



No 79 September 2018

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

durninglibrary@lambeth.gov.uk

Wriggle & Rhyme Storytime

(Under fives).

Every Wednesday and Saturday 10.30am

Durning Library Chess Club
Every Saturday 2.30 – 4.30 pm

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

Homework Club
Every Wednesday, 4 – 5pm

Friendly Knitting Group
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.

Monday 17 Sept: Part of Lambeth Heritage Festival. This illustrated talk “**Kennington and the Chartists, 1848-2018**” by **Marietta Crichton Stuart** is part of The Kennington Chartist Project which is looking at the Chartists’ campaign for democracy and the huge rally on Kennington Common in 1848.

Monday 15 October: “Nein!” Standing up to Hitler 1935-44” The famous anti-Hitler bomb plots are only a small part of a far wider story. Based on newly released files, **Paddy Ashdown** tells the story of those at the very top of Hitler’s Germany who struggled to prevent World War II and then to deny Hitler victory.

Monday 19 November: Christopher Woodward, Director of the Garden Museum, will describe the rationale behind the re-modelling of the museum, the exciting excavation finds, and the long-term loan of items from the original Tradescant Ark. We shall hear about forthcoming exhibitions and perhaps about his fund-raising experiences.

Monday 10 December: Winter Party. A talk on City & Guilds Art School (speaker to be announced). With our festive food and Raffle.

2019 Diary dates: 21 Jan, 18 Feb, 18 Mar, 15 Apr, 20 May, 17 June, 15 July, 16 Sep, 21 Oct, 18 Nov, 9 Dec 2019.

Knitting Group - Now that the days are getting colder and there are fewer outdoor activities, do consider coming along to the friendly knitting group who meet on **Tuesday mornings in the library from 10.30 am to noon.** We really are a very friendly lot and if you don't fancy knitting then come for a social chat in the warm during the winter months. We produce items for Knit for Peace, a charity based in Hampstead, who send our contributions all over the world to people in need. Wool and knitting needles are provided, as are tea or coffee and biscuits!

Annual subscriptions (£3) were due in April this year. If you have not yet renewed this will be the last Newsletter that you receive. To renew, either place your money/cheque and your name in an envelope addressed to FoDL and hand it to a member of the library staff or pay at the next FoDL talk on 17 September. If you have any queries or are not sure if you have renewed your subscription, do contact the Membership Secretary, Val Parker, on da-val100@yahoo.co.uk.

Fun Palaces Day Saturday 6 October. Another annual free festival of fun and discovery. Please drop into the Library between 10.30am and 3.30pm to participate in some unusual and exciting activities for all ages. If you would like to volunteer to help with this community event, please leave your name and contact details at the Library desk.

Book Group meets 7pm on the last Wednesday of each month for an informal discussion. Copies of the book are freely available from the Library Desk. £2 donation for refreshments. **26 September, 31 October, 28 November 2018.** Please check with Library for future book titles.

News from our Chair

In the middle of a superheated August, it is hard to believe that our next talk is only just over three weeks away and normal life is about to resume. Our talk this September is, as usual, the Friends' contribution to the sixth Lambeth Heritage Festival which offers a very full programme of events throughout the borough (see Lambeth's website for details, or there are programmes available in the Durning). We look forward to seeing many of you on 17 September and hope that you will also be able to attend some of the other events being held elsewhere.

Since our last Newsletter, we have learned that Sonia Winifred has retained her position as Cabinet member with responsibility for libraries (and a few other things). Sonia came to a Friends' committee meeting on 24 July and we were very grateful to her for giving us the opportunity to discuss our concerns with her. We were glad to hear from her that there are no current plans to close either the Durning or Tate South Lambeth, although the possibility of a North Lambeth Town Centre library is still being considered. Such a development is, however, clearly still a long way off. We emphasised that we like what we have and see no good reason for closing the Durning or TSL since both are well-placed to serve their local communities.

We urged a speedy solution to the problem of disabled access to the Durning building as the current access at the rear of the building is so poor. It looks as though new regulations preclude the use of the ramp proposed in the Dow Jones options appraisal three years ago, so officials are now looking at a platform lift. We do not think that is a viable solution but agreed with Sonia that all the options should be explored and the Friends will be happy to take part in that. As a temporary solution, we have suggested that a hand rail could be installed on one side of the porch and Sonia agreed to pass on the suggestion to the relevant officials.

We also pressed once again for progress on the urgently needed repairs to the building that were originally scheduled to start last November. Sonia has confirmed that work is due to start this month, although there is as yet no sign of anything happening. She also confirmed that funding for that work is available and we will keep up the pressure. Once again, watch out for the scaffolding!

Friends of Durning Library Chair: Priscilla Baines

Committee: Jeremy Orme, Kay Coombs, Elizabeth Barrott, Ruth Briant, Eleanor Halsall, Veronica Ledwith, Val Parker and David Tisdall.

Library staff: Liz Buchanan and Audrey Hudson