

# The Clapham Society

## Newsletter



Issue 411

October 2018

## Wild about Clapham

Andrew Wilson's new book of stunning photographs *Wild about Clapham* will be launched on **Monday 15 October** and on sale at the Annual General Meeting. The book records Clapham throughout the year, showing activities, streets, unusual views, shops and above all beautiful wild life photographs, all much better in full colour than we can show here.



photo: Andrew Wilson

## Autumn Gala Concert

St Paul's Opera gala concert on **Friday 12 October**, will entertain loyal supporters and, hopefully, some new followers with favourites from the operatic repertoire. Doors open at 7 pm, and the concert starts at 7.30 pm. Tickets at £15, including a glass of wine, can be purchased online at: [spo-18autumngala.eventbrite.co.uk](http://spo-18autumngala.eventbrite.co.uk) or on the door. Venue: St Paul's Church, Rectory Grove, SW4 0DX.

St Paul's Opera has been nominated for the Skipton Building Society Grassroots Giving Initiative. You can help their nomination by voting for them. To find the application and an opportunity to cast your vote go to: [skiptongrg.co.uk/apply-for-funding/2018-shortlisted-groups/london/st-pauls-opera](http://skiptongrg.co.uk/apply-for-funding/2018-shortlisted-groups/london/st-pauls-opera).

## Black History Month

October is Black History month, a celebration of history, arts, literature and film in Lambeth, details of which are shown in the guide available at Lambeth Libraries, Omnibus Theatre and other local venues. Highlights include *Call Mr Robeson*, a look at the life of the actor, singer and civil rights campaigner, Paul Robeson, a walking tour with Michael Groce, BBC Windrush poet and community leader, and tours of the Black Cultural Archives Centre in Windrush Square, Brixton.

Our meetings are held at Omnibus Theatre, 1 Clapham Common North Side, SW4 0QW. The talk will commence promptly at 8 pm and the bar will open prior to the talk at 7 pm. Our guest will normally speak for about 45 minutes, followed by around 15 minutes for questions and discussion, and the bar will remain open after the talk. Meetings are free and open to non-members, who are invited to make a donation. Please arrive in good time to ensure entry. There is a limit on the number the theatre can accommodate and you will not be admitted when that number is reached.

### Monday 15 October

**Annual General Meeting.** After the formal part of the meeting there will be a brief presentation by Andrew Wilson of his new book *Wild About Clapham*, which will be available at the meeting.

The guest speaker will be **Councillor Sonia Winifred**, whose responsibilities as Lambeth's Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture include libraries and Archives. After a long career as a librarian she has a particular and informed interest in libraries and especially the future of the Archives. She recently presented to Cabinet the report on the future of Lambeth Archives, which resulted in the decision to relocate the Archives to a new building in Kennington.

### Monday 19 November

**Past Caring: The History of Bethlem.** Bethlem Royal Hospital was founded in 1247 and was the first institution in the UK to specialise in the care of the mentally ill. The hospital continues to provide in-patient care as part of the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, and has been based in south London since 1930. **Amy Moffat**, Community Engagement Officer from Bethlem Museum of the Mind, will speak about the long history of the institution, whose name Bedlam became a synonym for chaos and confusion.

**There is no meeting in December. The first meeting in 2019 will be on Monday 21 January 2019.**

## Clapham Common

We now expect the Council's planning committee to consider Winterville's application in early October. Over the summer we have had several useful meetings with other interested parties, including the Friends of Clapham Common and the Open Spaces Society to consider what more can be done to stop the tragedy that continues to afflict part of the Common. We are also fortunate to have the insightful legal mind of the Society's Hon. Solicitor. In short, that substantial, central part of Clapham Common has been disfigured ALL YEAR (it still looks awful) and it is disgraceful that Lambeth Council thinks this is okay. This is especially the case given that the majority of local councillors

oppose the event, the Clapham Common Management Committee (CCMAC) has come out strongly against it and objections outnumbered supporters almost five to one in the consultation period. We hope to share more news with you in due course as we co-ordinate our efforts.

At the end of September the Common's summer cleaning regime will come to an end. Incredibly, despite being designated a 'high density' space, this means that there will be no litter picking or bin emptying from Friday afternoon until Monday morning. As we have seen in recent years, on many weekends (and not necessarily just mild sunny ones) this is a recipe for a litter strewn Common. It is essential that we confront this problem; almost nothing else we do on

the Common matters if it is covered in litter. And, as we know, litter begets more litter. We are working with the council on possible solutions, but none of Lambeth's high density open spaces have 'low' season cleaning regimes at weekends so it will be a challenge to make a special case for Clapham Common. We would encourage you all to report to the Council any examples of litter, via photographs if possible. The council has Key Performance Indicators that it is obliged to measure itself against regarding litter. Should we be able to prove that they are falling short of these over time, we have a stronger case for demanding new arrangements are put in place. Contact them at [parksoperations@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:parksoperations@lambeth.gov.uk).

Andrew Summers

## Vesta Tilley

The Common Room at Omnibus Theatre was packed for our September meeting, which was also part of Lambeth Heritage Festival, for an excellent presentation about the male impersonator, Vesta Tilley. The talk was devised by Keith Fawkes and Richard Norman who share a life-long interest in the history of Music Hall and Variety. Keith was involved for many years in the management of the Players' Theatre in Villiers Street.

Matilda Powles, was born in Worcester in 1894. Her father was a comedy actor, songwriter and music hall manager. She first appeared on stage with him at the age of three, and was six years old when she first dressed in male clothing. She quickly became popular and well paid, travelling and performing so that she never attended a school. As a teenager she changed her name – Tilley being an abbreviation of Matilda, and Vesta referring to the Roman goddess and the well-known brand of safety matches. She devoted her life entirely to performing, and it was not until she was 25, and after much persuasion, that she married Walter de Frece at Brixton Register Office. The Lambeth connection was cemented when the couple went to live in Herne Hill, and she befriended another local star, Dan Leno.

The talk was interspersed with film clips and songs made popular by Vesta, several from a film in which Pat Kirkwood played the part of the star. We saw her in military uniform, singing the songs for which she became so famous, and helping the war effort during WW1. We followed her glittering career, as she went to the USA, met Oswald Stoll, performed for King George V and Queen Mary (who was said to have been shocked by the cross-dressing) and received an award from Dame Ellen Terry. Then, in 1920 she took the decision to retire, after a year's farewell tour for charity.

In 1919 Walter de Frece had been knighted for war services, and was soon elected Member of Parliament for Ashton-under-Lyne. As Lady de Frece, Vesta Tilley took a back seat, and when her husband retired they spent most of their time at their home in Monte Carlo. Vesta Tilley died at the age of 88 in 1952, having survived her husband by 17 years.

Keith and Richard gave us a thoroughly enjoyable evening, with their cleverly constructed, entertaining talk. One strange thing Keith pointed out is that no recording survives of Vesta Tilley's most famous song, *Burlington Bertie*.



photo: Dana Kubick

## The Battersea Society

On **Thursday 18 October** there will be a talk on the life of Caroline Ganley MP given by historian Dr Sue Demont. As MP for Battersea South 1945-51, Caroline was one of just 23 women MPs in the 1945 Parliament. She also served as President of the London Co-operative Society, as a borough and county councillor, and as one of the first women magistrates in London. Two days later a commemorative plaque to honour Caroline will be unveiled.

The talk will take place at St Mary's Church, Battersea Church Road, SW11 3NA at 6.30 pm for 7 pm (refreshments available). £5 donation on the door. The plaque unveiling by Lord Dubs will take place on **Saturday 20 October**. Meet at Battersea Arts Centre main entrance at 11 am to proceed to 5 Thirsk Road SW11 5SU.





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## ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2018

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I am pleased to report that the Clapham Society in 2018 remains a vigorous and active organisation, and I am delighted to tell you that we have recruited some new Committee Members with fresh ideas and energy. Gill White has taken up the role of Clapham Society Secretary and Tristram Holland has joined the Committee with a broad brief.

Andrew Summers has been patient and persistent in his role as Convenor of the Clapham Common and Open Spaces Sub-committee. He has continued to encourage Lambeth to balance the legitimate use of the Common as a space for events (large and small) with its primary role as a place of calm and beauty for all users, for which we thank him gratefully.

Whilst well-intentioned people can have very genuine differences of opinion as to where the balance should be struck, we are clear that the Council is in a very different place to us in this regard. As a Society, our challenge is how we shift Lambeth's position given the substantial revenue it creates and, in our opinion, the blasé attitude some of its officers and representatives have about the impact the events schedule has on the Common. Our strategy thus far has been to engage with Lambeth via our role on the Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee (CCMAC) so we are delighted that the CCMAC came out forcefully against Winterville being held on the grass as in 2017. The extensive ground area used for Winterville is still severely damaged.

This year, we were able to take things one step further, we were able to collect email addresses of just under half of all our members and obtain their permission to contact them on matters of interest. We have no doubt that this endeavour was instrumental in increasing the number of objections from 60 last year to 300 this year, whilst almost tripling the ratio of objections to supporting comments.

Sadly, we were not able to stop Lambeth voting through a 'blanket planning' approval once again for an unlimited number of events, each attracting up to 5,000 people, without the need for planning permission. Furthermore, we might be rightly sceptical about the likely success of our efforts in opposing Winterville this year. In short, we believe that to effect a material shift in Lambeth's position on events on the Common will require us to involve our membership more imaginatively in these campaigns. Whilst suggestions and comments from our members are always welcome, the Society's Committee alone cannot effect positive change. That will require much more of

our members' time and resources. This is a key priority for us in the year ahead.

The membership remains constant at just over 800 members. Of course it fluctuates with people leaving the area and others dying. Since January this year, 31 new members have joined.

In order to comply with the change initiated by the General Data Protection Regulation in May, all existing members were asked to confirm their contact details and the Society's Privacy Policy has been published on our website. Both the application form and the Constitution will be amended to cover the GDPR.

The Committee has voted on a subscription increase, well overdue as the last increase was over twenty years ago. Consequently, from 1 April 2019 the subscription will be £10.00 for individuals, £15.00 for households and £25.00 for business membership. Thank you to Jennifer Everett for her hard work and due diligence.

The subscription continues to represent excellent value for money as our meetings are free, and the newsletter is still considered to be an exceptional example of a local Society newsletter. Thank you to Alyson Wilson, and the design, proofreading and delivery helpers. Since our last AGM, the Clapham Society has held several social functions and hosted numerous local guided walks as well as organising and funding the annual Bandstand Concert.

Thanks to Christine Armstrong, we have been entertained and informed with talks on medical issues, including antibiotics and dementia, on underground London and above ground Victorian architecture, and the South London Botanical Institute. We have been entertained listening to tales of historical figures from Ernest Shackleton to Ada Lovelace and Vesta Tilley.

Derrick Johnson has worked hard as usual as Convenor of the Local History Sub-committee, and the 12th Green Plaque was unveiled on the Clapham Common Deep Shelter on 15 June by Richard Ballard of Growing Underground who use part of it to grow micro-herbs and vegetables. The Mayor of Lambeth, Councillor Christopher Wellbelove, attended.

We have now had over 20 local history articles published in the South London Press. These are all very interesting and well written, and may be viewed on the Society's website. We are

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collaborating with Andrew Wilson on a new book to be called *Wild about Clapham*. This is part of his popular photographic series on London villages. It will be available for purchase at the AGM.

Members led a series of well attended walks, some of which formed part of the Lambeth and Wandsworth Heritage festivals. New walks were 'Clapham in World War Two' and a Ghost Signs walk.

During the year, the Planning Sub-committee headed up by the young and enthusiastic Sarah Bridger received roughly 400 planning notifications, and the Society made representations on over 50 applications.

Our main projects included objecting to the inappropriate redevelopment of 397 Clapham Road, which sought to demolish the rear elevation of the original early-19th century building so it could be extended to increase the number of flats in the development. The application was sadly approved by the Council, despite the fact it was not accompanied by a viability assessment to support the substantial demolition of a historic building in a conservation area, and it will also have a considerable impact on the amenity of neighbouring residents.

Another project that the Society has taken an active role in is the redevelopment of the vacant plot at 18-19 The Pavement, which has been of primary concern to the Society since the original building burnt down in 1999. The Planning Sub-committee attended a consultation meeting with the architects of the new development, Marks Barfield, and supported the redevelopment of the site with a high-quality contemporary building that responded to the scale and character of The Pavement. At the time of writing, the scheme was due to be determined at the forthcoming Planning Committee.

We also objected to a planning appeal lodged against an application that was refused for the extension of the rear of 79-81 Clapham Common South Side, to increase the number of hotel rooms for the existing Dudley Hotel. The Society engaged with local residents to understand how the development would affect their amenity, which formed the basis of our objection, together with the impact the development would have on the character and appearance of the conservation area. The appeal is currently awaiting a decision.

The Society continued to take an active role in shaping the redevelopment of the Westbury Estate, and whilst several of our comments were taken on board, we remained opposed to the erection of a ten-storey tower next to Wandsworth Road. Despite our objections, the scheme was approved by Lambeth earlier this year.

Mark Leffler is as energetic as ever, and he and his Sub-committee have continued to represent the Society on a range of townscape and transport matters. He has worked closely with 'This is Clapham' BID to secure funding and other resources for townscape, environmental, transport and safety improvements in the North Clapham area. The northern end of the High Street is recognised by Transport for London (TfL) as a major accident blackspot, and any solution to the traffic problems in this area needs to be linked to improving the pedestrian crossing points between Clapham High Street and

Clapham North stations, together with environmental improvements to a resurgent Voltaire Road.

A further ongoing issue concerns the severe congestion at the three Clapham Northern Line stations at peak times, and with the development of ever denser housing schemes in the area, this situation will only get worse. The Clapham Society is working with the BID and Clapham Transport Users Group to seek broader support to address these problems through a range of initiatives, including investment in new and longer platforms to accommodate additional trains at Clapham High Street station. This needs to be combined with wheelchair accessibility and with new and improved bus links to key destinations in order to relieve pressure on the Northern Line.

Clapham Society members, and anyone living near Old Town will know of the ongoing visual blight on the site of the former public lavatories on The Polygon. In spite of efforts from various quarters to achieve a speedy resolution to the Council's ill-conceived plans to convert the building for retail use, unsightly hoardings were erected to enclose a large area of the recently completed, and award winning piazza, in April 2017. Around the time of the AGM last year, and after several weeks of lobbying when the entire building was demolished, the fenced off area was finally reduced but the Council took several more months to conclude that the whole area should revert to open space and a proposal to landscape was put in train.

Many thanks to David Brown who keeps our finances in excellent order.

Of course, The Clapham Society would cease to function without you, our Members. Please become active and vocal during 2019 on any subject upon which you feel strongly!

Annabel Allott  
Chairman  
September 2018



## THE CLAPHAM SOCIETY (Charity No. 279595)

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year to 31st March 2018

	2018			2017		
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
<b>INCOME</b>						
Subscriptions: Standing Order	3,872		3,872	3,726		3,726
Other	540		540	618		618
	4,412		4,412	4,344		4,344
Donations	1,227	5,135	6,362	1,355		1,355
Income Tax recoverable	1,484		1,484	0		0
Summer Party	744		744	792		792
Interest receivable	1		1	7		7
	<u>7,868</u>	<u>5,135</u>	<u>13,003</u>	<u>6,498</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,498</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
Newsletter costs	2,052		2,052	1,600		1,600
Printing, postage and stationery	419		419	138		138
Meeting room hire	2,190		2,190	1,988		1,988
Summer Party	793		793	719		719
Events expenses	657		657	437		437
Subscriptions & affiliations	194		194	201		201
Insurance	150		150	130		130
Donations: Lambeth Heritage Festival	0		0	140		140
Others	0		0	0		0
Commemorative plaques	95		95	569		569
Website hosting & design	1,508		1,508	954		954
Common survey	0		0	199		199
Depreciation	76		76	217		217
Sundry expenses	20		20	0		0
	<u>8,154</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8,154</u>	<u>7,292</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,292</u>
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<u>(286)</u>	<u>5,135</u>	<u>4,849</u>	<u>(794)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(794)</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) from publications	343		343	240		240
<b>Surplus(Deficit) for the year</b>	<u>57</u>	<u>5,135</u>	<u>5,192</u>	<u>(554)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(554)</u>
Balance brought forward	17,794	453	18,247	17,794	453	18,247
	<u>17,851</u>	<u>5,588</u>	<u>23,439</u>	<u>17,240</u>	<u>453</u>	<u>17,693</u>
<b>Publications</b>						
Sales	705		705	750		750
Stock brought forward	3,262		3,262	3,613		3,613
Purchases	60		60	143		143
Other publication expenses	53		53	23		23
Stock carried forward	(3,009)		(3,009)	(3,262)		(3,262)
Cost of sales	366		366	517		517
<b>Surplus</b>	<u>339</u>		<u>339</u>	<u>233</u>		<u>233</u>
Bank interest	4		4	7		7
Surplus for the year	343		343	240		240
Balance brought forward	15,728		15,728	15,488		15,488
<b>Designated Fund</b>	<u>16,071</u>		<u>16,071</u>	<u>15,728</u>		<u>15,728</u>

### Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2018

	2018			2017		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>						
Cost	1,331	1,462	2,793			2,793
Less: Depreciation	(1,331)	(1,387)	(2,718)			(2,642)
	<u>0</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>75</u>			<u>151</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>						
Stock of publications			3,009			3,262
Debtors: HM Revenue and Customs	2	2,642		2,165		
Other & Prepayments		272	2,914	1,550		3,715
Cash at bank and in hand:						
NatWest Bank		19,358		1,764		
Charities Aid Foundation: Main Account		0	19,358	9,236		11,000
			25,281			17,977
<b>Less: CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>						
Creditors			2,470			434
<b>Net Current Assets</b>			<u>22,811</u>			<u>17,543</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>			<u>22,886</u>			<u>17,694</u>
<b>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</b>						
General Fund			1,227			1,513
Designated Publication Fund	3		16,071			15,728
			<u>17,298</u>			<u>17,241</u>
<b>RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>						
Local History Fund				453		453
Legal Action & Special Purposes Fund				5,135		0
				<u>5,588</u>		<u>453</u>
			<u>22,886</u>			<u>17,694</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** - represents estimated sum recoverable for three years ended 31 March 2018
- 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  
9 July 2018

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### Treasurer's Report

Our overall income from subscriptions remained similar to last year, and the Society has greatly benefitted from donations to the Legal Action Fund. Claims were made for tax recoverable for recent years under the Gift Aid scheme and further claims will be made.

David Brown ACIS - Treasurer 9 July 2018

## EXAMINER'S REPORT

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Committee

I report on the Accounts of the Society for the year to 31st March 2018, 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:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act;
- to prepare Accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- 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. 9 July 2018





## COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS 2017-2018

### President

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

### Vice-President

**Peter Jefferson Smith**  
22 Ivelley Road, SW4 0EW

### Chairman

**Annabel Allott** Email: annabel@allott.plus.com

### Vice-Chairman (until February 2018)

**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 (until February 2018)

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

### Secretary (co-opted May 2018)

**Gillian White** Tel: 020 7720 7496  
Email: gillian.white@icloud.com

### Membership Secretary

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

### COMMITTEE

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

**Sarah Bridger** Tel: 07855 458647  
Email: sarahbridger1066@gmail.com

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

**Tristram Holland (co-opted May 2018)** Tel: 020 7627 2841  
Email: tristram@hollandhyatt.com

**Mark Leffler** Tel: 020 7720 9370  
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**Andrew Summers** Tel: 07977 454229  
Email: andrew\_summers\_london@yahoo.co.uk

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

### SUB-COMMITTEES 2017-2018

#### Common and Open Spaces

Andrew Summers (Convenor), Jennifer Everett, Tristram Holland.

#### Events

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

#### Local History

Derrick Johnson (Convenor), Annabel Allott, Peter Jefferson Smith, Timothy Walker, Alyson Wilson, Anne Wilson.

#### Planning

Sarah Bridger (convenor) John Adams, Roger Armstrong, Peter Cobley, Martin Pratt, David Whitestone. Mark Leffler (Roads and Transport Sub-committee Liaison).

#### Roads and Transport

Mark Leffler (Convenor), John Adams, Jenny Cobley, Jill Cramphorn, Daniel Instone.

#### Newsletter Delivery

The following members were responsible for distributing the monthly newsletters in 2017-2018. If you would like to know who delivers to you, please contact the Membership Secretary.

Alan Bevan, Sarah Bridger (from February 2018), Claire Brown, Nicholas Butler and Rosaleen Hughes, Ann Dunkley, Bill Emmett, Jennifer Everett, Pamela Eden, Michael Fry, Marian Gleeson, Sue Keegan, Derrick and Janet Johnson, Val Johnson, Pauline Khng, Lili Massey, Jennifer Pearson, Stewart Pedge, Vivienne Pickering, Martin Richards (to January 2018), Joan Sinclair, Maev Sullivan (to February 2018), Jean Virgoe, Deryn Watson (from March 2018), 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 2018)

**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:

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#### 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](http://claphamsociety.com)



photo: Jim Glover

## Windrush: Portrait of a Generation

Clapham photographer, Jim Glover's exhibition capturing the current lives of the first generation of Caribbean immigrants who came to live in the UK was received to great acclaim this May, attracting over 12,500 visitors when it was at the Oxo Gallery on the South Bank.

The exhibition will now be on show within the community which inspired and featured in many of the photographs. Rev Canon Rosemarie Mallet of St John's Church Angell Town, Brixton and Rev Kit Gunesequera of St James' Church, Clapham joined forces to bring this important and vital exhibition back to Clapham and Brixton and it will be on show in October and November, overlapping with Black History Month.

The exhibition will be at St. James' Church, Park Hill, SW4 9PB from **Monday 15 October** until **Sunday 28 October**. Opening times: Monday-Wednesday 11-6 pm, Thursday-Friday 11-9 pm, Saturday 10-4 pm, Sunday 2-6 pm

## Mitsuko Uchida

There are still a few tickets remaining for a recital in St Luke's Church by Mitsuko Uchida on **Saturday 6 October** at 7.30 pm. Perhaps the greatest interpreter of Schubert's piano music in the world, Mitsuko will be playing three Schubert sonatas. Full details and tickets from [slms.org.uk](http://slms.org.uk). Venue: St Luke's Church, 194 Ramsden Road, SW12 8RQ

## Carmen in Wandsworth Prison

St Luke's Music Society is supporting two performances of Bizet's *Carmen* in the Chapel of Wandsworth Prison, by the Prison Choir Project on **Wednesday 17 October** and **Thursday 18 October** at 5.45 pm. Tickets are ONLY available from [slms.org.uk](http://slms.org.uk), click on 'Prison Choir', where you can also find details of the security requirements to enter the prison.

## Battersea Arts Centre

With a jam-packed Phoenix season, Battersea Arts Centre is looking for lots of volunteers to work with the Welcome Team, helping to ensure all performances run smoothly and visitors have a great time. Battersea Arts Centre is a charity, and so depends upon volunteers in the vital role of welcoming visitors night and day. If you are interested in volunteering, please go to [bac.org.uk](http://bac.org.uk) and fill out the online form to get in touch.

At one of our Clapham Society meetings in 2019 we shall have a talk about Battersea Arts Centre, the fire and the rebuilding of the Great Hall. Watch this space!

## October at Omnibus

Omnibus Theatre will present a mini-season of unforgettable Irish theatre from **Tuesday 2 October** to **Sunday 28 October**. The month-long programme brings together a talented group of Irish artists, poignantly marking the 20th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement; celebrating community, reconciliation and belonging. *To Have To Shoot Irishmen*, by 2017 UK Theatre Award winner, playwright and songwriter Lizzie Nunnery has its national premiere here in Clapham before going on a national tour. Inspired by the murder of Irish pacifist Francis Sheehy Skeffington by a British soldier during the Easter rising in Dublin in 1916. Starring Gerard Kearns from *Shameless*.

Owen McCafferty's award-winning play *Quietly*, set in a Belfast pub, is a play about truth, forgiveness and confronting the past. Performed in the Omnibus Common Room, the play can be viewed as a companion piece with Nunnery's. Audiences will have the opportunity to see both performances one after the other across ten overlapping dates. Finally *Boundaries* is a new hard-hitting play. The story uses real witness testimony to create a powerful first person account of harassment and sexual assault, against the backdrop of an ultra-conservative social landscape of a Northern Irish small town. Go to [omnibus-clapham.org](http://omnibus-clapham.org) for booking details, and the full programme of events at Omnibus Theatre, 1 Clapham Common North Side, SW4 0QW. Or better still sign up for regular newsletters on line.

## The Arts Society

The Arts Society (previously known as NADFAS) is a leading arts education charity with a global network of 385 local Societies, which bring people together through a shared curiosity for the arts. Our 90,000+ members contribute to and preserve our artistic heritage through volunteering and grants. Our strength is the people, joined together by a passion for the arts. Our events provide welcoming places – locally, nationally and globally – to hear expert lecturers share their specialist knowledge about the arts.

The Clapham Common branch was formed just over a year ago. Since our inception we have held some fascinating and stimulating lectures which have included talks on personal reminiscences of Picasso, Vivaldi in Venice, a history of art through magic, inside stories of Nazi-looted art, photographers of the Swinging Sixties, the works of Thomas Heatherwick, food and art through the ages. We have also held two study days with renowned experts on jewellery and the Royal Opera House, and organised a series of guided walks and visits to places of interest.

We currently have approximately 200 members who come not just from Clapham but from a wide catchment area. As well as new members we welcome visitors to our talks, walks and study days – if there is space. Membership of The Arts Society Clapham Common costs £50 or £90 joint membership (plus joining fee) which gives free entry for ten lectures and a quarterly glossy members' magazine. Lectures take place at the Clapham Picturehouse, 76 Venn Street, SW4 0AT starting at 11 am on the third Wednesday of the month. Visitors pay £8 per lecture. Our special visits, events and study days are charged for individually. Information about membership can be obtained from [claphamcommon@theartsociety.org](mailto:claphamcommon@theartsociety.org) or come and see us at the Clapham Picturehouse before the lecture.

The next talk on **Wednesday 17 October** is *Amedeo Modigliani and Bohemian Paris* by Julian Halsby. Modigliani had a short life and this lecture focuses on his time in Paris from 1906 until his death in 1920.

Susan Holder

The Arts Society Clapham Common



## A sunny summer in Clapham

We had a stand at **St Paul's Fair** on Saturday 9 June and also at **Abbeville Fête** on 30 June. (right) We understand that after 22 consecutive years the Abbeville Fête is to take a break. The Fête Committee has decided to have a 'fallow' year in 2019 so there will be no Abbeville Fête next year. However the Fête will be back in 2020 and the 23rd Abbeville Fête will be on **Saturday 20 June 2020**.



*photo: Dana Kubick*



*photo: Dana Kubick*

Our **Summer Party** was held on 4 July in the Eden Community Garden on a sunny evening typical of this summer, though we did have some welcome rain at the end of the evening. (left)

**Lambeth Local History Fair** at Omnibus Theatre on 1 September drew historians from all over the borough and further afield as well as local families visiting Clapham Old Town Fair which was on The Polygon on the same day. The Mayor of Lambeth, Councillor Christopher Wellbelove (seen here with Mark Leffler) visited our stand.



*photo: Alyson Wilson*

If you have any queries about **The Clapham Society** or have news of local events, please contact the appropriate person below:

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