

# Views from the Hill



NEWSLETTER OF THE TEWKESBURY LODGE ESTATE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION Spring 2023

## Greening the Estate

### Our new street trees

Between us we have raised funds to plant a magnificent total of 55 trees. For next winter we have funds for a further 8. Our aim is to plant small trees that will not damage our pavements and will provide more colour than the previous trees.



In a few weeks we will be enjoying some of that colour. Watch out in particular for the three Siberian Crab Apples at the Forest Hill Road end of Canonbie Road. Light green leaves are opening on those trees as I write and in no time the trees will be covered in white blossom. Later there will be red crab apples that will turn black in autumn and remain on the trees all winter.

Before our project began Canonbie Road had no trees at all, as it was thought that the pavements were too small. However, we have gathered together an unusual collection of small and narrow shaped trees like the three species of crab apples which will blossom firstly with white, then purple, and finally, with pink blossom. Watch out also for the two narrow Acers with red and purple colours, particularly in the autumn. Acers are tough and colourful, and I hope that we will be able to plant many more in future years. If you would like a tree outside your house or if would like to help in other ways with money or watering please get in touch with me at [stuart@streettreesforliving.org](mailto:stuart@streettreesforliving.org)  
Stuart Checkley

*A Siberian Crabapple tree in bloom*

### Join the Easter Egg Hunt

At Hilltop, 28 Horniman Drive,  
SE23 3BP

**On Easter Sunday, 9th April 10.30am - 1pm**

Only £2 entry, which includes Easter eggs.  
Tea and homemade cakes for sale, with all proceeds going to Demelza Hospice Care for Children.

Relax in the garden if the weather is good - if not, shelter in the conservatory - while the children find the eggs and look at the chickens.

And if you have one, don't forget to put on your Easter bonnet!



#### **Inside this issue:**

Street Trees:	1
Easter Egg Hunt:	1
Crime Cascade:	2
Parking Control:	2
Horniman News:	3
Pizza Support:	3
Local Planning:	5
Tools for Africa:	5
City Airport:	6
Southern trains:	6
Diary dates:	7
Carols:	7
Dawson's Hill:	7
Subscriptions:	8
Committee List:	8

## TLERA Crime Cascade and Police Liaison

TLERA's overall aim is to try to keep the neighbourhood as safe as possible so that it continues to be a desirable place to live. In order to achieve this we need to:

- Raise people's knowledge of the type of crimes committed on the estate, including quite specific alerts
- Provide any information, tips or crime prevention strategies
- Form a relationship and link with the local police team
- Represent concerns expressed by residents to the local police team to influence their objectives and direction.

My role is to send a Crime Cascade email to all member residents, as and when needed; and I attend a quarterly meeting with the police. I have been engaged in this role on behalf of TLERA for a number of years. My professional background is in the criminal justice system; though it could be undertaken by anyone who shares a sense of fairness and caring for our environment.

Judging by the communications I receive, many of you share my frustration with the amount of crime that is not detected. That is why it is important to keep communication between us alive and focussed on what we can do, however small, to prevent crime happening in the first place.

I am aware that the reporting of crime can raise anxiety. If, for example, I send out a crime cascade about a car theft and that generates a couple of responses from people indicat-

ing similar crimes have occurred, I will generally refrain from sending out another report.

The Ward Panel meeting with the Police is open to all to attend and is usually by zoom. We have had ongoing incidents of anti-social behaviour on the estate and this is extremely distressing to those affected. Their concerns have been represented more strongly by residents attending the meeting and voicing their experiences. We are currently bidding for a CCTV camera to be installed in a particular site.



If anyone wishes to attend a panel meeting please email me and I will ensure you are put on the mailing list. If we have large numbers attending, then we have a loud voice. Sadly, few people attend from other parts of Forest Hill.

Finally, it would be great to have a deputy to cover me whilst on holidays, etc. If you are interested, please email me so we can discuss. [christinem.noon@gmail.com](mailto:christinem.noon@gmail.com)  
*Christine Noon*

## CPZ again?



*Are the days of free parking on the hill numbered?*

This January the Council accepted a policy paper which recommended consultation on proposals to extend Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) across the Borough and to develop associated environmental improvements to streets.

Details can be found on the Lewisham website under:  
<https://lewisham.gov.uk>

The environmental improvements of possible benefit to TLERA streets include EV charge points, street trees and bike hangars. TLERA already has its own treeplanting scheme, as discussed in our leading article. The environmental improvements are optional but the CPZ scheme is not, because the CPZ scheme will generate some of the funds needed for the



environmental improvements. The Residents' Association surveyed local residents on the last CPZ proposal (in 2015/16) and opposed the then scheme.

As we wait for the new consultation paper, the Association is keen to hear from residents on our hill, whether they are members of TLERAs or not. Plans are likely to be made by groups of streets rather than on an individual street basis;

and as our Association covers the top of the hill, above Honor Oak Road, it is well placed to represent that geographical location.

Please email your views to me at [stuart@street-treesforliving.org](mailto:stuart@street-treesforliving.org) and I will ensure that the Association takes them into account, when we work out what we should do.  
*Stuart Checkley*

---

## Horniman Museum's Nature + Love Project

The initial consultation on the project has been completed and the Museum is waiting to hear whether its Stage 2 application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund has been successful (decision due in the summer). Details of the project can be found on the Museum's website.

Most of the project is contained in the museum buildings or gardens. However, the proposed Nature Explorers Adventure Zone will introduce a nature-themed play area and children's café in the area at the northern end of the existing concrete pond, alongside a new gate and sloped path at the west boundary of the Gardens into the Nature Trail. This will facilitate easy access and encourage exploration, making the Nature Trail an intrinsic part of the wider Horniman Museum and Gardens estate.

A new management strategy for the Nature Trail will help optimise the ecological value while keeping the area safe for all visitors to



enjoy. Details on the project also explain that there has been focussed feedback and suggestions from visitors and neighbours on specific aspects of the projects. Some residents with gardens backing onto the nature trail have been consulted.

---

## The Pizza Express

Canonbie Road resident Ian Jamieson along with some friends has driven several times to Poland near the Ukraine border to deliver essential items to a refugee project and also to be a volunteer there. TLERAs is holding an event on 8th May to support his work.

Back in May last year, the international charity Hope and Homes for Children, who Ian has worked on projects with, reported that they needed all the basics. That was the first shout out to the Canonbie Crew WhatsApp group, who have been amazing and just left deliveries

on Ian's doorstep. In total Ian and three friends collected 70 boxes of aid in 10 days. With two vans packed to the gunwales it took them two days to reach the Polish border.

At the border they met up with David Fox-Pitt, who is running a remarkable refugee project with the Siobhan's Trust and has been there since March 2022. They set about feeding thousands of tired and bewildered Ukrainian refugees with pizza, often the only hot meal they were likely to get that day. Now based in Ukraine and as close to the front line as possi-

*continued on next page...*

*The boating pond in  
Horniman Gardens...  
Hold on...  
Boating pond?*

continued from previous page...



*Cappricchiosa...  
or is that a Quatro  
Staggione?  
It's difficult to tell*

ble, they go where they are needed, regardless of risk. It is a peculiarly British story of eccentricity and determination, breaking through bureaucratic obstacles and doing what no one had thought of before.

Ian asked David what else can we do to make sure the right items got to the right people; the essentials are warm clothes such as thermals, as it can get really cold, and winters can go into April and May - sleeping bags, woolly hats and scarves. Clothes should ideally be new or nearly new and appropriate. Toiletries - as they have nothing - the basics such as soap, shampoo, shower gel, sanitary items, nappies, Calpol and baby food. Nurofen and paracetamol are really expensive there, so these are very welcome. Funds to buy food are vitally important so they can provide hot meals hot drinks, fruit, etc.

Since Ukraine was invaded the Siobhan's Trust team of wonderful volunteers have worked tirelessly to feed and support desperate internally displaced people from across the whole of Ukraine. The operation then changed as refugees started to move back once realising the Russians were not going to completely overrun their country and has now evolved to provide a mobile service venturing out across the whole country, from their bases in Lviv and Zaporizhzhia. They can feed up to 4,000 refugees per day from six pizza vans in four

different locations. They are very aware about not becoming too big as at present they can get to places more quickly than NGOs, etc. The Trust also has a van out in Turkey.

The project is also about boosting morale and letting them know people care about them. They make them smile by serving pizza, dancing, playing football and turning up the music when the sirens start. The FA donated 2000 footballs and 400 yoga mats. Providing games and craft stuff for the children is also important.

In 1997 Ian and family came to live in Canonbie Road needing a bigger house and attracted by the local schools, previously having lived in Blackheath and Hilly Fields. Ian has worked in financial consultancy for 40 years. Since 1999 he has been at St James's Place Management and prior to that worked in the Middle East where he was able to travel around a lot. A substantial element of St James's Place is their charitable foundation which Ian became involved in very early in his career there. He has always done a lot of sport - triathlons and marathons - to raise funds for charity. In particular he supported Hope and Homes for Children, visiting many places with the charity including Sierra Leone, Sarajevo and Kyiv. He nets a huge amount of wellbeing from his charity work, though he feels it is quite a selfish thing. "Helping people is quite addictive and you get bitten by the bug My wife is long-suffering she knows I just have to do these things".

Ian is now in the process of leaving St James's Place and semi-retiring, but he will keep very busy. Initially Ukraine will be very much centre stage. He will also continue to be involved in another business he has founded. Having bought some land in Portugal the family are starting to build a house there.

There are now around 10 million displaced Ukrainians who no longer have four walls or anything to go back to. Many places are just rubble. It is the disenfranchised and poorest who suffer the most. The Ukrainians are incredible people with many older people having been through previous wars. Some of the stories are quite harrowing. They are people with incredible resilience. It is clear that there will be so much work to be done once the war finishes and not least PTSD affecting soldiers, children and mothers.

You can keep up to date with the Siobhan's Trust news and stories on Facebook and



Instagram:

<https://www.facebook.com/siobhanstrustukraine>

<https://www.instagram.com/siobhanstrust>

Please help fund this incredibly important project by donating via our website or by bank transfer. You can do so at

<https://siobhanstrust.uk/donate>

Ian said people there often look at you incredulously – “what are you doing here?”. The fact that you are standing by them is very powerful. It is a very emotional experience. They always say “don’t forget us”. It is hard to do justice to everything Ian told me. Please take the opportunity to meet him at the Coronation Big Help on 8th May and learn more about the wonderful work he and his friends are doing.

*Chris Dobb*



## Consultation ends for Lewisham Local Plan

In the last Newsletter we outlined some links between Lewisham’s new Local Plan, a green infrastructure, and our new TLER policy indicating that backland and infill developments would be opposed when these might harm the area. Lewisham have now announced an update saying, as part of a periodic review, they have prepared a proposed submission for public consultation. The new Local Plan looks ahead to 2040 and comments are invited, by 25th April, on the following documents:

- Lewisham Local Plan: Proposed Submission Document January 2023.
- Proposed Policies Map and Schedule of Proposed Changes to the Adopted Policies Map December 2022.
- Integrated Impact Assessment and Non-technical Summary December 2022.
- Habitats Regulations Assessment December 2022.

All the above documents are available for download on the Council website. Please visit <https://lewishamlocalplanreg19.commonplace.is/> if you wish to comment or find out more.

*John Jessel*

## Tools for Africa

The charity Tools for Self Reliance works with partner organisations in several

countries in Africa and is grateful for donations of tools for all sorts of trades, including sewing



machines. They also need resources to make haberdashery/fabric packs and knitting needles, wools, patterns etc to train young women and set them up in business.

This is a great opportunity for us all to have a declutter of both house and garage, knowing all donations will be put to very good use. Volunteers from The Hill will collect your donations throughout the bank holiday weekend and deliver them to the two

*Sculptor and Artist Pat Rae with the tools she will be donating*

*continued on next page...*

*continued from previous page...*

charities. But if you want to start clearing out sooner then your donations can be stored in our garages. The idea is to start now, with the collection ending on 8th May. If you need storage, or your donations to be collected before 6th May then email Frankie on [francesclocke@gmail.com](mailto:francesclocke@gmail.com)

Any good quality hand tools are needed, both electric tools and manual ones. But they do say NOT battery-operated cordless tools. For full information on TFSR and what they need most please see: <https://www.tfsr.org/support/give-tools/> However, if you cannot check, or are in

doubt, then just donate them anyway! We will check that your donations are on the TFSR list and if not we'll find another charity to take them.

If you have other donations which are not on either charity list then we will hold a Garage Sale on the day of the Big Lunch, with all proceeds going to St Christopher's Hospice. Unsold items will be taken to local charity shops.

*Frankie Locke*



## London City Airport Expansion Plans

The airport has put in a revised planning application to Newham council to increase their operating hours and increase passenger numbers through the use of larger planes. This was after consultation, which revealed widespread opposition to their proposals.

Flights come over SE London on a low level concentrated flight path when there is an easterly wind and do impact us in Forest Hill.

## Southern Train Service to East Croydon from London Bridge

There is an online petition to get Southern to reinstate the London Bridge to Caterham/Tattenham Corner trains so that residents from Forest Hill have a direct service to East Croydon.

<https://www.change.org/p/reinstate-the-southern-stopping-train-service-to-from-east-croydon-to-london-bridge>

*First opened in 1841, the current East Croydon rail station was designed to resemble a suspension bridge*





---

## Dates for Your Diary

### Coronation Big Help Out Picnic Lunch and Garage Sale

Monday 8th May, 12 noon - 3pm in the Triangle (Liphook Crescent/Horniman Drive)

Join us for a picnic lunch (bring a dish to share) to celebrate being part of the Coronation Big Help Out. Donations for Ukraine, Tools for Africa and for the local hospice welcome on the day (and beforehand - see articles) and bring along any other unwanted items for a table top sale for the charities.

### Open Gardens

Sunday 14th May, 2pm - 5.30pm

Four gardens on the Estate will be open for the National Garden Scheme (one new this year). There will be plants for sale and tea and homemade cakes to enjoy. Entry to the gardens is £6 (free for children under 16) with the money raised distributed by the NGS mainly to nursing and health charities.

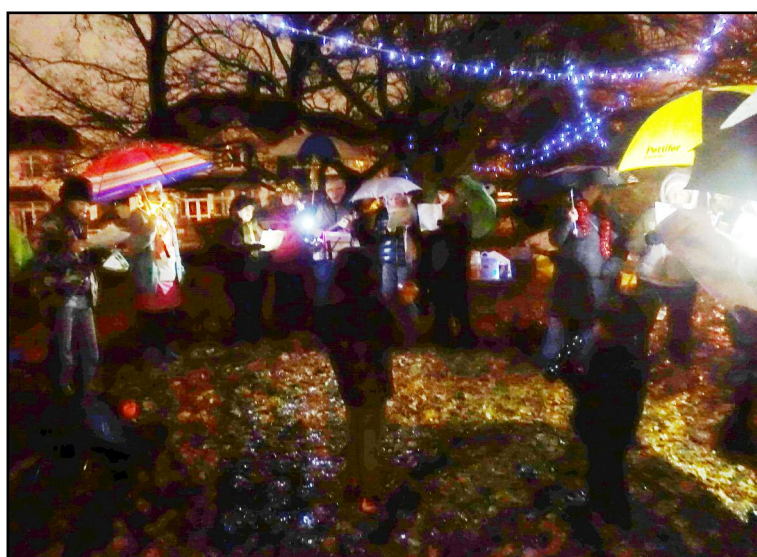


---

## In the bleak midwinter – Carols in the Triangle

It was cold and wet. It was the afternoon of the football World Cup Final. The candles would

not light. The song sheets were soggy. And yet, the faithful still came– in fact, a surprisingly



good turnout. Mulled wine from a kettle and mountains of mince pies warmed the cockles and umbrellas adorned with tinsel kept the essentials dry. Maybe not quite the usual rousing chorus but a great effort nonetheless, particularly from the musicians (including the yogurt pot shakers), before worsening conditions meant it was a case of “dash away, dash away all”. A collection for charity was matched by the Association

*Tina Hildrey*

---

## Membership and subscriptions

Subscriptions for 2023 are now due. An information sheet, together with a personalised envelope is delivered with this Newsletter. Annual subscriptions remain at £5 per household.

If this newsletter is your first contact with the Association and you wish to join, then please contact your road representative whose name is

listed on the back page. Alternatively, you can contact me directly via [membership@tewkesburylodge.org.uk](mailto:membership@tewkesburylodge.org.uk)

You can find out more about TLERA on our website [www.tewkesburylodge.org.uk](http://www.tewkesburylodge.org.uk) where there is information about events and campaigns, as well as previous newsletters and lots of useful links.

*Carole Abrahams, Membership Secretary*

---

## A short walk to Dawson's Hill

Looking North West most of us can see the two blocks of flats known as Dawson's Heights designed by Kate Macintosh and built between 1964 and 1972 (partly on top of a spoil tip from the creation of a nearby railway line). English Heritage described the estate as having

‘a striking and original massing that possesses evocative associations with ancient cities and Italian hill towns’ - local opinions vary on its imposing architectural style. Behind the Heights lies Dawson's Hill which is a small nature reserve where you can enjoy stunning views across London. The Hill has an interesting history if you have a look at the

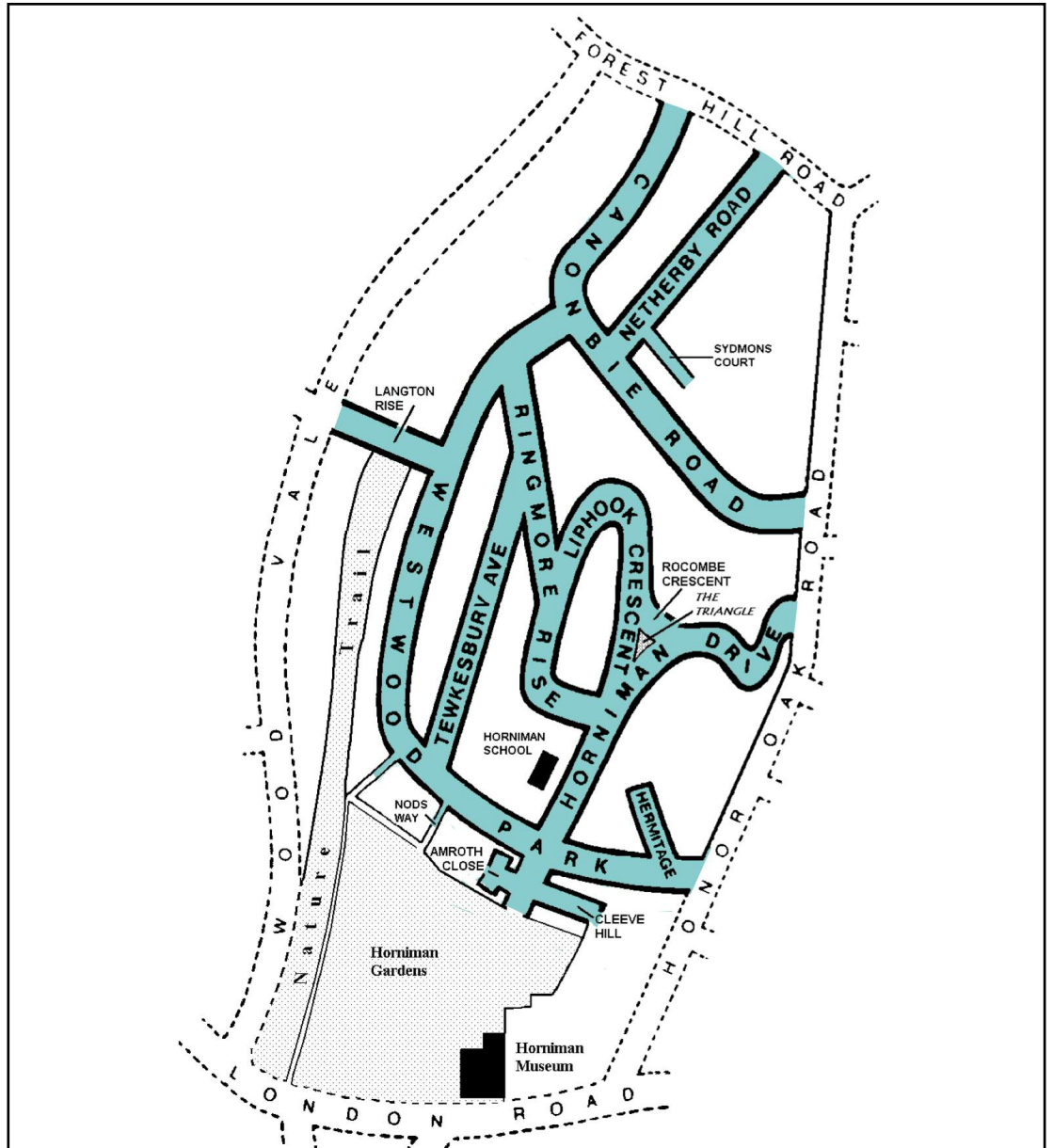
*continued on next page...*

continued from previous page...

Dawson's Hill Trust newsletter:  
<http://www.dawsonshill.org.uk/>

To get there: Walk down to the end of Langton Rise across Wood Vale with the cemetery to your right, where you will see Overhill Passage which is more-or-less a continuation of Langton Rise. At the top of Overhill Passage turn left and walk uphill on Overhill Road. On your right a short way up, you will see the traffic gateway into Dawson's Heights. Walk through the gates and round the side of the flats. Not far down on your right in the black railings you will see the gateway into the nature reserve. At the bottom of the hill is Dunstons Way – go left, takes you to Lordship Lane and towards Dulwich Park – go right, takes you back towards the cemetery.

Chris Dobb



This newsletter was compiled and edited by Chris Dobb, and proof read by Carole Abrahams and Tina Hildrey. Design and layout by Michael Schlingmann. Contributions from members are very welcome and can be e-mailed to us at [secretary@tewkesburylodge.org.uk](mailto:secretary@tewkesburylodge.org.uk)