

# ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2014

With the imminent retirement of some of our longest serving Committee Members, we have had an anxious year trying to work out how to replace the irreplaceable Anna Jefferson Smith, who has been on our Main Committee since 1999 and also convened the Commons and Open Spaces Sub-committee since 2000, is retiring this year. Anna, who joined the Society in 1967, has an encyclopaedic knowledge of all things to do with Clapham, from everything that happens on the Common to Who's Who in Lambeth Council.

Jill Cramphorn, the Society Secretary, who has kept us all accurately minuted and in perfect order since 2000, is also retiring. Jill has been an incredibly hard-working member of the Society since 1975 and held roles as a member of the Main Committee, newsletter editor in the 1980s and member of both the Roads and Transport Sub-committee and the Events Sub-committee. She remains a member of the sub-committees.

Peter Jefferson Smith, who has convened the Events Subcommittee for the last year is giving up that role, but will remain on the Sub-committee and also on the Local history Sub-committee where his unrivalled knowledge of Clapham history is invaluable, and of course he remains as Vice-President of the Clapham Society. We thank them all for their hard work and effectiveness.

It is therefore imperative that we find members willing to devote a few hours a week to Society matters and to attend Committee meetings on a regular basis. A civic society relies on its members to keep working and to maintain momentum. If other Clapham Society members are not willing to take a turn, the Society will end up moribund. Please have a careful think and let me know if you would be willing and able to help. We have 800 members, so surely some of you have time to spare and views on Clapham?

That aside, this year has been a very busy one for Committee members, who have been occupied with two key issues: the increase in the number and size of events on the Common, and the completion of the Old Town regeneration. This is in addition to our on-going work on planning, history, events and walks.

Anna Jefferson Smith has worked tirelessly on all matters relating to the Common. While much that is happening on the Common has remained under the hat of the Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee, of which we are part, the different groups and individuals on that committee have sometimes developed and followed through particular interests. The Friends of Clapham Common have devoted much time and effort to trees and biodiversity, the Bandstand Beds group represent a growing interest in community planting and the Clapham Society continues to exert pressure on Lambeth Council to provide a workable strategy for events. The previous strategy, 'refreshed' in 2008, was discarded in 2011 in order that income from the Council's parks and green spaces could be maximised.

It became apparent that the size of events, both in terms of numbers (up to 45,000 attendees), area occupied, and length of time on site were escalating, so in January a small deputation from the Clapham Society requested a meeting with Derrick Anderson, Lambeth Chief Executive. We were heard sympathetically and we have been promised a new statement of Lambeth's events policy.

Readers of our newsletter will appreciate that there are other issues surrounding events. They include suitability of venue to the type of event. Worst in this category was the Freeze Festival held last November which resulted in a lot of environmental damage with a completely inadequate amount of money spent on re-instatement.

We are working with a barrister to try to unravel the law as it applies to Metropolitan Commons, and in particular as it relates to commercial activity on Clapham Common. Daniel Dovar has done a great job in making this happen. Members will be kept updated. If there are any solicitors or barristers amongst our members who would be keen to provide advice and assistance, we would be only too delighted to know!

Sadly our excellent Area Parks Manager, Victor Chin-Kit, has been away for months because of illness and compassionate leave. This has increased the burden on officers with borough wide responsibility, in particular Dave Paul and Dr Iain Boulton. Jeff Macdonald of Veolia has remained as committed as ever to the care of our precious green space.

As the Old Town regeneration project draws to a close, opinion seems largely in favour of the new space, with a few concerns remaining on the placement of pedestrian crossings, some worries about pavement safety in regard to the 'Copenhagen' crossings and cycle lanes. There is also some concern about the tree-planting programme. A loud and colourful



celebration marked the practical completion of the works at the beginning of June on the new piazza adjoining The Polygon. Monitoring the progress of the agreed scheme, and subsequent amendments to it, has been the major pre-occupation of the Roads and Transport Sub-committee, energetically led by Mark Leffler.

Other issues looked at by the sub-committee this year include the complexity and cost of parking controls across the area, commercial refuse collection arrangements, pedestrian safety at major junctions, and recently the proposals to redevelop the bus station at Vauxhall Cross as part of plans to remove the gyratory road scheme.

Vauxhall is a vitally important point of interchange between bus, tube and rail, as well as being one of the busiest road junctions in the country. A programme of public consultation is proposed to commence this autumn on options that all currently envisage removal of the existing bus station and creation of a new shopping precinct. While outside our area, this development has important implications for Clapham's residents and businesses, and it is appropriate that the Society should help to facilitate full consideration of the scheme. The sub-committee will be liaising with other amenity groups to this end.

The Planning Sub-committee headed up by Philip Ashford has been notified of 320 planning applications, of which 55 were reviewed in-depth and representations were made on 24. Details of the most important of these have appeared regularly in the newsletter. The sub-committee's work was made harder by having to view all applications at the new library rather than having copies available to take to their meetings. However, following a request to Lambeth Council, viewing applications and borrowing files has improved.

A lot of time was taken with objections to applications which intensified restaurant/bar activities in the Old Town with attendant increased noise and social issues. Representations were made on the housing co-op properties being sold off by Lambeth Council. We opposed these sales and supported residents who were objecting. The sub-committee also recorded features of these heritage assets before they went to auction.

Applications concerning 3-5 Turnchapel Mews received much attention, as the proposals involve practically demolishing a number of historic buildings with the replacements being over-large replicas.

Under the guidance of Derrick Johnson, convenor of the Local History Sub-committee, the Society's fifth commemorative plaque was unveiled on the former Parochial Church School (35 Macaulay Road) on 23 May by Frederique van der Vorm, the owner of the property. Progress is being made on further plaques for the Oddfellows Hall, Clapham Pottery and Omnibus.

A photographic project was launched with a good response to the newsletter request for volunteers to photograph Clapham's streets and some high quality images have been received. Members of the sub-committee led our regular programme of summer walks together with further walks for Wandsworth Heritage Festival, the May Day Common People event, and Clapham Manor Primary School. Local history now forms part of the syllabus for year 3 children and we also supplied material to Eaton House The Manor and Wix's Lane Schools. This year we have manned our display stands at a record number of events: the May Day Common People event, Wandsworth Heritage Festival, Clapham Old Town opening, St Paul's Summer Fair, The Common Fayre, Abbeville Fete, Studio Voltaire Open Studios Day and Lambeth Archives Open Day.



Josephine Osikena, Peter and Anna Jefferson Smith with local MP, Kate Hoey, on the Clapham Society stand at St Paul's Summer Fair.

Our monthly meetings are now held at Omnibus, 1 Clapham Common North Side and this has proved a very popular venue. We have been entertained and educated by local members including Vicky Pryce talking of her prison experiences and her views on how the prison system serves women, by Michael Crick on his encounters with politics and politicians and we were reminded of Clapham's association with the bicycle in a talk by Roger Armstrong. Local issues were covered in talks on Sustaining the High Street by Jeremy Keates and on the plans for Nine Elms on the South Bank by Helen Fisher.

Our annual Summer Party was very successful. It was held at the home of Wayne Amiel who has an exuberant and colourful Jamaican garden which was greatly enjoyed. This year again the Clapham Society organised its own late summer concert on Clapham Common Bandstand with the Dixie Strollers, a seven-piece Jazz band.

The Clapham Society now has a Facebook page, and we are on Twitter, so please do re-tweet and add your 'like' to the page. We have recently introduced a 'Last Minute News' on our website. We are grateful to our webmaster, Christina Bonnett, for these additions as well as for her regular, efficient maintenance of the website.

A big thank you to all the newsletter deliverers who make sure the newsletters arrive whatever the weather. Thank you to all our speakers and to the hardworking Committee members. I want to be able to introduce you to the new generation of Committee members next year.

Annaber Allott Annahel Allott

Annabel Allott Chairman



# THE CLAPHAM SOCIETY (Charity No. 279595)

#### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year to 31st March 2014

Statement of Financial Activit	ies for th	e Year to	o 31st M	arch 2014		
		2014			2013	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Note	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME Subscriptions: Standing Order	2 5 5 5		2 555	2 626		2 626
Other	3,555 742		3,555 742	3,626 740		3,626 740
Other	4,297	-	4,297	4,366	-	4,366
Donations	4,297		4,297	4,500		4,500
Income Tax recoverable 2	504		504	306		306
Summer Party	962					828
Interest receivable	962		962	828		
Interest receivable	7,364	0	7,364	7,306	0	7,306
EXPENDITURE	/,304	0	7,304	7,500	0	7,500
Newsletter costs	2,111		2,111	1,625		1,625
Printing, postage and stationery	371		371	504		504
Meeting room hire	1,017		1,017	814		814
Summer Party	775		775	676		676
Events expenses	651		651	308		308
Subscriptions & affiliations	140		140	508 148		148
Insurance	252		252	252		252
Donations: Chairs for Omnibus	1,700			232		232
Others			1,700	1,552		
	195 1.031		195 1.031	611		1,552 611
Commemorative plaques Website maintenance	555		555	1,104		1.104
Professional fees	600		600	500		500
			2,355	1,354		1.354
Leaflets relating to Clapham Common Geophysical survey	2,333		2,355	1,554		1,334
Depreciation	538		538	538		538
Sundry expenses	338 80		338 80	558 154		154
Sundry expenses	12,371	0	12.371	10,338	0	
Deficit	-5,007	0	-5,007	-3,032	0	10,338
Surplus from publications	-3,007 285	0	-3,007 285	-5,032	0	-5,052
Deficit for the year	-4.722	0	-4.722	-2,511	0	-2,511
		-		35,524	-	
Balance brought forward	35,524 30,802	453	35,977	33,013	453	35,977
	50,802	455	31,255	55,015	455	33,466
Publications						
Sales	707			1,327		
Stock brought forward	7.383	-		8,034	-	
Purchases	0			0,054		
Other publication expenses	117			175		
Stock carried forward	-7,067			-7,383		
Cost of sales	433	-		826	-	
Surplus:	274	-		501		
Bank interest	11			20		
Stock written down	0			20		
Surplus for year	285	-		521		
Balance brought forward	17,929			17,408		
Designated Fund 3	18,214	-		17,408		
Designateu Fullu 5	10,414	-		17,729		

# **FINANCIAL REPORT**

## Treasurer's Report

The income of the Society was similar to last year; subscriptions and donations are slightly down, with gift aid tax recoverable and summer party receipts compensating for this.

The deficit for the year was largely accounted for by the following significant items of expenditure; donation to Omnibus of  $\pounds 1,700$  to purchase stacking chairs, two commemorative plaques for local buildings (one of which a donation was received to covered the cost) and the design and cost of Bandstand booklets.

As mentioned in Note 2 a claim for tax recoverable under the gift aid scheme has been made for the earliest year 2009-10 since the year-end and funds received from HMR&C. Claims for the subsequent years are in progress. *David Brown ACIS - Treasurer 30 August 2014* 

# **EXAMINER'S REPORT**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Committee

I report on the Accounts of the Society for the year to 31st March 2014, 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:

 $\cdot$  examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;

· to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and

 $\cdot$  to 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 trustees 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:

(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. 30 August 2014

#### Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2014

			2014		2013	
	Note					
FIXED ASSETS	THOLE	£ Website & Software	£ Newsletter CD/Display Boards	£ Total	£	£
Cost		1,331	1,462	2,793		2,793
Less: Depreciation		-1,108	-661	-1,769		-1,231
CURRENT ASSETS		223	801	1,024		1,562
Stock of publications				7,067		7,383
Debtors: HM Revenue and Customs			3,637		3,133	
Other & Prepayments			312	3,949	109	3,242
Cash at bank and in hand:						
NatWest Bank			1,242		1,605	
Charities Aid Foundation: Main Account			16,187		20,168	
In hand			0	17,429	18	21,791
				28,445		32,416
Less: CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Creditors & prepaid income				675		512
Net Current Assets				27,770		31,904
TOTAL NET ASSETS				28,794		33,466
Represented by:						
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				10.077		15 004
General Fund	3	,		10,077		15,084
Designated Publication Fund	2	,		18,214 28,291		<u>17,929</u> 33,013
				20,291		35,015
RESTRICTED FUNDS						
Local History Fund				453		453
Legal Action Fund				50		0
				503		453
				28,794		33,466

#### Notes to the Accounts

**1. General** - These Accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities.

**2. Income Tax Recoverable** - represents the estimated sum recoverable for five years ended 31 March 2014. Since the year end £426 plus interest £8.57 has been received for the earliest year 2010.

**3. Unrestricted Funds** - The historic surpluses on publications are held in a "Designated Fund" for financing future publications.

**4. 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.

5. Other Statutory Information - Details of the committee of the Society and the Treasurer's Report are shown on other pages of this Report.

Annabel Allott, Chairman

<sup>(</sup>a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the of the 2011Act; and section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act

David Brown ACIS Treasurer 30 August 2014



# **COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS 2013-2014**

**President Martin Drury** 3 Victoria Rise, SW4 0PB

Vice-President Peter Jefferson Smith 22 Iveley Road, SW4 0EW

Chairman Annabel Allott 21 Clapham Common West Side, SW4 9AN

Vice-Chairman Maev Sullivan 2 Fitzwilliam Road, SW4 0DN

Solicitor Daniel Dovar 48 Clapham Manor Street, SW4 6DZ

Treasurer David Brown 15 Turret Grove, SW4 0ES

Secretary Jill Cramphorn 552 Wandsworth Road, SW8 3JX

Membership Secretary Jennifer Everett 30 Trinity Close, SW4 0JD

COMMITTEE John Adams 18<sup>1/2</sup> Macaulay Road, SW4 0QX

Jenny Cobley 11 Broadhinton Road, SW4 0LU

Bill Emmett 13 Crescent Lane, SW4 9PT

Michael English 12 Denny Crescent, SE1 4UY

Anna Jefferson Smith 22 Iveley Road, SW4 0EW

Mark Leffler 65 Crescent Lane, SW4 9PT

Ebuni Okolo 86b Ferndale Road, SW4 7SE

Alyson Wilson 22 Crescent Grove, SW4 7AH

SUB-COMMITTEES 2013-2014

**Common and Open Spaces** 

Anna Jefferson Smith (Convenor), Mary Dickinson (from May), Jennifer Everett, Michael Fry, Alison Macnair, Deryn Watson. Advisor Diana Bell.

# Events

Peter Jefferson Smith (Convenor), John Adams, Annabel Allott, Jill Cramphorn, Ebuni Okolo, Maev Sullivan, Alyson Wilson.

## Local History

Derrick Johnson (Convenor), Annabel Allott, Monique Hood, Peter Jefferson Smith, Alyson Wilson, Anne Wilson.

## Planning

Philip Ashford (Convenor), John Adams, Roger Armstrong, Peter Cobley, Ellen Leslie, Martin Pratt, David Whitestone, Mark Leffler (Roads and Transport liaison).

## Roads and Transport

Mark Leffler (Convenor) John Adams, Philip Ashford, Jenny Cobley, Jill Cramphorn, Teresa Israel, Deborah Saunt, Virginia Stevens.

## Newsletter Delivery

The following members were responsible for distributing the monthly newsletters in 2013-2014. If you would like to know who delivers to you, please contact the Membership Secretary. Christine Armstrong, Alan Bevan, Nicholas Butler and Rosaleen Hughes, Ann Dunkley, Jennifer Everett, Michael Fry, Marian Gleeson, Keith Grant Peterkin (until June), Monique Hood, Derrick and Janet Johnson, Val Johnson, Anna Long, Lili Massey, Charity McEvoy (until June), Alison Newbery (from August), Jennifer Pearson, Stewart and Ros Pedge, Martin Richards, Anna Roads, Vivienne Pickering, Joan Sinclair, Hazel Smith, Maev Sullivan (from February), Jean Virgoe, Helen Widgery, Alyson Wilson.

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# PUBLICATIONS

*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.

This is our first colour publication. 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. NOW 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.

*CD of Clapham Antiquarian Society Occasional Sheets.* (2005) The entire collection of monthly sheets (see above) issued between 1947 and 1992 by the CAS, which merged with the Clapham Society in 2005, on a 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 2011**)

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 2011)

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 2011)

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 2011)

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. (Currently out of print. To be reprinted in 2015)

We also have stocks of several FREE publications: Clapham Common Trees and CS50, our 50th anniversary celebration booklet. If you would like copies of these please contact Alyson Wilson.

Publications may be obtained from:

Alyson Wilson, 22 Crescent Grove, London SW4 7AH. Tel. 020 7622 6360

Email: alysonwilson.sw4@virgin.net. Personal callers by prior arrangement.

Please telephone or email to check postal charges which will vary according to your order. 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

Our books are also available at Clapham Books, 26 The Pavement, SW4 0JA.