



# Prospect

November 2008

Price when sold £1

## Barn Elms update

*Prospect* has received the following from Patricia Newton, Chair of Barnes Vision.

"Many thanks to Susan Kramer, MP; David Stott, Chairman of the BCA; Robert Essex, Chairman of Barnes Eagles; Lisa Reed, Governor of St. Osmund's School and Paul Hodgins, Barnes Ward Councillor, for their superb speeches at the Council Cabinet meeting on 22nd September. I am very pleased to say the Cabinet has agreed to work with the community to secure the funding required for improvements at Barn Elms and they agreed to retain and improve the running track. Barnes Vision is now working collaboratively with the Council to reach a successful outcome for the project. Council consultants are drafting a new scheme which includes the 5.5 acres previously earmarked for sale or long lease. We may need to do some more fund raising if there is a capital shortfall based on the new scheme which will be costed once agreed.

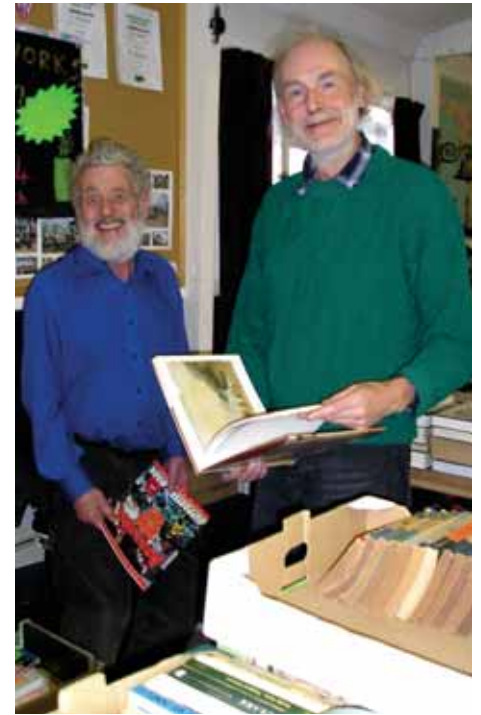
I am delighted to announce we have two new team members, environmental consultant Nicky Spooner and financial advisor Karen Moore. However, we still need the assistance of a planning lawyer to help us through the planning application process — if you are interested please contact me at [barnes-vision@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:barnes-vision@blueyonder.co.uk). The tremendous community support for this project has been essential to our success and it is that generosity of spirit which makes Barnes such a special place to live — thank you."

## Jumble Sale goes international!

Last year Debra and Bob, visiting American relatives of BCA Chairman David Stott, so enjoyed their initiation into a Barnes jumble sale that they were back again to help! The BCA is most grateful to them and to all those who gave so much time and energy to ensure that the sale was once again a huge success. Particular thanks go this year to several 'Oddfellows' who set up tables and moved heavy boxes of jumble in double-quick time. Nor must we forget those who donated their unwanted items which became 'must-haves' for someone else — thank you. Sorting of goods takes place in the scout hut in the ten days before the sale: our photo shows Derry and Peter with just a few of the thousands of donated books.

Some 150 people visited the sale on Friday evening and on Saturday there were many more looking for bargains. As *Prospect* goes to press it is not possible to say exactly how much money has been raised, but it is in the region of £8000. This money will be shared with the local primary schools, the Scouts and the Guides who all provide volunteer helpers, as well as increasing funds available for the BCA's charitable donations.

*Gill Spillane*



## Next issue of *Prospect*

We would like to remind readers that the next issue of *Prospect* will be a combined **December/January** edition. Diary entries for January must also be sent, preferably by e-mail to [bca@barnesvillage.org.uk](mailto:bca@barnesvillage.org.uk), by **10th November**, together with all copy, adverts and December Diary entries.

BCA members should be aware that the December/January issue is likely to be distributed commercially in the first week of December to **all** Barnes residents. On similar occasions in the past some members, particularly those living in flats, have failed to receive a copy. Should this happen we apologise in advance and suggest you collect one from Rose House or call 8878 2359 for one to be sent.



## BCA gifts for Christmas

Stuck for a present for a student at Christmas? Why not give them (unisex!) a BCA 'Uni-pack'? This

comprises a mug (marked **BARNES BREW**), a tea towel (reminding that it's hygienic to do a bit of washing-up before the end of term), six Barnes postcards (a nudge to write home occasionally) and a Barnes Bag (to save the environment by not carrying their books back to the 'digs' in a plastic carrier). **BARGAIN PRICE: £12.**

The items may be bought separately too:

- Mugs: £4.50 (two for £8)
- Barnes tea towels: £4
- Bags in strong cotton with BCA Logo: £2
- Postcards with scenes of Barnes: 50p (6 for £2.50)

Available from Rose House reception room, Monday – Friday, 10am to 4pm.

## Parking Controls

As we explained in July's *Prospect*, the Council has to run a second, formal consultation before an effective Traffic Order can be made to merge all our two-hour zones. This is now timed for November, with an exhibition in Castelneau Library (sorry, no date yet) and implementation in 2009.

On the vexed question of parking in front of crossovers (forbidden at present, even for owners, with single yellow lines) the Council will simplify matters by including these spaces in the general Residents Only lines.

# BCA



## matters...

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### 1 Buses

David Stott, Isobel Woolf, Margaret Sharp, and Sue Boyd had a preliminary discussion with Richard Shirley of Transport for London. We hope to hear from him soon giving

further details of what improvements might be made at Hammersmith bus station.

### 2 Barnes Vision

The Council has agreed to take the Barnes Vision option and not to go down the route of a developer acquiring 5.5 acres on Barn Elms. This is very good news though there is a long way to go yet before Barn Elms is secure for the local community.

### 3 Dukes Meadows, Chiswick Bank

The Golf Club has applied to reinstate nine tennis courts with floodlights and erect a demountable air-cushioned dome over five courts. Members who live near the river have been asked to check on this application in case the floodlighting will affect our side of the river.

Members who live on Lonsdale Road are upset by the illegal floodlights that Esporta are using at the Riverside Club. The plastic bubble covering some of the tennis courts is also lit up. They are in contact with Hounslow Council and campaigning for change.

### 4 Goods Yard Site, Barnes Common

At the LBRUT August planning meeting the application was rejected by five votes to four that the development would be excessive. The question of how much contamination is still there remains. FoBC will continue to campaign for the Council to return most of the land to Common Land and not to the Council.

### 5 Rocks Lane Recreation Ground and Tennis Club

An application, 97/2726/DD01, has been submitted to revert to the planning consent of 1997 with adjustments to the layout. It deals with the design and specifications of floodlighting, screen planting, and colour of fencing and court surface. The adjustments would reduce the additional number of all-weather courts from four to three and would alter the siting of three courts. The plans indicate a reduction from 17 to 16 additional lights. It is hoped that the spillage from the present lights will be reduced. It seems extraordinary that councils in Dulwich, South London are able to have floodlights adjusted so there is minimum spillage with maximum use of the many floodlit areas. The Council officers are using their own consultants for this floodlighting. The car park and encroachment of Council land is being addressed by another Council department.

*Susan Boyd*

## Old Goods Yard

Richmond Council refused permission for the scheme drawn up by developers last winter. The idea had been to restore and return to the Common a large part of the site, with the help of an 'enabling' development of 14 flats. Friends of Barnes Common argued that less needed to be done to rid the site of pollution and to bring in new soil. An effective, but cheaper cleansing, would need less housing development to finance it.

Personally, I did wonder how far the 'If I were you, I'd do far less than you' approach would get us. But the good sense of the argument did get through and the developers are now drawing up more modest plans.

Many congratulations to Mike Hildesley and his FoBC colleagues.

*Katie Gent*

## Sadly missed

With sadness we report the deaths of Mr and Mrs Giannopolous from Diana House, Walnut Tree Close, who died within a month or so of each other. This long married couple was very appreciative of the help supplied to them by FiSH and the BCA. They used to attend the Christmas Day lunch at the Barnes Green Centre organised by the BCA where Hilary remembers them holding hands.

## Forthcoming BCA events

### Late Night Shopping, Friday 5th December

Carol singers, Father Christmas, mulled wine, food and a chance to do your Christmas shopping in a lovely relaxed atmosphere. An evening in Barnes not to be missed. See December issue for more details.

### Wanted urgently.....

A cook for our Christmas day lunch. The BCA always provides a traditional lunch on Christmas Day for all those in Barnes who otherwise would be by themselves, but this year we are short of a cook. So if you could spare a few hours on the day please contact Hilary on 8878 2359.

Volunteers are also wanted to help with the lunch by helping to serve, entertain or provide transport. If you haven't time to spare on the day perhaps you could donate a little gift to the raffle such as a bottle of wine: we appreciate any contribution, however small. Just pop it into Rose House during December.

## New recycling arrangements

Endless ads come through our door and go straight into the bin, but sometimes a little leaflet does really need to be read. From one of these, we learn that the Council is simplifying recycling collecting methods.

A new blue box takes over from the white and blue bags and in this box we can put both paper and flattened cardboard, junk mail and envelopes. In the old black box we continue to put glass plus plastic bottles, food and drink cans, aerosols and foil. Collection of food waste remains unchanged.

For more information, go to [www.richmond.gov.uk/waste\\_and\\_recycling](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/waste_and_recycling) or ring 08465 122 660.

## New planning regulations

This Autumn new rules, some lighter, some more restrictive, were brought into the planning system which could bring considerable change to the street scene. This short article, of course, can explain only the broad sweep of the changes.

### Changing front gardens into parking

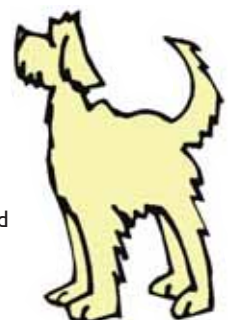
To cap the growing risk of flash floods, from now on, if you want to pave over your front garden, you will need planning permission. If, however, you want a surface that will allow rain water to seep immediately into the ground, you don't need this permission. For guidance, go to [www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/pavingfrontgardens](http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/pavingfrontgardens)

### Extending your house

Many roof extensions, conservatories and first-floor extensions can now be built without planning permission. To check the small print, go to the interactive site [www.planningportal.gov.uk/uploads/hhg/houseguide.html](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/uploads/hhg/houseguide.html)

## Poo bags

Most dog walkers in Barnes are now used to clearing up after their pets and disposing of the result in the bins provided. To take it a step further there are now degradable bags available for the purpose. The Deggie bags have won a Best Business Award 2007 and Innovation Award 2007 and are available in packs of 50, or more economically in boxes of 1,000 for £29 plus carriage and VAT. For details see their website [www.biodegradablebag.co.uk/prod6.htm](http://www.biodegradablebag.co.uk/prod6.htm)



## St Paul's music for Barnes

St Paul's School in Lonsdale Road celebrates its 500th anniversary next year, and wishes to spread the word about its continuing music programme which involves the whole community.

Children in the three maintained schools, particularly Barnes Primary, have used the hall and Lowther benefitted from fundraising there for a new piano at their school. I discussed all this with their young, enthusiastic, Director of Music, Peter Gritton. St Paul's boys (known as 'Paulines' – with a long 'i') learn in teaching rooms which encircle the magnificent Wathen Hall on two floors. "The hall windows are triple glazed to keep the sound out and the roof has three 'skins' to complete the near-perfect exclusion of any outside noise and produce ideal acoustics" said Peter.

The senior boys, plus some staff, run a Saturday programme of general music for local maintained school children each spring. Added to this is an intensive composition course, held in partnership with the Royal College of Music, which takes place over four weekends every autumn, for children aged 15-18. Then there is an annual 'Strings Day', organised by the Deputy Head of Music, Robin Wedderburn, which brings

together string players, again from local schools (ages 8-13 mainly, grades 3 to 5) for a day of intensive ensemble coaching followed by a concert. The fee for this is £30 per player.

The School has welcomed the well-established Ealing Youth Orchestra which draws its musicians from all parts of West London and holds some of its concerts in the Wathen Hall.

The venue is also used for fundraising for local charities. The BCA was grateful for the generous use of the Hall for a recital by a distinguished pianist and BCA member in the course of its fundraising for the restoration of Barnes pond. More recently, a concert was held there in aid of fund-raising for the restoration of the tower at St Mary's parish church in Mortlake and the BCA again used the hall for a literary evening with locally based Aeronwy Thomas, Dylan Thomas's daughter.

"We have a wonderful Music School which we want to share with the whole community" says Peter.



Peter Gritton, Director of Music at St Paul's School

To hear more about events in the school's music calendar you can look at the St Paul's website [www.wathenhall.com](http://www.wathenhall.com) or contact Karenne Mills by email on [kmm@stpaulsschool.org.uk](mailto:kmm@stpaulsschool.org.uk)  
Sally Holloway

## Swap shop and sell *Barnes and Beyond* Friends of Le Pecq

We are ahead of the trends here at the BCA! In

September Hilary and Julia organised a swap shop where ladies could bring along unwanted clothes in good condition, either to sell or swap.

This was a fairly successful evening

but we think we can improve on things by making it an altogether bigger occasion. Twiggy is doing the same thing on TV and St. Osmund's school had a similar fund-raiser recently.

Realising that everyone is a different shape and size, this sort of event will work best when there are lots and lots of different stalls so we are proposing to have another evening in the spring but this time a much bigger one at the Barnes Green Centre.

We decided we didn't really want to take any of our clothes home with us after managing to clear out our wardrobes, so the remainder went on to the BCA jumble sale. Thursday 19th February has been chosen so that anything left over can then be sent to the Scout jumble sale which will take place shortly afterwards.

If you are interested in coming along a pitch will cost you £10 and the more the merrier - good quality ladies clothes plus handbags and shoes. There will be an opportunity to try on clothes and to buy a glass of wine or two - so bring your girlfriends along and make it a fun evening. Let's try and beat the credit crunch!  
Julia Bebington

Tickets have sold rapidly for the talk *Barnes and Beyond* by Sir Tim Rice on November 5th at Kitson Hall (8pm), but at the time of going to press there were a few left, price £5. Enquiries to Helen Deaton on 8878 4071.

## Triathlon challenge

From today's youngsters we have many tales of derring-do and it may not be so unusual for a young man to succeed in a Triathlon. But for Richard Hume, diagnosis of a back problem in 1995, which should have precluded all sport, challenged him to defy the diagnosis by training to the limit. Richard has lived in Barnes all his life and recounts spending hours playing sports on Barn Elms, running along the towpath and turning out for Barnes Cricket Club weekend after weekend.

After a triathlon in the USA last year he took part in the USA Triple Iron Triathlon in Virginia at the beginning of October (7.2 mile swim, 336 mile bike and 78.2 mile run) distances that would exceed anything he had done before and push him to the limit. After coming second in what he refers to as a 'super tough' swim, there followed a gruelling 27 hours in the saddle followed by a marathon run. As he reports "down the hill the last time, I picked up the Union Jack and crossed the line, 52 hours 45 minutes and fourth place overall. Job done." So all the hours of training, crying, being tired, saddle sore, blistered and no social life had been worthwhile.

But that is not the end for Richard: in December 2009 he plans to take his ocean going rowing boat to the Canary Islands and row across the Atlantic!



We will be welcoming a group from Le Pecq during the weekend of 8th-9th

November and as part of the programme there will be a party at Rose House on Saturday evening. On Sunday the Mayor of Le Pecq will be amongst those participating in the Remembrance Day service at St Mary's Church.

If you would like to be involved or know further details about what is happening, please contact Mike at [mhspillane@hotmail.com](mailto:mhspillane@hotmail.com) or via Rose House.

## New date for An Evening with Aled Jones Friday 5th December

Due to illness, Aled Jones had to cancel his appearance in September for the Friends of St Mary's Barnes *An Evening with Aled Jones*. He was deeply sorry about this, especially letting down his local community in Barnes, but a new date of Friday 5th December has been fixed and tickets are now available.

He will be presenting an evening of songs, music and talk from his amazing 25-year career showcasing the voice and personality which has entranced audiences since he was a choirboy. The event at St Mary's Church is timed at 7.30 for 8pm and is in aid of Hope House Children's Hospices and The Friends of St Mary's Barnes. Tickets are £25 (front rows) and £20 from office@stmarybarnes.org or 020 8741 5422.

# Goodbye to Father Logan

## The end of an era...



Father Logan opened the door and smiled. I returned the gesture and entered the wide hallway. The house was in a state of general disarray, making it all too clear why I was here. After over twenty years at St Osmund's Church, Father Logan was leaving.

I entered his study and took a seat as he reminded me that it was April of 1988 that he

first arrived in Barnes – when I was just two years old. I have known him for my whole life and it's hard to believe he is now retiring. I began my interview.

*"What did you like most about Barnes?"*

"The people – the parishioners...and the fact that over 20 years those parishioners have now become friends. My fondest memories are of the big occasions – Christmas, Easter, children's First Holy Communions. It was great having St Osmund's School so closely linked with the church. It's almost time for some of the people I baptised to start getting married!" he answered, illustrating exactly how long he had been here.

*"So what about any memories you'd rather forget?"*

"When the church caught fire," he answered without hesitation. "I was woken at 6am to the sounds of people banging on my door telling me I had to get out; very daunting! I went inside the church to see the damage but the flames were already too large for a fire extinguisher. That happened on the morning of Friday 13th October 2000 and the following day I had to conduct a wedding ceremony."

*"What did you do?"*

"A builder put up a screen and business went on as normal. We never found the cause of the fire."

*"Is there anything you won't miss?"*

"The paperwork! Health and Safety forms and all that! I will miss the people though, and the location."

*"Will you keep in touch with many people here?"*

"I'm only moving to a flat in Richmond so keeping in touch shouldn't be a problem. The flat's still being decorated though and won't be ready for three to four weeks so I'm going to Roehampton first."

*"What's the flat like?"*

"It's nice. But it's hard moving from a big house like this to a two bedroom flat – I'm going to have to dispose of a fair amount of stuff."

*"Are you looking forward to retirement? What will you do with your free time?"*

"Yes I'm looking forward to it. I will take each day as it comes and not be idle or bored – children these days are forever saying they're bored!"

On leaving the interview I felt immensely sad. Having been to mass almost every day since I was born, without my realising it, he had become a big part of my life.

Father Logan performed his last mass on Sunday 28th September and left for Roehampton soon after; however he reassures me that he will certainly be back to visit!

Charlotte Grafton-Green

## A grand send-off

Father Logan retired as the priest at St. Osmund's Church at the end of September. A vibrant congregation and thriving church school are his lasting legacy. He is a quiet, unassuming, yet amusing man. His parishioners tell of his capacity to relate to their individual problems, reflecting on passages of the Bible that he finds pertinent, surprising people with the helpfulness of his analysis. Fire and brimstone are not his way.

Churches Together in Barnes, whose goal is to bring Christians of different denominations closer, found Father Logan sympathetic to the idea and energetic in its cause at a difficult time. But the congregation had most to appreciate about his ministry and this they did at the morning service on Sunday 28th September when 400 adults and 300 children attended mass. True, there followed the most sumptuous lunch, catered by Diane du Parcq and the ladies of the parish and culminating in an iced cake made by Monica Christian. But Father Logan, like us all, was surprised by the abundance, "It is like feeding the five thousand" he laughed. Well he might, he has nurtured a whole new generation of churchgoers.

Fergus O'Kelly has been responsible for church music throughout Father Logan's twenty-year ministry and says he is a great musician, always pitch perfect when the choir comes in. "He is the boss" says Fergus, speaking of the work they have done together "and he is

the father of our parish family". In an episode of the TV series Father Ted, Fergus was among other actors playing priestly cameos in the furtherance of comedy. At his next meeting with Father Logan he apologised for rather over-doing the eccentricities of his character. "Fear not, I've met them all" said Father Logan with a twinkle in his eye.

Andrew Cole, Chairman of the school governors, who was discharged from hospital for the day despite his serious road traffic injuries, spoke of Father Logan's achievements in-the-round and read extracts of letters from the bishops. "You are privileged to be living in Barnes" said Archbishop Kevin of Southwark "not because of the pond and the riverside walks but because of Father Logan". And, speaking of a leader who has educated and guided without being judgmental, recognised a perfectionist "who insists on celebrating mass properly".

"One always knew when he came visiting the school" said head teacher Maria Walbyoff, "he would join classes and participate in lessons before coming to see me. His experience stems from teaching in secondary school for ten years before the priesthood".

Father Logan gave his own short speech of thanks to his parishioners, reflecting social changes recognisable to those born in the 1940s with an amusing ode. He concluded his address from the steps of his old home with



Diane du Parcq (right), with help from Emily Kendrick, prepares a delicious feast

the words "There's food here, let's get tucked in". A man who knows there is a time and place for everything. As he posed for the *Prospect* photograph I asked "What will you most miss?" He smiled, "The children, they keep me young". Let's hope he finds a way to bring his unique gifts to others from his new home at Richmond.

William Mortimer

## Ever wanted to be fitter?

AHM-Go! is running a pilot scheme for the Barnes area to promote Low Impact Cardio exercise by the Thames. This is community focused and does not have a membership or weekly fee – it's free!

It is aimed at those who want to power walk or jog in a group in both rain and shine. AHM requires at least ten members before they start, so do visit their website for more details: [www.AHM-Go.com](http://www.AHM-Go.com), contact: [info@AHM-Go.com](mailto:info@AHM-Go.com) or telephone Julia on 07880 713 927.

Positive individuals are six times as likely to achieve their aspirations!

## Christmas Table Sales at Queen Mary's Hospital

The Friends of Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton Lane, are having their annual Christmas Table sales on Tuesday 2nd, Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th December from 10.30am to 3.30pm.

If you have any of the following items that are new and would be suitable they would be most grateful for donations:

Decorations, crackers, stationery, chocolates, sweets, biscuits, cakes, mince pies, jams, chutneys, toiletries, stocking fillers, children's toys, books, CDs, games, gifts, jewellery, bottles of wine, champagne, spirits.

The Friends' office is on the ground floor (opposite the Tempo Café) and is open daily from 9.30am to 1pm, or telephone 020 8487 6315/6798.

### WANTED

#### RETAIL CHAMPION FOR BARNES

**Part-time position, to be funded by the BCA and Richmond Council (subject to Council approval)**

**Can you help maintain the character of Barnes, with its small, independent shops?**

The BCA wishes to appoint an individual to champion the cause of retail businesses across Barnes – covering North Barnes, High Street, Church Road, Station Road and White Hart Lane.

**Circa £7,500 p.a. (plus expenses), estimated 10-15 hours/week**

#### The Job

Reporting to a small team at the BCA, you will:

- Develop a database of existing Barnes retailers
- Meet regularly with retailers to understand their concerns
- Help address these concerns, acting as a link between retailers, Council planners, developers, police and community organisations
- Help establish a better trading environment for small shops
- Help improve the retail mix to meet local consumer needs

#### The Ideal Candidate

You will:

- Probably live locally
- Have good lobbying and communication skills
- Have a good working knowledge of local retail issues
- Have the drive and tenacity to chase up issues until they are resolved

#### Further Information

- This is not a desk job! You will work from home and you will need to meet with retailers at the shops
- The appointment shall be through a contract for services with the BCA. You will not become an employee of the BCA
- The contract will be subject to Richmond Council approval of matched funding with the BCA
- For more information, or to express interest, please contact Julia Bebington at the BCA on 020 8878 2359

## Me and My Girl

Barnes Charity Players will present the popular musical show *Me and My Girl* at Kitson Hall, Barnes from Tuesday 2nd to Saturday 6th December at 7.30 pm, with a Saturday matinée at 2.30pm. The show is directed by Keith Perry and designed by Darrol Blake.

With L.Arthur Rose and Douglas Furber's book and lyrics, revised by Stephen Fry, and Noel Gay's music, this is a classic tale of toffs and cockneys misunderstanding each other; as a Lambeth costermonger is revealed to be the new Earl of Hareford.

With toe-tapping dance routines and old musical favourites like *The Lambeth Walk* and *Leaning on a Lamp Post*, this is a treat for the whole family.

Tickets at £8 on Tuesday evening and £10 for all other performances will be available from mid-November at Rose House, and William Thomas, Hairdressers in Barnes High Street. Ticketline 020 8748 9825.

Their designated charities this year are:

- ST OSMUND'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, to complete the new sound system for the Assembly Hall, housing of equipment and associated training
- BARNES METHODIST CHURCH, to contribute to the cost of heating, supplies and cleaning associated with the church when giving meals and overnight sleeping accommodation to the homeless
- CASTELNAU CENTRE'S joint initiative with WELCARE, to provide early intervention for the needs of lone parents in North Barnes



Mark Pearce as Bill and Alexa Bushell as his girlfriend Sally in 'Me and My Girl'



Barnes Literary Society

### James Naughtie *Writing about Music*

A familiar voice from Radio 4's *Today* programme, James Naughtie is a man of many talents. Although widely known as a broadcaster and political journalist, he presents programmes on literature and music on BBC radio and television. He has written several books including *The Rivals*, an account of the relationship between Tony Blair and Gordon Brown. He has served as a judge for the Whitbread Book Awards.

James Naughtie has been fascinated by music since childhood, and in his recent book *The Making of Music*, based on his Radio 4 series, he uncovers the roots of music and explores its drama and mystery. He reveals how composers, performers and patrons have built a tradition of music, which has enriched and inspired music lovers over the generations.

For further information see [www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/makingofmusic](http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/makingofmusic)

This event, which is for members only, will be held on Wednesday 19th November in the OSO by Barnes Pond at 8pm. For membership details please contact 8748 2558 or see [www.barnesliterarysociety.org.uk](http://www.barnesliterarysociety.org.uk).

## Between Friends



Catherine as herself

Following last year's sell-out success at the OSO Arts Centre of Carolyn Pertwee's production *Sexologically Speaking*, theatregeos

in Barnes can look forward to the première of her new work *Between Friends*. The play, which runs from 10th to 16th November, stars Catherine Shipton, known to many as 'Duffy' in *Casualty*. The play is directed by Anthony Biggs ("One to watch" says *The Stage*), whose recent work *Many Roads to Paradise* at the Finborough theatre starred Miriam Karlin and transfers to the Old Red Lion next January.

Carolyn's original idea for the play has been realised in collaboration with her friend, the actor Rosalind Adler, and their multi-layered two-act play is already attracting attention. It is a three-hander of light and dark temperament and is described by the director as an 'emotional thriller'. It was very well received in first draft by an audience of seventy as a rehearsed reading at the Polish Centre, Hammersmith. The writers have since honed their work and with the director have brought together a strong cast of actors who all live in West London.

*Between Friends* promises to be a major event at the OSO. The unexpected arrival of an estranged friend from the past impacts

relationships in the present and threatens the future when they are reminded of a pact they all once made. The play explores whether the past can ever be escaped, as secrets and lies are revealed with shattering consequences.

Rosalind Adler and Edmund Dehn, who both played in *Sexologically Speaking*, complete the cast but a fourth character also haunts the lives of the trio.

Catherine radiates excitement when talking of the script and describes how she sat for two spellbound hours on its arrival. "Every word spoken by the characters rings true" she says. "The inner strength of my character emerges as tensions in the play gather pace. Nobody's life is untouched. An impeccable script demands the full range of all three actors".

Richard Dupré, like Carolyn a Barnes resident, has designed the set and Lucinda Rogers, an illustrator whose work is internationally exhibited, has created the very striking advertising poster. Look out for it and put the dates in your diary. Tickets are on sale at the OSO.

William Mortimer



**Saturday 15 November**  
**10.00am – 4.00pm**  
St Mary's Church and Kitson Hall  
*No admission charge*

Hard to believe but Christmas is now only a few weeks' away and the **St Mary's Christmas Fair** is the ideal occasion to start stocking up on presents and enjoy a raft of fun activities for all ages. Once again this year the Fair will take place simultaneously in both the Church and Kitson Hall.

In St Mary's you will find **Christmas essentials, cakes and preserves, craft and garden stalls together with children's activities, live music** from The Harrodian School, **floral workshops** (see below), **Under Tree Schools gift vouchers** and a **Silent Auction**.

Kitson Hall sees more St Mary's stalls – **tombola, bric-à-brac and nearly new children's books, music and films** – together with a wonderful variety of commercial stalls selling everything one could possibly need for Christmas giving!

For the ladies in your life, there will be jewellery, shawls and pashminas, affordable cashmere and organic cosmetics. For the men, there's plenty of choice including bridge and poker sets, gadgets and fine wines sourced directly from small independent French growers. There will be a dazzling display of vintage glass and china and beautiful silk flowers. If you are trying to be kind to the planet, you will find plenty of useful eco-friendly goods as well.

Alongside the panoply of gifts will be an **All Day Café** serving delicious home made lunches, wine, coffee, tea, cakes etc and you can relax and put your feet up afterwards at **The Spa at St Mary's**, offering **reflexology, massage and manicures** from qualified practitioners.

Finally, the now legendary **Christmas raffle: Jan Ravens** has agreed to draw the prize tickets and will be there at 3.30pm to do the honours. There is a spectacular selection of prizes, many contributed by local businesses. Take your pick from the loan of a **Porsche Boxster sports car for the weekend, Status Quo concert tickets, one month's Family Pass to the Riverside Club**, bridge lessons, beauty treatments, as well as generous vouchers from several of our local shops. Raffle tickets can be purchased in advance from the Church office, weekdays 10am-3pm, or by sending an email to [christmasfair@stmarybarnes.org](mailto:christmasfair@stmarybarnes.org) if you are not able to be there on the day.

### Floral Workshops at St Mary's Christmas Fair

Learn to create a stunning floral table top arrangement to take home. Organised by the prestigious **Judith Blacklock Flower School** in Knightsbridge. Workshops will take place throughout the day in the Church during the Fair. £25 per person

## Road works warning

Thames Water continues its programme of replacing all the old pipes throughout the area; meanwhile, Transco, on behalf of gas companies, digs up yet more of our roads. The combination can be dire.

However, in January, after a lot of lobbying by local politicians, we are due to see better coordination of road works. Transco will do their work in Sheen Lane, with one-way traffic, and Thames Water will not start on White Hart Lane until the Transco work elsewhere is finished. Let's hope that life for those in west Barnes and Mortlake can be kept just about in working order.

Katie Gent

## Mill Hill incident

*Prospect* enjoys close contact with the Safer Neighbourhood Team and respects the team led by Sergeant Jack for the Barnes and Mortlake Ward. He is restricted in what can be said about a live case, but he wanted to reassure *Prospect* and its readers that the case described in the letter from Dr Anne Mullins (October edition) is progressing well and the victim has the contact details of the investigating officer.

Additional patrols have now been placed on the Common. The investigation of certain alleged crimes, especially where the motives are in question, may be undertaken by other departments such as the Community Safety Unit. The application of such additional resources also allows routine policing duties to be maintained.

Sergeant Jack tells *Prospect* that his team continues to patrol Barnes Common and the surrounding area and the 'dog-watch' scheme, relying on the goodwill of the public, is thriving.

William Mortimer

## The Barnes Workhouse Fund

The Annual Forum and Consultation of the Barnes Workhouse Fund, the local grant-making trust which helps people in need in Barnes, took place in July. Each year, representatives of the Fund's Referral Agencies and beneficiary organisations are invited to meet the Trustees for an open discussion on the Fund's activities.

Those attending included representatives from the Castelnau Centre Project, Barnes and Mortlake History Society, the Mortlake Community Association, FiSH, the Age Concern Handyperson Scheme, Shenehom Residents' Association, Richmond Crossroads for Care, Relate, the Barnes Music Society, Lowther Primary School, Richmond Citizens Advice Bureau Service, SSAFA Forces Help, Barnes Community Association and the Friends of Walsingham Lodge. On account of the services and activities that they provide for Barnes residents, most of these organisations have received grants from the Fund in recent years. The Fund's Annual Review, distributed at this Annual Forum, contains a report from the Trustees and a list of grants made during 2007.

The Chairman of Trustees, Chris Reilly, reported that the Fund had been kept busy during 2007, spending 10% more on revenue grants than it had spent the previous year. The Trustees were pleased to announce that the Fund's initiative towards encouraging more applications for help with further education or training courses had borne fruit and a total of nine students had received some support during the year.

The meeting heard from representatives of the Castelnau Centre Project, an important organisation situated in North Barnes, providing a range of services including a nursery, youth club, health and exercise classes for all ages from school age to the over 50s plus a range of social activities. Whereas the Castelnau Community Centre had, in previous years, been seen as solely the youth club centre, the Project is thrilled that the Centre is now being recognised as a community resource, providing both social and educational benefits for the residents of the area. The Trustees of the Barnes Workhouse Fund are pleased to support the Castelnau Centre Project.

Another beneficiary of the Barnes Workhouse Fund, the Richmond Citizen's Advice Bureau Service, also spoke to the meeting. They, with the support of the Fund, open their Outreach office in Stillingfleet Road three mornings a week. Further, their office at the Sheen Lane Centre operates a home-visiting service for those Barnes residents who find it difficult to visit their offices; again, this facility is supported by the Fund. The CAB are an important source of advice for those who need help with such issues as budgeting, with debt problems, employment problems, or benefit issues.

Special mention was made of Walsingham Lodge and the Berkeley Road bungalows. A happy and comfortable place to live is provided for older Barnes residents here and the Trustees thanked Harrison Housing, the Managing Agents of the Fund, Jackie Taylor, the Scheme Manager, and the Friends of Walsingham Lodge who are all volunteers, most of whom live in Barnes, for the valuable work that they do.

Chris Reilly finished by recording the Barnes Workhouse Fund's enormous gratitude to Dr. Nick Boheimer who, in September 2008, would complete the maximum permitted tenure, ten years, on the Board of Trustees and had been actively involved in both the grant-making side of the Fund and also in the running of Walsingham Lodge. Dr. Boheimer's expertise, both from his professional life and from his being a resident in Barnes with his family for over 50 years remains available to the Fund, however, as he has agreed to accept the *ex officio* position of adviser. Trustees are delighted that Dr. Boheimer has chosen to continue to offer his time in this way. He and his wife Christina continue as Friends of Walsingham Lodge.

Finally the importance of bequests was mentioned. Legacies are invested in the Fund's permanent endowment so that the income can be used to benefit Barnes residents in perpetuity.

The Annual Review and the contact details of the organisations listed in this article or in the Annual Review are available from the Clerk to Trustees, Mrs Miranda Ibbetson. The Barnes Workhouse Fund can be found at [www.barnesworkhousefund.org.uk](http://www.barnesworkhousefund.org.uk), telephone 020 8241 3994, or email [barnesworkhousefund@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:barnesworkhousefund@tiscali.co.uk)

Miranda Ibbetson, Clerk to Trustees

## Queen's Award pianist to play at St Paul's



Leslie Howard, the renowned pianist

Leslie Howard is to play at the Wathen Hall on Wednesday 26th November as part of the **Music at St Paul's** season, which, in September, brought the prestigious *King's Singers* to Barnes. Howard, honoured by the Queen with the Order of Australia for Services to the Arts, will perform virtuosic Romantic piano works including a piece by Liszt based on Chopin. For tickets and further information, follow the links at [www.wathenhall.com](http://www.wathenhall.com)

## Barnes Choir – new members welcome

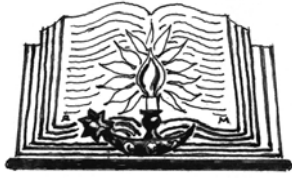
The next concert is on **6th December** at 7.30pm in All Saints Church, East Sheen Avenue. The programme features Bruckner's *Mass in E minor*, three Bruckner motets (*Afferentur regi, Ecce sacerdos magnus, Virga Jesse*) and Respighi's *Lauda per la Natività del Signore* as well as Christmas Carols with audience participation and mulled wine and mince pies in the interval!

The choir has about sixty singers and puts on concerts three times a year. It was started in 1952 and performed under the leadership of Ron Peck until his death in 1973. Peter Gellhorn was the conductor from 1973 until 2000 when Andrew Charity took over. Originally the choir was part of the Barnes Music Club but has operated independently for over fifteen years. Its programmes cover a wide variety of works from all periods and in all styles, familiar and less so. It has performed works by local composers such as Donald Swann, Alan Gibbs, Roxanna Panufnik and Brian Blyth Daubney. The choir recently performed a specially commissioned work by Michael Zev Gordon. In 2006, it visited Le Pecq and performed with choirs from France, Germany and Spain.

The spring concert is on **28th March 2009** in Queen Charlotte Hall, Parkshot, Richmond and will include Haydn's *Nelson Mass*, Tippett *Spirituals from A Child of our Time*, Britten *Cantata Misericordium* and Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on a theme by Thomas Tallis*. The summer concert is on **27th June 2009** at All Saints Church, East Sheen. It will be a programme of English and French part songs plus works by Delius, Debussy, Fauré and Berlioz.

The choir rehearses every Tuesday evening during term time from 8pm to 10pm at All Saints Church, East Sheen. New members are always welcome. Music reading ability is desirable but not necessary so long as the new member can demonstrate general vocal and musical capabilities. Contact Barnaby Marder on 8332 6220 or email [barnaby@barneschoir.org.uk](mailto:barnaby@barneschoir.org.uk).





## Did you know? Kit-Cats at Barn Elms

*The Kit-Cat Club* by Ophelia Field<sup>1</sup>, published this summer, is a complex book about a complex club. Nationally, in Whig politics, the club was hugely influential over a couple of decades from the 1690s; locally, on the Barn Elms estate, they brought distinction in both the literary and the political fields. Also some prodigious eating and drinking.

But first, what were they doing with a name like that? The story starts with a pub in the City called the Cat and Fiddle, which was run by a Mr Christopher (Kit) Cat, who was particularly famous for his pies. Writers were encouraged to eat here on the basis of 'pies for future publishing rights': the man who offered the deal and paid the landlord's bill there was Jacob Tonson, a bookseller who had already become rich by publishing Milton and Dryden.

From these beginnings, a Dining Club grew into something fascinatingly multi-faceted: think tank, literary circle, and political machine. The Club was highly effective but by modern standards sleazy, getting Jobs For The Whig Boys in a way that would not be tolerated now. But that's the 18th century for you.

Most Club members came from the ruling class, in contrast to Tonson, who was a self-made man but nevertheless was Chairman and Secretary. The one requirement for Kit-Cat<sup>2</sup> membership was support of the Whig party.

In 1703, Tonson took the lease of a house at Barn Elms to be a summer home for the dining Club. Ophelia Field says this was not the manor

house, but something 'much more modest', probably the dairy house nearby. This may have been 'modest' but it was big enough to make Tronson ask his friend, the budding architect, Vanbrugh, later of Blenheim and Castle Howard fame, to renovate its interior. And once this was done, as many as forty members at a time dined together.

Between 1697 and 1721, Sir Godfrey Kneller painted at least forty-three portraits of individual Kit-Cat members, or 'Kit-Cats' as they were known. The portraits were all in the same style and of the same size, and they were presented to Tronson to be displayed at Barn Elms. (Again, it seems the modest dairy house cannot have been all that modest, but in the 1730s Tronson's nephew built a special gallery at Barn Elms to display the portraits.) Ms Field notes that Kneller achieved fame by painting so many Kit-Cats (twenty of them peers of the realm) while to a certain extent, the Kit-Cats are famous for having been painted by Kneller.

Tronson moved away to Hereford by 1722. The Dining Club faded, after personal and political splits. Tronson and his nephew died within four months of each other. Under the nephew's will, the pictures were meant to stay at Barn Elms, but in 1812 the heirs of the heirs built a new gallery at Bayfordbury Hall for them. Finally the portraits were acquired for the nation after World War II.

But what of the modest dairy house in Barn Elms and the portrait gallery space? In spite of the

Vanbrugh interiors, the buildings were left empty and parts seem to have been used as a laundry. In 1816 and 1832, first hand accounts described the condition as dire, with rotten wood, holes in the floor; birds through the roof etc. However, importantly, on the walls chalk marks still indicated where each portrait had been hung.

The meeting and gallery space had a final but temporary reprieve under the aegis of the Ranelagh Club. This social and sporting club of aristocrats and gentry held the lease of Barn Elms from 1884 to 1939 and they were very proud of the Kit-Cat connection. Their literature and their napery boasted "Kit-Cat Club 1703" (referring to when Tonson took the lease). They fully restored the Kit-Cat space and wrote a book in 1889<sup>3</sup>, detailing all they knew.

But the Club closed in 1939 and, from 1940, the Free French had the buildings as their headquarters. In the course of war, much was spoilt; afterwards neglect and vandalism finished things off. And after the post-war fire, nothing remained here in Barnes. But the Kit-Cat portraits can still be seen, half of them in the National Portrait Gallery and half at Beningbrough Hall in Yorkshire.

Katie Gent

<sup>1</sup> *The Kit-Cat Club: Friends Who Imagined a Nation*, by Ophelia Field, Harper Press, 2008, price £25.

<sup>2</sup> The Kit-Cat Club is sometimes confused with the Hell Fire Club, a very different 18th century group.

<sup>3</sup> *The History of Barn Elms and the Kit-Cat Club*

## Remembering Sir Richard

*Prospect* editors, readers and Friends of Burton defied an autumn downpour to celebrate the extraordinary life of the Victorian explorer Sir Richard Burton at his Arab tent-styled mausoleum in Mortlake.

Sir Richard Burton was an explorer, writer, soldier, hypnotist and ethnologist who spoke thirty different languages, travelled round the world, and translated the *Kama Sutra* and *Arabian Nights* into English.

Until her death in 1896, Sir Richard's wife Lady Isabel used to hold tea parties in his memory at the mausoleum. On Monday, October 20th, the 118th anniversary of his death, *Prospect* revived the tradition.

Armed with brollies, cupcakes and flasks of tea, Burton admirers visited the tomb – discussing only matters that would have interested him, as was the rule at the original parties.

The gathering then moved inside, where Margaret-Ann Lee told the group about how she restored the tomb in 1975 after she had found it overgrown and in a terrible condition. Yannick Banks of the Friends of Burton explained about the new restoration project.

More details about the restoration plans and how you can get involved are to follow in future editions of *Prospect*.



Rachel Rickard Straus, Yannick Banks, David Walser and Jan Pienkowski at the tomb

*Do what thy manhood bids thee do, from none but self expect applause,  
He noblest lives and noblest dies who makes and keeps his self-made laws  
All other life is living death, a world where none but phantoms dwell,  
A breath, a wind, a sound, a voice, a tinkling of the camel-bell.*

From *The Kasidah* by Sir Richard Burton

Rachel Rickard Straus

## FiSH Tuesday Talks



**Barnes Green Centre**  
at 11.00am

Coffee from 10.30am, Talk 11.00am  
(40 mins)

**4th November**

Iain Radford: *Young Soldiers and Wild Animals*

**11th November**

Barbara Gilgallon: *Richmond Parish Lands Charity*

**18th November**

Pip Bevan: *Looking at the End of Life*

**25th November**

James Loch: *The Tallow Chandlers Livery Company*

**2nd December**

Anthony Gardiner: *Herbs for the Winter*

## Shop locally



This is the first in a series to try and persuade all you wine lovers to buy even more in the Barnes environs than you doubtless already do.

This month we pop into Threshers, 7 High Street Barnes, 020 8876 5253, open 10am-10pm Monday to Saturday and 11am-10pm Sunday.

A small, friendly branch of the High Street chain, part of First Quench, famous for its 3 for 2 offers which bring the price pro-rata into line with competitors. Handy when hopping off the 209, Threshers has a good range of everyday wines in the £5-£10 bracket and plenty in the chiller for immediate consumption. Three of the current best are:

**Paul Mas, Vin de Pays D'Oc, Syrah Rosé**, £8.49 (3for2 – £5.66). A delicious wine from a justifiably acclaimed producer in Southern France. Just what the rosé revolution is all about – far removed from confected, insipid stuff only fit for basting a chicken. This confident, full-bodied example is savoury and spicy with a crisp, mineral finish. A suitable lunch-time wine and a great match for creamy salads like Caesar or Waldorf.

**Chateau Camplazens, AC Coteaux de Languedoc**, La Clape, La Garrigue 2004, £11.99 (3for2 – £7.99). A splendidly crafted medal-winner from this varied region of which La Clape is a sub-AC. A sublime blend of red grapes, syrah for flavour and grenache for body. The taste of the 'garrigue' (limestone scrubland) gives a

fascinating herbaceous palate. A very versatile crowd-pleaser for hearty winter cooking, particularly roast meat or peppery stews.

**Lustau, 15 year old Dry Oloroso**, £6.99 500ml (3for2 – £4.66). This fortified wine from Jerez is a stunning bargain. A fantastic producer who supplies much of the UK supermarket 'Buyers Own Brand' Sherry. Complex flavours of roasted nuts and caramel whilst being bone dry. Serve un-chilled for the full flavour spectrum. Drink in small glasses with snacks as an aperitif. Also delicious with a slice of cake at tea-time or pungent cheeses after supper.

Next month: wines for Christmas lunch, a time when tradition usually reigns supreme! Santé! Comments to [thethirstybird@gmail.com](mailto:thethirstybird@gmail.com). *Vino Loco*

## Down on the allotment



"Look Mummy, a bonfire".

Did I hear

'bombfire'?

That is what I used to call them – you can tell I was a wartime child.

'Bombfire' time is here again, not the high drama of Guy

Fawkes, but the solitary

pleasure, on a crisp, sunny autumn afternoon, of burning all the accumulated prunings and brambles and desiccated rubbish carefully saved through the year. Are bonfires allowed? Not sure, but I feel guilty. There is no way of avoiding the tell-tale clouds of white smoke at first but then I relax as the flames gets fierce and the fire

devours its own toxic emissions like a catalytic convertor. An angry woman appears at the gate "Douse that fire immediately. You are not allowed them when the wind's in this direction," pointing towards her house. "I'm going to report you if it's not out in ten minutes". What a spoil-sport. She could have asked politely. Anyway she's too late. The fire is already dying, but in the interest of good-neighbourly relations, I spread the embers around and scatter soil on them. She doesn't come back.

It's time to tidy up, plan, reorganize the plot in a neat grid to produce next year's crops more efficiently. Who knows, the economic crisis might lead to food shortages like in wartime. I resolve not to be seduced by the mouth-watering seed catalogues and grow only what we like. Next year is going to be different.

Jack



### BARNES GUIDES AND BROWNIES

## CHRISTMAS FAIR

**Saturday 22 November, 1-4pm**  
Guide Hall, Washington Road

**Stalls include:**

Unique Jewellery  
Seasonal cards and wrapping paper  
Spring Bulbs  
Bric à Brac  
Books, CDs and DVDs  
Tombola  
Raffle  
Children's games  
Cake stall and Refreshments



## Winter arrivals!

With so many wintering birds onsite and the autumn colours out in full force, November is a great time to visit the London Wetland Centre. Wardens are

anticipating the arrival of the Centre's lone bittorn coming to wait out the winter, settled amongst the reed-beds and feeding on perch and roach.

It's all about birds at the Centre this month, with courses to interest bird enthusiasts of all ages. The Wintering Wetland Birds course on 23rd November is a great way to learn which birds call the reserve home during the colder months. This introductory course allows you to explore the site and spot the wildfowl that are out and about.

Keep an eye out for wintering shoveler, gadwall and teal that are building rapidly in numbers, while redwing, fieldfare and winter thrushes start to arrive in smaller numbers. Siskin, redpoll and brambling fly in from Scandinavia and Eastern Europe. Meanwhile,

the summer residents are now migrating off to warmer climates. Visitors and wardens alike are fascinated to see sand martin, swallow, chiffchaff and blackcap leaving the UK for Africa.

On 16th November, best selling author Colin Tudge will be at the centre to talk about his new book *Consider the Birds*. Come and learn about the secret life of birds and how they feel and think. Colin will be signing copies of the book, available for purchase in the gift shop.

The WWT Nikon Photograph of the Year competition has proved very popular again, with the national winners selected on 22nd October. Stop by the gallery to see the spectacular winning photographs taken throughout the nine WWT Centres in the UK.

The Centre is well and truly ready for Christmas, with jolly activities planned for December. Stay tuned for details about the annual Christmas pantomime *The Frog Who Hated Christmas* and the Winter Wonderland weekend featuring a very special guest, Father Christmas. *Stasa Veroukis*

## CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES

You will find the Christmas Shop again this year at the Methodist Church on Barnes Green. It will be open Monday to Saturday, 10am-4pm, from November 6th to December 18th.

Christmas cards, calendars, gifts and everything for wrapping those all-important presents from a wide selection of charities both local and national. At least 80p in every £1 goes to the charities themselves.

If you are able to help by offering a morning or an afternoon a week you would be welcomed with open arms! Please ring Elisabeth Casson on 020 8746 3242.

