and read my book, partly based on going through boxes of archive material and interviews with previous chairmen and on previous minutes. The title of the book is *Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association, a history of its campaigns and landmark achievements*. You will be amazed - and hopefully pleasantly surprised - by what we have done.

I joined the Committee in March 1998, exactly 20 years ago, and have been your Chairman since 2001. I have been fortunate to have the support of fantastic, hard-working and enthusiastic committees throughout the years. It never fails to amaze me what a small group of dedicated people can achieve, sometimes against overwhelming odds.

May/June 2018

Inside this issue:

- 2 Notices
- Photography Competition
- MHFGA contacts
- 3 Member in Profile
- North London Symphony Orchestra
- 4 Can I Still Wear This?
- Alex's Corner (*including new Data Protection information*)
- 5 Muswell Health
- Cha Cha Cha
- Everyman Car Park
- 6 Fly-tipping in Queen's Avenue
- Some History of Our Cinema
- 7 Local Events
- 8 Midsummer Muswell
- Membership Application Form



We now have 700 members, more than 70 corporate members, and hope to reach the magic number of 800 very soon.

I am proud to be involved with the Association and have no doubt that we will continue to grow from strength to strength, looking after the interests of the local residents.

So Happy Birthday MHFGA: here's to the next 70 years!!

John Hajdu

Back this Summer!

ODD ONE OUT
Children's Competition
for children 12 and under

Over the Summer holidays
strange objects will be appearing in shop
windows across Muswell Hill....

CAN YOU SPOT THE "ODD ONE OUT?"
Prizes to be won

A FUN, FREE COMPETITION FOR KIDS

"SPANNER IN A BOOK SHOP?!"
"TIN OF BEANS IN A TOY SHOP?!"
"a Tomato in a clothes shop!?"

Details in our next issue

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



Dates for Your Diary

Members' Meetings

Our meetings are open to the public and are free of charge

Monday 14 May, 7.30pm - AGM at the John Baird pub, 122 Fortis Green Rd, London N10 3HN.

Thai food will be served after the meeting. And a special cake to celebrate our 70th birthday!

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of meeting held on 17th May 2017
3. Chairman's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Election of Officers
6. Election of Committee
7. Election of Independent Examiner
8. Upcoming summer events:
 - Odd One Out
 - Photography Competition
9. Any other business, including questions from members

Thursday 14 June, 2pm - guided visit to Highgate Cemetery.
Tickets £12. Book online at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mhfga-highgate-cemetery-tour-tickets-44789532698>.

Photography Competition



It's the Association's 70th birthday and we wanted to do something to mark it!

Throughout the months of May and June we will be running a photography competition entitled "My Favourite View of Muswell Hill". The competition is kindly being sponsored by Greene and Co estate agents.

Anyone of any age can enter and the 12 winning entries will be published in our 2019 calendar. One entry only per person. There will be one overall winner whose picture will be on the cover of the calendar (as well as inside). We want to see landscapes, details of anything that shows Muswell Hill in a light that you love. Photos can be in colour or black and white.

HELP NEEDED FOR MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION AND UPDATE

This is the busiest time of the year for membership purposes and we really need help to update our membership database and send out reminders. Our membership system is based on Insightly and MailChimp. If you have a few hours to spare, are comfortable with computer software or would like to learn how to use leading customer and mailing systems, please contact Alex Vincenti, our Membership Secretary, at membership@mhfga.org.

Pictures don't need to have been taken this year but need to be in digital format and at least 2MB, large enough to be reprinted in the calendar. The calendars will be sold locally and proceeds will go towards a local charity.

To enter, post your picture on our Facebook page or email to photo@mhfga.org. Each week we will show a selection of our favourites on Facebook. At the end of the submission period we will choose 12 images and our members and followers will be able to vote on their favourite on our Facebook page. The winning image will be the one with the highest number of votes. By entering you give us permission to reproduce your images in print and online.

Please let us know if you have changed your e-mail address so that you will continue to receive the Newsletter

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!

Member in Profile

Joan Podel



Photo by Asia Mscichowska

When I turned 40 I decided to attend a two-year course in Interior Design at the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) in Manhattan, and I sold my beautiful hand-made floor loom (I was and am a weaver). At the end of my two years at FIT I was told I would be receiving a cheque on graduation day honouring me for service to the school for organising an Interior Design Club once a month and inviting well known people from the field of interior design as speakers to lecture on the subjects that are not taught in school. In spite of this, I failed the course and couldn't afford to retake it.

Luckily I spotted an advertisement for a Director of Marketing at an architectural firm based in Westchester New York. I got the job and was given a beautiful office and a staff of three. Three years later, although successful in my role, I was made redundant but was encouraged to establish my own consultancy with the architectural company as my first client! It did not take long before I had several clients, all in the market of architecture and interior design. Eventually I began receiving enquiries from companies outside the USA wanting a consultant to represent them in their Manhattan shops. Our relationship went on for several years with total trust: we never had a formal agreement, it was never needed.

During this time, my daughter met and married a British man and they moved to London. I was devastated as my daughter and I are very close. Seventeen years ago I decided to move to London myself and my first flat was in Highgate. I soon discovered the Highgate Literary & Scientific Institution where I became a volunteer on the Highgate Gallery Committee and responsible for the advertising in their Newsletter.

A few years later I moved to Muswell Hill and became involved with St. James Church, joining in with the Community Café which welcomes all people including young adults with learning difficulties who are there serving food and preparing lunch each Tuesday.

I discovered the Park Theatre in Finsbury Park and became friendly with the Creative Director. She admired my art and gave me a solo exhibition in the theatre, and also asked me if I would do eco-art in the primary schools in the Finsbury Park community. Eventually I began doing my eco-art in the Clissold Arms once a month. It was a great success!

In the meantime, I also approached several cafes/restaurants enquiring about using their wall space for art exhibitions and in time I had spaces in the Clissold Arms, Sable d'Or in both Crouch End and Muswell Hill and Boulangerie Bon Matin in Tollington Park where I remain currently, bringing in both emerging and professional artists. I give each artist a six-week exhibition, doing the marketing and public relations for each artist or group exhibition for a modest fee.

A Rare Musical Opportunity

Music-lovers in this area can look forward to a notable concert at the end of June. Notable for a programme that offers two much-admired, albeit quite different, works which, with their lavish instrumentation, figure all too rarely in live performances; notable also for an exceptionally-talented young soloist.

The concert will be given in St James's Church, Muswell Hill, on Saturday 30 June at 7.30 pm, by the North London Symphony Orchestra, which has recently become a regular presence at this popular space. Under its conductor, Robert Max, it will play Tchaikovsky's *Manfred Symphony* and the "Hebraic Rhapsody" for solo cello and orchestra, *Schelomo*, by the Swiss-born composer Ernest Bloch.



Unlike Tchaikovsky's better-known symphonies the *Manfred* does not have a number, though it was written at the height of his creativity, during the 10-year gap between his emotion-laden fourth and fifth symphonies. Programmatic and rich in atmosphere, it is based on the poem by Byron about a troubled wandering nobleman.

Bloch's *Schelomo* was inspired by the Book of Ecclesiastes, which is attributed to King Solomon (*Schelomo* in Hebrew) and which opens with the famous words "Vanity of vanities.... all is vanity". The solo cello represents the voice of Solomon, "the Preacher".

The soloist is Ariana Kashefi (*pictured*) who has earned numerous distinctions as a young artist, including the cello prize in her first year at the Royal College of Music. As a soloist and chamber musician she has appeared at leading venues, and she is now finishing studies at the Barenboim-Said Academy in Berlin, for which in 2016 she was one of 30 students hand-picked by the conductor Daniel Barenboim.

TICKETS: discounted online (www.ticketsource.co.uk) £14, £11 conc, £7 under 16. From Les Aldrich or at the door £15, £12, £8.

Then I discovered The Muswell Hill & Fortis Green Association where I enjoy welcoming new shop owners to Muswell Hill and eventually many of them become corporate members.

I am also a Member of the East Finchley Open Association as an artist with my three bodies of work: woven collage, printmaking and box constructions.

I enjoy helping people and I share all I know with each individual to help them go forward in their life. It is a joy for me to live life and help others.

Upcycling Show and Sale

**Sunday, June 10th, 11am - 4pm
The Pavilion Cafe, Albert Road Rec, N22 2XL**

Barnet Furniture Centre, Category Award Winner at the 2017 London Upcycling Festival, will be holding an Upcycling Show & Sale of unique and beautifully finished upcycled furniture and household items.

Can I Still Wear This?

The Visible Theatre Ensemble launched Secret Suppers Mother's Day, 11 March, in a private bedroom off Fortis Green. The piece, *Can I Still Wear This?*, was scripted by Sonja Linden, from the Alexandra Ward, using verbatim reports from interviews with four women talking about the contents of their wardrobe to explore how they move from their younger selves into maturity.

There is the Northern lass whose mother never had any money to spend on clothes but still dressed stylishly in her own hand-made clothes, the Canadian who grew up with two mothers who influenced her in very different ways about clothes, the 'posh' wife who dresses to reflect her husband's status and the 63 year-old who belatedly decides to transition from Andrew to Andrea and glories in the dressing-up opportunities this gives her. All are skilfully played by Gillian Cally (*pictured right*) who seamlessly glides through a series of monologues knitted together by a thematic treatment. Mothers, husbands, sexuality and being at home in your own skin were all addressed. The director, Sue Lefton, created a site-specific flow moving the actor amongst the small audience of 16 for the matinee and 15 in the evening. Impressive for an upstairs bedroom venue.

Part Two of the show moved downstairs for a glass of prosecco and a general discussion expertly led by Sonja Linden in which women ranging in age from 40 to 90 addressed issues around clothing and its influence on their lives and relationships. Most identified with the running thread that the older generation is still very active and still young at heart.

Visible was set up to tell stories about living longer and whether society sees the elderly. It is aptly named to make such invisibility visible.

Contact sonjalinden@visible.org.uk if you would like to know about future productions of *Can I Still Wear This?*



Photo by Claire French

Alex's Corner

Our Association covers Muswell Hill, Fortis Green & Alexandra wards, and works closely with our corporate members.

Welcome to our new members in Fortis Green Road, Corsham Street, Pages Hill and Elms Avenue. And to our newest corporate member, Studio Moe.

From this issue of the MHFGA Newsletter, we are not giving personal names in order to protect our members' privacy. This is to comply with the forthcoming General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), in force from 25th May. The GDPR gives back to you control of your personal data and of how it is being used by us. It imposes on us the obligation to use your information only for the purpose you gave it to us: to send you our Newsletter and news updates; to tell you about the MHFGA activities; and to manage your membership. For anything else, we must ask you for your explicit consent. On the technical side, our membership system fully complies with the regulations. The members' data is password protected, kept up to date and regularly and safely backed up. As prescribed, members can ask for all the information we store on them, can opt out any time from receiving our emails and their information is deleted when they leave. And for the sake of clarity, we will never sell your personal information or share it with anybody outside the Association for marketing purposes. If you want to know more, do email me at membership@mhfga.org.

Corporate Members

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

Acorn Property Group	Excel English Language School	Muswell Hill Bikes	St James Muswell Hill
Aleion	Fagins Toys Ltd	Muswell Hill Bookshop	Studio Moe Ltd
Alexandra Park Brazilian Jiu Jitsu	Feet	Muswell Hill Bowling Club	Take Two Brothers
Angela Rose	Flesh & Flour Ltd	Muswell Hill Creatives	The Hampstead Butcher & Providore
Baby Sensory	Fortismere School	Muswell Hill Methodist Church	The John Baird
Barkers for Dogs	Freehold Community Association	Muswell Hill Pharmacy	The Mossy Well
Barnet Furniture Centre	Friends of St. James's Square	Muswell Hill Toy Library	The Real Greek
Bob's Café	Greene & Co	Muswell Hill United Reformed Church	The Robin Kiashek
Broadway Pet Stores	Hamptons International	North London Chorus	Osteopathic Clinics
Broadway Pharmacy	House of Nails	Panoptica - MH Optical Ltd	Tim Moss Furniture
Can't Buy Me Love	Internet Express/PhoneRepairs4u	Planet Organic	Toffs of Muswell Hill
Capital Gardens	Keats Estate Agents	Pret A Vivre Ltd	Victory Auto Services
Cha Cha Cha	Knidos Restaurant	Principia Brand Consultants	Walter Purkis & Sons
Children's Bookshop	Lavender White	Rhodes Avenue Primary School	WAVE
Clissold Arms	Mailboxes Etc.	Robert Linsky Opticians	W Martyn
Cosi Homewares	Muddy Boots	RocketshipWP	Woodland Tree Surgery
Crouch End Festival Chorus	Muswell Flyer	Sally Bourne Interiors	Zebra Ceramics
East Finchley Open Artists	Muswell Health	Snappy Snaps	
Evelina's Patisserie		Sorbet Muswell Hill	
Everyman Muswell Hill			

Muswell Health

On Thursday 15th March we invited therapists from MHFGA corporate member Muswell Health to co-host our latest members' meeting at North Bank.

We had 8 visiting therapists, each of whom gave free taster sessions to as many as 6 people during the evening. Unsurprisingly the reflexology and massage treatments were extremely popular! Three of the therapists also gave short talks during the event, which were enlightening and well received. Many of the attendees were members of the Association but we were also delighted to welcome around 10 non-members, two of whom have joined us since the event. Both attendees and therapists enjoyed the evening and we received several comments with positive feedback. All in all - a resounding success!

You can take advantage of a 10% discount offer on a full-price treatment on presentation of the voucher below.



CHA-CHA-CHA



We are a vintage collective of clothing and homeware, spanning the 20th century (mostly 1940s-1990s). Selling on-line and from our Mews shop in the heart of Muswell Hill, Cha Cha Cha opened its doors back in 2004, originally as a furniture and homeware store. The clothing department followed a year later. It has over the years evolved into a community.

We still pride ourselves in supplying London and the world, through our Etsy and online shop, with quality vintage goods and holistic products that are sourced ethically. In an era of mass-production and disposable fashions we take great joy in re-discovering and re-presenting used goods in a fresh and modern way. We strongly believe good design is timeless. We have eclectic taste, so the shop/showroom has an ever-changing array of offerings. There is a certain quality to vintage goods, a lot of the clothes still bear the label "Made in England". These items come from a time when things were made to last.

People always ask where we source our stock which is painstakingly picked at boot fairs, house clearances and auctions; the rest is brought to us by people wanting to sell their vintage stuff or that of a friend or relative. We also host a range of events in the space from fondue supper clubs to mini-gigs as well as using the shop as a location for filming and photoshoots. The showroom opens every Saturday 11am-5pm. It's an opportunity to come view the goods we have on line, as well as new stock. We love our job and neighbourhood and feel privileged to have a workshop, showroom and space to meet and greet the world.

To find out what's happening at the shop, join our mailing list by visiting www.cha-cha-cha.co.uk. Find us on Facebook chachachavintage. Follow us on Instagram @chachachavintage (Ruth) and @chachachadays (Megan)

Everyman Car Park

Many local residents are experiencing problems with the car park behind the Everyman Cinema on Fortis Green Road. We have had reports of broken ticket machines, and erroneous or even spurious fines being levied. As a result, we contacted Lambert Smith Hampton, the property consultants who are in charge of the site who gave us the following statement:

"We have already been in contact with the company who manage the car park for us and a meeting is booked in for mid-April to discuss this feedback with them. It appears people are concerned that they are being incorrectly or unjustly fined. We can discuss this further with the company but we may need the specific ticket numbers if anyone would like us to look into cases where they feel they've been unfairly treated. Where people are not leaving their cars, but still being charged – again we will discuss this with the company, but our understanding is that if you are using the car park, then you need to pay for a ticket."

If you have had problems with this car park and would like to take your concerns up with the managing agent, please let us know - you can email George Danker, our publicity officer, on events@mhfga.org.

Fly-tipping in Queen's Avenue

We are aware of issues regarding litter, fly-tipping and waste disposal in Queen's Avenue and have been working with landlords and local residents to improve this. Veolia collect reported fly-tips and dispose of them, usually within 24 hours.

Fly-tips on Queen's Avenue tend to arise from two areas:

1. Flats above shops putting out waste at the wrong time and/or in the wrong place: these properties do not have space to store bins and so put out waste in sacks. They have two time bands a day to do this: morning and evening. If they put out the waste at the wrong time or place it is considered a fly-tip. It will still be removed by Veolia but we will try and engage with the resident so they are aware of how to dispose of their waste correctly. If they don't follow our advice we can issue fines to them. It is very difficult to identify who is putting out waste in this way but we will examine the bags and follow up with education and or fines as necessary. We have also put signage out in relevant areas to help people with this and leafleted relevant premises.
2. Houses in multiple occupation over-producing waste and/or presenting their waste incorrectly: there are a handful of these properties in Queen's Avenue. Unfortunately, in this type of property (often related to the high turnover of residents), recycling is poor and residents do not often separate their waste. If that is the case, we will withdraw those recycling bins to avoid unseparated waste contaminating our recycling collection. We will supply more residual household waste bins instead but also sacks for those residents who still wish to recycle. We do try and engage with residents, though this is difficult given the high turnover. We also work with landlords initially advising them of their responsibilities and how they can manage their tenants' waste most effectively. If they do not engage then we will escalate our approach to one of enforcement. You will appreciate that there is a legal process to follow here and we have to show when we take enforcement action that we have acted reasonably and given individuals or businesses reasonable opportunity to comply. To an outside observer this can seem a time-consuming process. However, at each point of escalation the penalties that can apply also become more severe. We have, and will continue if necessary, to take enforcement action against landlords in Queen's Avenue. We also advise landlords, subject to planning constraints, how they can improve their property to manage their waste more effectively.



I am very keen in this process that we engage with residents more widely – both so that you are aware of what we are doing to try and improve your neighbourhood but also so you can help us. When it comes to fly-tips there is often no evidence as to who dumped the rubbish. However, local residents often have good insight they can share as to who/when etc. I can be contacted on 020 8489 1578 or ian.kershaw@haringey.gov.uk

*Ian Kershaw
Commissioning & Client Manager (Community Safety, Enforcement and Waste)*

Some History of Our Cinema



I first arrived in Muswell Hill on the No.43 bus in 1994 looking to rent a flat. The joy at seeing that Muswell Hill had its own cinema made me determined to live here. It's been the place I have visited most in Muswell Hill, seeing films from *Titanic* to, most recently, Spielberg's *Ready Player One*. When the Odeon closed and was acquired by the Everyman in 2015, I had my doubts about what they would do to our beloved cinema.

Designed by the architect George Cole, the Odeon opened as a single screen cinema in 1936 with the British comedy film *Educated Evans* starring Max Miller. Seating was originally provided for 1,217 in the stalls and 610 in the circle.

The cinema is tucked onto Fortis Green Road. The corner site originally intended was opposed by members of St James Church opposite – they did not want the cinema facing them. As a result, the facade of the cinema was deliberately made relatively low-key, so the opportunity was taken to make the interior more lavish than was usual in the Odeon circuit. The result is an elegant design of unusual imagination and crispness and it is consequently the most elaborate surviving interior of any Odeon cinema. It was turned into a three-screen cinema in 1974 and given Listed Grade II status in 1984 which has since been raised to a Grade II*.

When Everyman acquired the cinema, they successfully secured planning permission and listed building consent for the refurbishment of the entire building, enabling the long dis-used front stalls to be brought back into use in 2016 – rather

magical if, like me, you were used to looking down from the balcony at this abandoned area. Sofa-style seats and other renovations have also enhanced the cinema. In 2017 Screen 1 had two 'pod' screens added to the rear of the circle, designed so they would not interfere with the deco interior. The cinema now has five screens ranging from 40-250 seats. We are lucky that it retains most of the original features.

Local Organisations and Events

ST JAMES' CHURCH

Tuesdays, 11.00am-1.00pm. Community Cafe - 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: gebrrazier@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.

THE FREEHOLD COMMUNITY CENTRE

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. 'Behave! Life Skills for Puppies', puppy training class 11.45 - 12.45 with Jane Robinson.

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.

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. More details: www.muswellhillphoto.org.uk or email contact@muswellhillphoto.org.uk.

FRIENDS OF PARKLAND WALK

Tuesday 15th May, 10am-3pm. Come and help us dig out a pond on the Muswell Hill section of the Parkland Walk with our partners The Conservation Volunteers. Free tea and biscuits. Drop in for as long as you want. Meet behind Pure Gym. No previous experience needed. Sturdy footwear essential. info@parkland-walk.org.uk.

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.

EAST FINCHLEY OPEN

www.eastfinchleyopen.org.uk

Check all times and dates with the organisers

FRIENDS OF QUEEN'S WOOD

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.

FRIENDS OF COLDFAUL WOOD AND MUSWELL HILL PLAYING FIELD

www.coldfallwoods.co.uk/whats-on **The first Tuesday of each month** at Coldfall Primary School.

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

CROUCH END FESTIVAL CHORUS

Next concert: Carmina Burana, **Sunday 1st July 2018 3pm** at the Queen Elizabeth Hall. www.cefc.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

MUSWELL HILL & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Show dates in 2018: **Saturday 7th July 3pm** at North Bank. Displays of summer flowers, fruit, vegetables and cookery. Plant stall, local honey for sale and homemade cakes for afternoon tea in the garden. Contact Jenny Kruss at jenny_starick@hotmail.co.uk or 020 8442 0031.

FRIENDS OF MUSWELL HILL LIBRARY

Saturday 19th May, 2-3pm, Muswell Hill Library.

Cooking with Columbo! Local author Jenny Hammerton published a tribute to the best television detective of all time on his 50th birthday! *Cooking With Columbo* contains episode guides and ideas for dishes to cook appropriate to each one. **Saturday 2nd June, 2-3pm**, Muswell Hill Library.

Single-use Plastics. Muswell Hill Sustainability Group aims to cut energy and waste and promote local food growing and low-impact transport. Our *Green Open Home* events, information meetings and campaigns inspire positive change. en10ergy, our community energy company, generates electricity from solar roof panels on local buildings. Our focus for summer 2018 is on cutting single-use plastic waste.

NORTH LONDON ESPERANTO GROUP

Free Esperanto lessons at beginners and advanced level. The group meets on **Monday evenings 7-8pm** in Muswell Hill Place. For more details (including the full address) contact anna.lowenstein@esperanto.org or phone 07943 137891.

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.

THE MOON & NUDE

Life drawing classes every **Monday, 7-9pm** at Victoria Stakes pub, No.1 Muswell Hill, N10 3TH. Relaxed, untutored, drop-in. £10. Materials provided. www.themoonandnude.com.

Copy date for July/August 2018 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@mhfqa.org by Wednesday 6th June 2018.

Midsummer Muswell returns for another day of community fun



For the fourth year running, the Friends of St James Square are organising Midsummer Muswell, an annual street festival that celebrates all that is special about our community and showcases our local talent and organisations.

At 2.00pm the outdoor stage will swing into action, hosting local bands, including Los Ricochet and Sounds of the Suburb, as well as performances by the talented kids from KD Performing Arts and Greig City Academy. It is also your chance to dance in the street with friends and neighbours and just generally have a good time.

St James Square will be teeming with stalls galore, as Vibe Market bring vendors with unique items to buy, and food and drink to keep your energy levels up throughout the afternoon. Community groups including Muswell Hill & Fortis Green Association and the Muswell Hill Sustainability Group will be present to introduce you to their work.

New this year is the opportunity to join in with the making of Muswell Hill's first community mosaic sculpture. Young or old, we need your help to create this new artwork – pop into St James Church on the day to get involved. Other events in the church to keep you entertained include a bouncy castle, face painting, community café and WAVE. Don't forget to chuck a pound or two into their buckets for their Raise the Roof campaign.

Midsummer Muswell is a brilliant opportunity to get to know your neighbours and to find out more about the array of local businesses and activities available on our doorstep. All are welcome, whether you live near or far.

Where: St James Square, Muswell Hill (opposite St James Church, in front of the Everyman Cinema and Planet Organic)
When: Saturday, 23 June 2018 – 2.00-6.00pm

For more information, or to join Friends of St James Square, contact muswellife@gmail.com or check at <https://muswellife.com>