



## No 80 December

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 Persons' Group**

3rd Wednesday of each  
month, 3 – 4pm

## Members' Newsletter

## 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 10 December: "The colourful history of City & Guilds Art School" (followed by Winter Party)**

**Principal Tamiko O'Brien** tells how the art school has championed contemporary fine art, historic carving and conservation since 1854. Founded as a social enterprise, it is proud of its heritage and expertise, and its supportive creative community. **Our Winter Party follows, with festive food and raffle.**

**Monday January 21: "30 years of the White Bear Theatre"**

**Michael Kingsbury**, artistic director and founder, tells the story of Kennington's award-winning pub theatre. One of London's leading (and longest established) pub theatres, it is a space where risks can be taken, and it focusses on new writing and lost classics. Kwame Kwei-Armah, Emily Watson and Tamzin Outhwaite cut their teeth here.

**Monday February 18: "The Inner World of Harry Potter"**

Why are children across the world so fascinated by this magical boy? Is it because the stories are in touch with the unconscious desires and fears of ordinary children? **Michael and Margaret Rustin** explain how and why Harry Potter involves readers and film audiences in the emotional struggles of its characters.

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

## SEASONAL LIBRARY EVENTS FOR ALL AGES!

**Wednesday 19 December, 10.30-11.30 Under Fives' Christmas event**

**Wednesday 19 December 2.30-4pm Older Persons' Christmas Party**

**Saturday 22 December, 10.30-12 noon, Parents' and Toddlers' Christmas Spectacular** with songs, crafts and story

**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. Please check with Library for future book titles and dates.

## **Knitting Group**

A message from Val Parker: "Firstly, many thanks to all those who responded so generously to Kay's appeal for wool for the group. We were amazed by the amount of wool handed in to the library. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Akua Rugg, whose donation of a large amount of wool enabled the Knitting Group to get up and running many months ago. Two of our members recently took three bags of completed articles to Knit for Peace in Hampstead, for which they were very grateful and a letter of thanks is on the Friends noticeboard in the library. They have passed on a request from a North London hospital to produce orange hats for babies, so please come along on Tuesdays and help us out - all materials provided."

## **News from our Chair**

As usual at this time of year, Lambeth libraries have had two hectic months with the Heritage Festival in September, and Black History Month and the Fun Palaces day in October. The series of events organised by Lambeth libraries for Black History Month has been very widely praised – congratulations to everyone involved including the Durning staff and the members of the Durning Friends who helped to organise a very successful Fun Palaces Day.

As you will all know, for far too long there have been worrying signs of water penetration in the main library area at the Durning and increasingly elsewhere in the building. This time last year, our hopes were raised when we were told that contractors had been selected to carry out a maintenance programme at four Lambeth libraries, including the Durning. That work was scheduled to start before Christmas 2017 but since then there have been endless delays despite a great deal of nagging by the various Friends' groups, including ourselves.

The necessary preliminary building surveys were finally done in late October and we have just heard that, as in the other libraries involved, there are extensive works needed that will require listed building consent. That means yet more delays as there is a statutory 21-day consultation period. It is therefore very unlikely that any work will start until well into the new year – over two years since the work was originally scheduled. The roof is not in a good state of repair, so we have to continue to hope that it does not rain too hard before the roof repairs are completed and that the buckets are to hand when they are needed.

There is no more news about the internal alterations to the Durning building to create more teenage space for which we have been assured that the funding is available. We will continue to raise that with officials as it would be a valuable addition to the facilities in the library. We are also still discussing how to improve disabled access to the building, another project for which listed building consent will be required.

We look forward to seeing you at the party and talk about the Art School on 10 December (please note the date which is a week earlier than usual to avoid our getting too close to Christmas). And we hope you have a good 2019.

**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 Manager:** Liz Buchanan

**Librarian:** Audrey Hudson