



## No. 74 June 2017

## Members' Newsletter

Durning Library, 167 Kennington Lane, London SE11 4HF

Tel 020 7926 8682

Open:

Monday 1-6pm

Tuesday 10am-6pm

Wednesday 10am-8pm

Friday 10am-6pm

Saturday 9am-5pm

## Regular Library Events

**Wriggle & Rhyme Storytime**  
(Under fives).  
Every Wednesday 10.30am

**Durning Library Chess Club**  
Every Saturday 2.30 – 4.30 pm

**Chatterbooks** Book group for children aged 7-11 yrs. 4 – 5pm 1st Monday of each month

**Homework Club**  
Every Wednesday, 4 – 5pm

**Twiddlemitts**  
Tuesdays, 10.30-12 noon

**Durning Library Book Group**  
Last Wednesday of Each Month, 7 – 8.30pm

**Basic IT Skills**  
Every Friday, 10am – 12 noon

**Older Person's Group**

3rd Wednesday of each month, 3 – 4pm

## FoDL Monday Talks

These talks are normally held on the third Monday in the month. 6.45 for 7.15pm at the Durning Library. Light refreshments. Everyone is welcome. There is no admission charge, but a £2 donation towards costs is invited.

## Summer Party

**Monday 19 June: Summer Party and a virtual perambulation around Kennington Park in the Victorian era.**

Sit back and enjoy a glass (or two!) of wine and seasonal food while **Marietta Crichton Stuart** and **Rob Pateman** from the Friends of Kennington Park take you on an illustrated tour around the park, regaling you with tales of plants, politics, fountains, fitness and family homes.

Don't forget to buy your tickets for our Summer Party raffle!

## Future talks and 2017 dates for your diary

**Monday 17 July: 'The extraordinary life of the respectable Grace Oakeshott: socialist, educational reformer and runaway'.** Drawing on her new book, **Jocelyn Robson** will tell the true story of a woman who led the reform of technical education for girls in South London in the 1900s - and then staged her own death and ran away with her lover.

**August: no talk**

**Monday 18 September: The GLC Story 1981-86.** 31 years after the Greater London Council was abolished, younger or newer Londoners don't know its history. How did it relate to our communities and social movements? This inter-generational project aims to tell that story. Could people think more creatively about city level democracy? [www.glcstory.co.uk](http://www.glcstory.co.uk). **Part of Lambeth Heritage Festival.**

**Monday 16 October: TBA**

**Monday 20 November: Why French Cinema is so special.** **Jon Davies**, a long term Kennington resident, teaches French Cinema at Morley College. His fascination with French film goes back to his early teens and led to a career in film. He'll be giving us a glimpse into his archive and explaining why French Cinema has always been a world leader in style and innovation.

**Monday 11 December: Winter Party**

## News from our Chair

Thanks to all those faithful members who attended the AGM on 24 April. A good turnout on such occasions shows the strength of support for our library. We were also encouraged by the interest in the Durning shown by those who attended the Kennington Village fete in Cleaver Square.

Having been caught out first by Jack Hopkins' resignation as Cabinet member for libraries and then by unexpected pre-election purdah, we were very grateful that Caroline Mackie and Susanna Barnes were able to address our pre-AGM event. We were delighted to hear from Caroline about recent developments at the Durning and her plans for the future. It is very encouraging to know that all the Durning's performance measures are improving. We also heard from Susanna Barnes, head of the library service, about the wider background to her current work on a strategy for Lambeth's libraries. We hope that the Friends of Lambeth's Libraries will start discussions about the strategy with officials and Councillors Sonia Winifred, the new Cabinet member for libraries (and quite a few other things) before too long. Many of you will remember Sonia from her time at the Durning. She tells us she has worked at all the Lambeth libraries, even ones long closed: we look forward to working with her.

## Other news

**Subscription renewals for 2017/18** were due on May 1st. Please bring your subscription (£3) to the Summer Party or put it (cash or cheque) in an envelope marked with your name and hand it to a member of the Library Staff.

**Membership Missing Person.** Please let Val Parker know if you paid your subscription at the Library on Saturday April 22nd and have not yet received an acknowledgement.

### Special Library Events

**Summer Reading Challenge.** The theme this year is Animal Agents, illustrated by the UK's best-selling children's illustrator Tony Ross. Young readers will help the Animal Agents find out what's really been going on behind the scenes by reading Library books, collecting clue-bearing stickers and saving them in their detective folders. Help solve the mystery of the graffiti and the strange case of the missing lunch!

**There will be events every week throughout the summer for children of all ages** – Please speak to library staff for more details.

**These are our memories...Kennington and Stockwell - Wednesday 20th September – 3pm** Join us for a cup of tea and a chat as we share our memories of the 1940s-1970s with a whistle-stop tour of the history of Kennington and Stockwell told through the historic collections held at Lambeth Archives. We are especially keen to hear your memories of Lambeth and enjoy any photos or mementoes you might have.

**Fun Palaces Day—Saturday 7th October**—many local community groups will be offering free events, activities and information for all ages and interests. Look out for further details in due course.

## Friends' Committee

Priscilla Baines: Chair

Kay Coombs: Secretary

Jeremy Orme: Treasurer

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Elizabeth Barrott

Ruth Briant

Eleanor Halsall

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## Library staff

Manager: Caroline Mackie

Assistant Librarian: Rita Chakraborty

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