



ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2017

The Clapham Society has had a busy but stable year, our membership has remained buoyant at 805 members, and the convenors of the various Sub-committees have continued their excellent work. We have recruited some vigorous and hard-working new Sub-committee members, but there is always room for more people to help keep the Clapham Society relevant and forward looking.

Andrew Summers has become convenor of the Common and Open Spaces Sub-committee. We have devoted a lot of effort into protecting and improving the Common, given its central importance to members. This has been increasingly difficult in view of the policies of Lambeth Council. Many of the issues threatening the Common remain: these include Quietway 5 and Winterville, which was cancelled for 2016 but expected to happen this winter. We object to an event of this size and duration and the fact it is not on the Events Site. We are concerned that in winter, it will be difficult to return the Common to its former state. We would like to work more closely with Lambeth Council to ensure events are regulated and not intrusive.

Lambeth Council's granting of full planning permission to itself in advance, for all events up to 5,000 attendees, for next year is worrying. Our own research tells us that local residents are not averse to events, but that any reasonable limit has now been exceeded. The more residents who express their views on this subject to local councillors, the better. A letter from the Clapham Society only counts as one view.

On a more positive note, the situation regarding litter has improved, and we are cautiously optimistic that this will improve further.

Potentially positive developments such as the proposal for a café above Clapham South Deep Shelter, the resurfacing of the basketball and netball courts along Rookery Road and the creation of a weekly Park Run remind us of the improvements which can be enjoyed.

The conversion of The Polygon WC to create a café has suffered a serious setback, with the Council and their contractor concluding the whole structure needed to be pulled down. This could be an opportunity for a better solution. We would like to see the area returned to open, hopefully green, space. We do, however, acknowledge the need for the provision of toilet facilities for bus drivers and the public. The Society coordinates its lobbying to protect the Common largely, though not solely,

with the Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee, on which a representative of the Society sits.

During the year the Planning Sub-committee received 360 planning notifications, of which 65 were reviewed in detail and the Society made representations on 34 applications.

The big projects included 42 Clapham Manor Street, the London Russian Ballet School Planning Appeal, on which a great deal of work was done by members of the Sub-committee. It is disappointing that the appeal against Lambeth's refusal to grant planning permission was upheld and permission granted. This means that the Ballet School can now go ahead with construction once they have complied with the necessary planning conditions. This was a severe blow for the Society and for local residents.

Sandwiched between the Notre Dame Estate and Lambeth College, 44 Clapham Common South Side with its four acres must be the largest site remaining to be re-developed in Clapham. We have managed to forge good links with the developer during the consultation process to try to ensure a good quality design, the right relationship with its neighbours and a suitable mix of uses. In doing so, we have also established better links with the Notre Dame Estate and we are supporting the repair and re-instatement of the Orangery, a listed building at risk, as part of the overall development.

We continue to play a proactive role in ensuring Lillieshall Road historic artisans' cottages are properly conserved as Lambeth sells them off. We have made a photographic record and have notified the Lambeth Planning Department of unauthorised building work so that they can be more vigilant and take appropriate enforcement action.

Lambeth Council has sold off Rectory Gardens as a whole to a developer, so they will no longer provide affordable housing; we remain vigilant to ensure these houses are sensitively restored.

Philip Ashford has been a hard-working and professional Convenor of the Planning Sub-committee for many years and has influenced many planning decisions with his low-key manner but firm opinions. He has developed a good working relationship with Lambeth Planning Officers, which has enabled the Clapham Society to become more influential in consultations. Philip is moving house, and therefore standing down. A huge thank you to Philip for everything he has done, and I am pleased



to announce that Sarah Bridger will be taking over his role. Many thanks to all members of the Planning Sub-committee.

Mark Leffler has done sterling work with his team on Roads and Transport. Pollution has been at the forefront of our thinking, with the 'dieselgate' scandal involving many major car companies, the dangerously high pollution levels recorded in London streets and increased aircraft noise. This led us to add our voice to the consultation exercises on Heathrow expansion plans and the impact of aircraft noise locally resulting from the existing eastern approach flightpath.

We submitted extensive comments to the GLA Transport Committee on buses, and supported the extension of the low emission zone for cars, led by the Mayor of London. We commented on Lambeth's emerging 'air quality action plan' and have been involved in two 'anti-idling' educational events aimed at raising awareness of the health hazards of stationary idling engines. We also commented on the roll out of the revised refuse collection arrangements by Lambeth.

The late night licensing of bars and restaurants, along with poorly regulated pavement licences continue to be concerns, despite the efforts of This Is Clapham, our local Business Improvement District, in providing street wardens and street cleaning services. The Society has opposed a number of licence applications during the year. A key exception was our support for a licence extension for Omnibus.

We support the efforts of This is Clapham in improving the quality of our townscapes by environmental improvements, and negotiations with TfL, Network rail and Lambeth to find direct funding on projects to enhance public spaces. We support planting in Landor Road and The Polygon, hanging baskets, and tree uprighters near Clapham Common tube station.

The Local History Sub-committee has had a busy year, being particularly active in the installation of the Society's commemorative plaques. In March, our 9th plaque was unveiled on the former headquarters of the Union of Post Office Workers by the Rt Hon Alan Johnson MP, who had worked in the building for many years. The building, in Crescent Lane, has been converted into apartments. It was an enjoyable event, well attended by members who were able to view the interior and enjoy the generous hospitality of the developer, Galliard Homes.

In July the 10th plaque was unveiled on 43 Netherford Road – the former Coroners' Court and Weights and Measures Office – by the owners of this fascinating building.

The unveiling of the 11th plaque was in early September on the Plough Brewery. This imposing building is now offices and workshops. Anya Hindmarch, the well-known designer of ladies' handbags who is based there, unveiled the plaque and many members enjoyed the generous hospitality of the owner, Marston Properties.

The Local History Sub-committee has provided 14 articles this year on a wide range of subjects to the South London Press. Subjects as diverse as *Clapham Mystery for Fu Manchu fans* through *Granville Sharp to From Ross to Experian – Lenses to Computers*. These articles are all on the Society's website, and more will follow as they are published.

We continue to receive a wide range of enquiries from around the world which we respond to – among the more interesting was one from a Swedish TV producer asking about the premises in Clapham occupied by Martin Ekenberg, scientist, fraudster and inventor of the letter bomb.

A big thank you to Derrick Johnson, the Convenor and all members of the Local History Sub-committee, who led the energetic programme of Summer Walks.

The Events Sub-committee, convened by Christine Armstrong, provided a lively programme of talks in 2017 kicking off with a spirited discussion on Brexit led by Eric Albert and Etienne Duval, both French journalists living in London.

On a wintery evening in February, we learned about the Bandstand Beds for growing on Clapham Common. There was a full house in March to hear Peter Watts talk about the iconic Battersea Power Station. Sally Kevill-Davies entertained us with slides of beautiful porcelain plates from the Chelsea Pottery drawn from designs at the Chelsea Physic Garden.

We were lucky with the weather for our July Summer Party held this year in my house, with thanks to all those who helped.

Ghostsighns enthusiast, Sam Roberts, encouraged us to look up from pavement level to spot various old, painted adverts. In June, Victoria Northridge of the Black Cultural Archives in Brixton spoke, and Julia Barfield, a local architect talked about the London Eye and Brighton's i360 in September.

We ended this year with our annual Bandstand Concert given in September by the Crystal Palace Band.

Jennifer Everett does a wonderful job handling Membership, and she is keen to convert as many members as possible to paying by Standing Order, so do please bear this in mind next time your membership subscription is due.

David Brown keeps a quiet and efficient eye on the finances, thank you. And thanks to Maev Sullivan for her continuing hard work as Acting Secretary and for her perseverance on planning and events issues.

The newsletter remains one of our biggest successes, and is the envy of many other local civic groups, a big thank you to Alyson Wilson, and her team of designers, deliverers and proofreaders.

Finally, thank you to all members who keep the Clapham Society alive and kicking. We welcome all your comments, suggestions and help

Annabel Allott
Chairman



THE CLAPHAM SOCIETY (Charity No. 279595)

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year to 31st March 2017

	2017			2016		
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
INCOME						
Subscriptions: Standing Order	3,726		3,726	3,745		3,745
Other	618		618	806		806
	<u>4,344</u>		<u>4,344</u>	<u>4,551</u>		<u>4,551</u>
Donations	1,355		1,355	1,010		1,010
Income Tax recoverable	2	0	0	92		92
Summer Party	792		792	854		854
Interest receivable	7		7	12		12
	<u>6,498</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,498</u>	<u>6,519</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,519</u>
EXPENDITURE						
Newsletter costs	1,600		1,600	1,532		1,532
Printing, postage and stationery	138		138	140		140
Meeting room hire	1,988		1,988	1,868		1,868
Summer Party	719		719	455		455
Events expenses	437		437	813		813
Subscriptions & affiliations	201		201	119		119
Insurance	130		130	252		252
Donations: St. Mary's Church Spire Fund	0		0	200		200
Lambeth Heritage Festival	140		140	0		0
Others	0		0	200		200
Commemorative plaques	569		569	629		629
Website hosting & design	954		954	1,577		1,577
Common survey	199		199	0		0
Depreciation	217		217	217		217
Sundry expenses	0		0	25		25
	<u>7,292</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,292</u>	<u>8,027</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8,027</u>
Deficit	(794)	0	(794)	(1,508)	0	(1,508)
Surplus/(Deficit) from publications	240		240	(86)		(86)
Deficit for the year	(554)	0	(554)	(1,594)	0	(1,594)
Balance brought forward	17,794	453	18,247	19,388	453	19,841
	<u>17,240</u>	<u>453</u>	<u>17,693</u>	<u>17,794</u>	<u>453</u>	<u>18,247</u>

Publications

Sales	750		648
Stock brought forward	3,613		3,697
Purchases	143		296
Other publication expenses	23		366
Stock carried forward	(3,262)		(3,613)
Cost of sales	<u>517</u>		<u>746</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	233		(98)
Bank interest	7		12
Stock written down	0		0
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	240		(86)
Balance brought forward	15,488		15,574
Designated Fund	<u>3</u>	<u>15,728</u>	<u>15,488</u>

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2017

	2017			2016	
	£	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Cost	1,331	1,462	2,793		2,793
Less: Depreciation	(1,331)	(1,311)	(2,642)		(2,425)
	<u>0</u>	<u>151</u>	<u>151</u>		<u>368</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock of publications			3,262		3,613
Debtors: HM Revenue and Customs		2,165		2,965	
Other & Prepayments		<u>1,550</u>	<u>3,715</u>	<u>1,402</u>	<u>4,367</u>
Cash at bank and in hand:					
NatWest Bank		1,764		1,533	
Charities Aid Foundation: Main Account		<u>9,236</u>	<u>11,000</u>	<u>9,223</u>	<u>10,756</u>
			<u>17,977</u>		<u>18,736</u>
Less: CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors & prepaid income			434		857
Net Current Assets			<u>17,543</u>		<u>17,879</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS			<u>17,694</u>		<u>18,247</u>
Represented by:					
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General Fund			1,513		2,306
Designated Publication Fund	3		<u>15,728</u>		<u>15,488</u>
			<u>17,241</u>		<u>17,794</u>
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Local History Fund			453		453
Legal Action Fund			0		0
			<u>453</u>		<u>453</u>
			<u>17,694</u>		<u>18,247</u>

Notes to the Accounts

- General** - These Accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with: the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the charities Act 2011.
- Income Tax Recoverable** - The amount in 2017 is nil as the income for 2017 has been offset against over estimation of tax recoverable in prior years.
- Unrestricted Funds** - The historic surpluses on publications are held in a "Designated Fund" for financing future publications.
- Risk Policy** - The major risks to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, have been reviewed and systems established to mitigate those risks.
- Other Statutory Information** - Details of the committee of the Society and the Treasurer's Report are shown in this Report.

Annabel Allott, Chairman

David Brown ACIS Treasurer
11 July 2017

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer's Report

Overall income has remained at the same level and reductions in expenditure led to a reduced deficit compared to last year. Further claims for tax recoverable under the Gift Aid scheme are now being made for recent years.

Any donations to the Legal Action Fund will be most welcome as professional (legal) fees incurred by the work of the Society can then be covered.

David Brown ACIS - Treasurer 11 July 2017

EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent Examiner's Report to the Committee

I report on the Accounts of the Society for the year to 31st March 2017, as set out above.

Respective Responsibilities of Executive Committee and Examiner

The charity trustees are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts; you consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and,
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the Accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the Accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Committee Members concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act;
 - (b) to prepare Accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the Accounts to be reached.

Anna Long FCA, 58 Crescent Lane, Clapham SW4. 11 July 2017



COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS 2016-2017

President

Martin Drury
3 Victoria Rise, SW4 0PB

Vice-President

Peter Jefferson Smith
22 Ivelley Road, SW4 0EW

Chairman

Annabel Allott
Tel: 020 7228 5551
Email: annabel@allott.plus.com

Vice-Chairman

Maev Sullivan
Tel: 020 7498 9205
Email: maevsullivan@gmail.com

Solicitor

Daniel Dovar
Tel: 020 7738 8740
Email: dd@tweezle.co.uk

Treasurer

David Brown
Tel: 020 7720 7536
Email: david.sbrown@btopenworld.com

Acting Secretary

Maev Sullivan
Tel: 020 7498 9205
Email: maevsullivan@gmail.com

Membership Secretary

Jennifer Everett
Tel: 020 7627 4770
Email: jeverett@waitrose.com

COMMITTEE

Christine Armstrong
Tel: 020 7720 7449
Email: christinearms52@hotmail.com

Philip Ashford
Tel: 020 8674 1727
Email: pashford@yahoo.co.uk

Bill Emmett
Tel: 020 7622 9234
Email: bill@perlem.demon.co.uk

Mark Leffler
Tel: 020 7720 9370
Email: mark.leffler88@gmail.com

Andrew Summers (co-opted May 2017)
Tel: 07977 454229
Email: andrew_summers_london@yahoo.co.uk

Alyson Wilson
Tel: 020 7622 6360
Email: alysonwilson.sw4@gmail.com

SUB-COMMITTEES 2016-2017

Common and Open Spaces

Andrew Summers (Convenor, from March 2017), Mary Dickinson, Jennifer Everett, Jonathan McIver (from March 2017)

Events

Christine Armstrong (Convenor), Annabel Allott, Alyson Wilson.

Local History

Derrick Johnson (Convenor), Annabel Allott, Monique Hood (until February 2017) Peter Jefferson Smith, Timothy Walker, Alyson Wilson, Anne Wilson.

Planning

Philip Ashford (Convenor), John Adams, Roger Armstrong, Sarah Bridger, Peter Copley, Kirk Nelson (from July 2017), Martin Pratt, David Whitestone. Mark Leffler, (Roads and Transport Sub-committee Liaison).

Roads and Transport

Mark Leffler (Convenor), John Adams, Philip Ashford, Jenny Copley, Jill Cramphorn, Jonathan McIver, Deborah Saunt, Virginia Stevens.

Newsletter Delivery

The following members were responsible for distributing the monthly newsletters in 2016-2017. If you would like to know who delivers to you, please contact the Membership Secretary.

Alan Bevan, Claire Brown, Nicholas Butler and Rosaleen Hughes, Ann Dunkley, Jennifer Everett, Pamela Eden, Michael Fry, Marian Gleeson, Sue Keegan, Derrick and Janet Johnson, Val Johnson, Pauline Khng, Margi Mahoney, Lili Massey, Jennifer Pearson, Stewart Pedge, Vivienne Pickering, Martin Richards, Joan Sinclair, Maev Sullivan, Jean Virgoe, Helen Widgery, Alyson Wilson.

PUBLICATIONS

Clapham through Time Alyson Wilson and Claire Fry. Amberley Publishing (2015) 96 pages. Ninety historic images of Clapham coupled with recent photographs taken from exactly the same position, with a linking historical text. A fascinating record of how Clapham has changed over the years. £15.00

Discovering Clapham. (2007) 104 pages. The book starts with an overview of the history of Clapham, setting out how it developed from a small rural village to the bustling part of inner London it is today. The following seven chapters take seven different areas of Clapham, and illustrate a selection of the interesting buildings, giving some background and details to put them in context. Illustrations and information about some notable former residents are included in appropriate places. Many of the pictures are photographs taken specifically for the book, and older pictures include prints and drawings, historic photographs as well as paintings and watercolours, which for the first time we are able to do justice to by printing in colour. £6.00 (members) or £7.50 (non-members)

The Clapham Sect. Margaret Bryant (2004) 64 pages. The story of a group of people whose activities changed the world. Wealthy Clapham businessmen and religious philanthropists, they fought to change the moral climate of their times, and campaigned against the injustices of slavery and the slave trade. Led by William Wilberforce in Parliament, their greatest achievement was the outlawing of the Atlantic slave trade in 1807. Margaret Bryant paints a vivid picture of these remarkable people and their lives in late eighteenth century Clapham and reminds us how much our modern world owes to them. £6.00 (members) or £7.50 (non-members)

Clapham in the Twentieth Century. (2002) 236 pages. A collection of letters, diaries and memories of Clapham during the century, from Graham Greene, Jack Hobbs and Noel Coward to immigrants from the West Indies, Poland and Kosovo, local businessmen, shopkeepers and schoolchildren. In the words of those who witnessed them, the book tracks the changes in Clapham from the last years of Queen Victoria's reign through two World Wars, depression, revival and gentrification to the lively, popular family area that it had become by 2000. **REDUCED TO £5.**

Clapham Saints and Sinners. Eric Smith (1987) 78 pages. A fascinating selection of extracts from the Occasional Sheets of the Clapham Antiquarian Society, packed with information about the history of Clapham and its residents. £ 5.00. Full collection of the Occasional Sheets (1947-1992) also available on CD. An invaluable resource for anyone researching Clapham history. Price on application.

Clapham Walks: Self-guided walks leaflets, each covering a different area of Clapham. Price £1 each or all seven walks for £5.00.

1. Old Clapham. A walk starting at the centre of modern Clapham and tracking back through its past, via The Polygon, Old Town, Grafton Square, North Street, Hibbert Almshouses in Wandsworth Road, Matrimony Place, St Paul's Church, Rectory Grove and back to the former Clapham Library on North Side. (Revised edition 2015)

2. Clapham North. From Clapham North Underground Station through developments of different periods, which include St John's Church, the Clapham Rise Estate (Gauden Road, Sibella Road, Chelsham Road and Bromfelde Road) Larkhall Park, Christ Church, the Springfield and Larkhall Estates, and back along Clapham Manor Street to Clapham High Street. (Revised edition 2015)

3. Around Nightingale Lane. From Clapham South Underground Station to Malwood Road and along Nightingale Lane as far as The Nightingale PH, coming back via Thurleigh Road, St Luke's Church and Hightrees House, and along the side of the Common back to Clapham South. (Revised edition 2010)

4. Clapham Common. A tour of the Common starting from Clapham Common Underground Station, taking in Holy Trinity Church, the Bandstand, Windmill Drive, and all three ponds. (Revised edition 2010)

5. South Side. From Clapham South Underground Station this walk goes along the south east border of the Common towards Clapham High Street, including a brief diversion down Narbonne Avenue, The Windmill on the Common, Notre Dame Estate and Crescent Grove. (Revised edition 2015)

6. West Side. Starting at Hightrees House at the corner of West Side and Nightingale Lane this walk follows the west side of the Common to Broomwood Road, then through the side streets to return to Canford Road and along West Side back to Broomwood Road, passing houses of various periods and detailing their former residents. (Revised edition 2015)

7. North Side. This walk starts at Clapham Common Station, going past Holy Trinity Church all along North Side, covering Church Buildings, Trinity Hospice, Cedars Terraces, Eaton House The Manor School, Parkgate House School as far as St Barnabas' Church and The Shrubbery in Lavender Gardens. The walk ends at the top of Battersea Rise. (Reprinted 2015)

Publications may be obtained from:

Alyson Wilson, 22 Crescent Grove, London SW4 7AH. Tel. 020 7622 6360
Email: alysonwilson.sw4@gmail.com

Personal callers by prior arrangement.

Postage and packing £2 per book. Please telephone to check postage if buying more than one book. Please make cheques payable to The Clapham Society

Details of meetings, activities and a full list of our publications are on the Clapham Society website at claphamsociety.com